

CV – Marja Pirilä

Born 1957 in Rovaniemi, lives in Tampere, Finland
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EDUCATION

1980–1986 University of Art and Design
(Aalto University), Helsinki, Finland; photographer

1976–86 University of Helsinki, Department of
Ecological Zoology, Finland; Master of Science

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2016
Interior/Exterior and Camera obscura,
Bibliothèque municipale Angers, France

2015
Carried by Light (retrospective)
- Kuopio Art museum, Kuopio, Finland
- Rovaniemi Art museum, Rovaniemi, Finland
Carried by Light, Almlöf Gallery, Malmö, Sweden
Interior/Exterior, Rainbow Art Gallery/ Indian
Photography Festival, Hyderabad, India

2014
Interior/Exterior & Milavida, Gallery Heino, Helsinki
Carried by Light, TR1 Kunsthalle, Tampere, Finland

2013
Milavida, Gallery Katve, Arktikum, Rovaniemi, Finland
Interior/Exterior, Nordic Light Festival, Norway

2012
Herbarium, Gallery Ibis, Vaasa, Finland
Milavida & Inner Landscapes, Gallery Ratamo,
Jyväskylä, Finland

2011
Speaking House & Interior/Exterior, Gallery La
Chambre claire, Rennes, France
Herbarium, Tampere Maja, Tartto, Estonia

2010
I am, Gallery Heino, Helsinki, Finland
Herbarium, Gallery Himmelblau, Tampere, Finland

2007
Interior/Exterior, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Caen,
France
Speaking Light, National Centre of Photography,

St.Petersburg, Russia

2006
Speaking Light, Gallery Heino, Helsinki, Finland

2005
Interior/Exterior, Finnish Institute in St.Petersburg,
Russia

2004
Interior/Exterior:
- Gallery Orton, Helsinki, Finland
- Finnish Institute in Stockholm, Sweden

2003
Interior/Exterior :
- Gallery Heino, Helsinki, Finland
- Gallery Ibis, Vaasa, Finland

2002
Interior/Exterior:
- Museum Centre Vapriikki, Tampere, Finland
- Adamson-Eric Museum, Tallinn, Estonia
- Turku Art Museum, Studio, Finland

2001
Interior/Exterior:
- Gallery Harmonia, Jyväskylä, Finland
- Hämeenlinna Art Museum
- Studio Marangoni, Florence, Italy

2000
Interior/Exterior, Gallery Bakeliittibambi, Helsinki,
Finland

1999
Interior/Exterior:
- Gallery G/Studio, Helsinki, Finland
- Galleria L'Eremita, Calcata, Italy
- Gallery Ibis / Vaasa Art Hall, Finland

1997
Interior/Exterior, Mikkeli Photographic Centre, Finland
Pinhole images and Snow castle / camera obscura
Kemi, Finland

1994
Pinhole images:
- Gallery Häme, Lahti, Finland
- Touring Exhibition of The Finnish Museum
of Photography

1993
Pinhole images:
- Gallery Zebra, Karjaa, Finland
- Gallery Picture, Turku, Finland

1992
Pinhole images:

- Photographic Centre Nykykaika, Tampere, Finland
- Gallery Finnfoto, Helsinki, Finland
Talor Mentre, Touring Exhibition of
The Finnish Museum of Photography, Finland
1987
Talor Mentre, Old Student House, Helsinki, Finland

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2016

A Field Guide to Nowhere, Visual Arts Gallery, Ontario,
Canada, curated by Amy Friend
Utsökt, Abecita Konstmuseum, Borås, Sweden,
curated by Håkan Ludwigson
Collecting Light, Sidney Cooper Gallery,
Canterbury, UK, curated by Hazel Stone
Inner Landscapes, Hagiso, Tokio, Japan

2015

Les Photaumnales 2015 - En Écho, Beauvais, France
Within/Without, C. Grimaldis Gallery, Baltimore, USA
Vintage Photo Festival, Bydgoszcz, Poland
Photo London/ Lens Culture, London, UK
Darkroom, The Finnish Museum of Photography
Helsinki, Finland
Six Artists on Tammerkoski, Museum Centre Vapriikki,
Tampere, Finland
Real/Unreal, Villa Roosa, Orimattila, Finland

2014

Light touch, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, USA,
curated by Liz Wells
Rediscovered Photography, Zebrstraat, Genth,
Belgium, curated by Stefaan De Wolf
Bodies, Borders, Crossings:
- Galería Juan Pardo Heeren ICPNA, Lima, Peru
- MEC, Montevideo, Uruguay
curated by Leena-Maija Rossi and Kari Soinio
Nature and More, Kunsthalle Rostock, Germany,
curated by Ulrich Ptak and Ritva Röminger-Czako
Quest country 2014, Galerie STP, Photo Festival Zingst,
Germany, curated by Peter Korschake
Landscapes in a décolleté, Kunst- und Kulturstiftung
Opelvillen, Rüsselsheim, Germany
*Pôle Nord - Collection de photographie finlandaise du
Pôle Image*, Caen, France
Rencontres, L'Abat-Jour, Galerie Photo, Lyon, France
A Sense of Place, Contemporary Finnish Photography
Gallery II, WSU Fine Arts Department, Pullman,
Washington, USA
Poetics of Light, The New Mexico History Museum,
Santa Fe, USA, curated by Nancy Spencer and Eric
Renner

2013

Bodies, Borders, Crossing:
- Preus Museum, Horten, Norway

- Pori Art Museum, Finland
Photography into Art, Hannula & Hinkka Collection,
The Finnish Museum of Photography, Helsinki,
Finland

2012

Redesign and Urban Transformation, CRIO II Creativity
World Biennale, Pier Mauá, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil,
curated by Liana Brazil
Mazzano! – 20 years for Art, Museum of Estonian
Architecture, Tallin, Estonia
Inner Landscapes, TR1 Kunsthalle, Tampere, Finland
Paths to Milavida, Näsilinna, Tampere, Finland

2011

Bodies, Borders, Crossings, Governors Island, New
York, USA
Layers of Time, Space and Light, Retretti, Punkaharju,
Finland, curated by Tapani Pennanen,
Inner Landscapes, Turku Castle, Finland
Mazzano! – 20 years for Art,
- Amos Andersson Art Museum, Helsinki, Finland
- Tampere Art Museum, Finland
curated by Timo Valjakka
Nature morte, Korundi, Rovaniemi Art Museum,
Finland
Water, Wäinö Aaltonen Museum of Art, Turku, Finland
5th Triennial of Photography, Hamburg, Germany
Pirilä & Nuutinen, Northern Photographic Centre /
Rantagallery, Oulu, Finland

2010

115th Exhibition of the Artists' Association of Finland,
Mäntinranta Artcenter, Tampere, Finland
Interior/Exterior, Gallery Menoparkas, Kaunas,
Lithuania

2009

(De)konstruktionen, Fotogalerie Wien, Austria
Aletheia – Positions in contemporary photographs,
Art Museum Meilahti, Helsinki, Finland, curated by
Jan-Erik Lundström
France–Finlande 3–3, Galerie Photo du Pôle Image,
Rouen, France
Pirkanmaa 4th Triennial, curator Paula Toppila,
Tampere Art Museum, Finland
Senza Lenti, Archivio contemporaneo Stampa d'Arte
Fotografica, Florence, Italy
Shiny – Häikäisevää:
- Kuntsi Museum of Modern Art, Vaasa, Finland
- Wäinö Aaltonen Art Museum, Turku, Finland
- Hämeenlinna Art Museum, Finland

2008

Collectif, Arc en Rêve, Centred'Architecture,
Bordeaux, France
Conflict/Riita, curator Teemu Mäki,
Finnish Labour Museum Werstas, Tampere, Finland

Jubilee exhibition of Tampere Artists' Association,
Mäntinranta Artcenter, Tampere, Finland
Art from the Collection of Saastamoinen Foundation,
EMMA, Espoo Museum of Modern Art, Finland
2007
Mapping the Unknown, Overbeck Gesellschaft,
Lübeck, Germany
- curator Ritva Röminger-Czako
Streams, Tampere Art Museum, Finland
French Dictionary:
- Rantagallery, Oulu, Finland
- Photographic Centre Peri, Turku, Finland
The Magic of 3D Photography, Mikkeli Photographic
Centre, Finland

2006

Winterland, Salo Art Museum, Finland
Presence – Läsnäoloja, Wäinö Aaltonen Art Museum,
Turku, Finland
III Triennial of Pirkanmaa, The Finnish Labour
Museum Werstas, Tampere, Finland
- curator Janne Gallen-Kallela-Sirén
OM, Gallery Caesar, Olomouc, Czech Republic
Moving in Margins, Vantaa Art Museum, Finland
Pointers:
- Studio Marangoni, Florence, Italy
- Gallery Fluss, Wolkersdorf, Austria
- Galerie Nei Licht, Luxembourg
- curator Harri Laakso

2005

Dialogues, Manezh, Central Exhibition Hall,
St.Petersburg, Russia
To Look or to See, The Finnish Museum of
Photography, Helsinki, Finland
5th International Festival of Photography, Lodz,
Poland
Home, VB Photographic Centre, Kuopio, Finland
Silmän kääntäjät, Rauma Art Museum, Finland
*Facing East – Contemporary Landscape Photography
from Baltic Areas*, Dick Institute, Kilmarnock, Scotland
- curator Liz Wells,

2004

Women's Eyes, PhotoFesta, Maputo, Mosambik
Fantastic realism, Tallinn Art Hall, Estonia
Facing East:
- Bournemouth Photography Festival, UK
- Impressions Gallery, York, UK
Contemporary Finnish Photography,
House of Photography, Prague, Czech Republic
Fragile, Gallery Rantakasarmi, Suomenlinna, Helsinki,
Finland

2003

Photography & Video Art from Finland, Center of
Photography, St.Petersburg, Russia
- curator Anna Kharkina

Imatra Biennale of Photography, Imatra Art Museum,
Finland
Photography from Finland, DOM Photographic
Center, Poprad, Slovakia
II Triennial of Pirkanmaa, Tampere Art Museum,
Finland
- curator Markus Copper
Summer - Old and New Art, Kerava Art Museum,
Finland
Child in Finnish Art:
- Tikanoja Art Museum, Vaasa
- Salo Art Museum, Finland

2002

VII Mänttä Art Festival, Mänttä, Finland
- curator Kaisu Koivisto
International Pinhole Photographers, Siena, Italy
Korrelations:
- Fotogallerie Wien, Austria
- Fotoforum West, Innsbruck, Austria

2001

Time in Mazzano, Kunsthalle Helsinki, Finland
Pinhole Images, Photographic Centre Peri, Turku,
Finland

1999

Light, The Finnish Museum of Photography, Helsinki
Floating Thoughts, Museum of Central Finland,
Jyväskylä, Finland
Places of Life – Luoghi della Vita, Prato, Italy
Finnish Photographic Art, Palais du Luxembourg,
Paris, France
Northern Exposures, Círculo de Bellas Artes, Madrid,
Spain
*Cut 102 102, Exhibition of Artists' Association of
Finland*, Kunsthalle Helsinki, Finland
Finland 80 years, Photographic Centre Peri, Turku,
Nordic Art for Millions, Kalmar Museum of Art,
Sweden
Drum and Camera, The Gallen-Kallela Museum,
Espoo, Finland

1996

Modena per la Fotografia, Modena, Italy
The New Documentary Photography,
Photographic Centre Nyky aika, Tampere, Finland
Photography from Nordic Countries,
Bosnia-Herzegovina Art Museum, Sarajevo,
- curator Jan-Erik Lundström

1994

Northern Realities, Macedonian Museum of
Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki, Greece
Nord Foto Art, Varzaw, Poland
Saaremaa Fotofestival, Kuressaari, Estonia

1993

Nature and Us, Oulu Art Museum, Finland

Planket, Stockholm, Sweden

1992

Time of Photography, Kuopio City Museum, Kuopio, Finland

Lightbearers, Tampere Museum of Contemporary Art, Finland

Fotofinlandia 1992, Cable Factory, Helsinki, Finland

Elementa Naturae, Gallery Laterna Magica, Helsinki, Finland

1991

56 Degrees Northern Latitude, Århus, Denmark

Planket, Stockholm, Sweden

Eurotica, Melkweg Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Body of Nature

- Northern Photographic Centre, Oulu, Finland

- Norbottens Museum, Luleå, Sweden

- curator Jan-Erik Lundström

International Pinhole Exhibition, VB Photographic Centre, Kuopio, Finland

Fotofinlandia, The Finnish Museum of Photography, Helsinki, Finland

CAMERA OBSCURA WORKS

in collaboration with Petri Nuutinen

The Birth of Photograph / Encyclopedia Camera obscura

2015 Rovaniemi Art museum, Rovaniemi, Finland
Kuopio Art museum, Kuopio, Finland

2014 TR1 Kunsthalle, Tampere, Finland
Gallery Heino, Helsinki, Finland

2013 Gallery Katve, Arktikum, Rovaniemi, Finland

2012 TR1 Kunsthalle, Tampere, Finland

Harbour / Camera obscura

2012 CRIO II Creativity World Biennale,
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Camera obscura for Drawing

2015 Ateneum Art Museum, Helsinki, Finland

2011 Ateneum Art Museum, Helsinki, Finland

Tubes / Camera obscura

2009 Art Museum Meilahti, Helsinki, Finland

2008 Helsinki Art Museum, Tennis Palace, Finland

Album / Camera obscura

2007 Portsakoti, Turku, Finland

Tin Can Camera Obscuras

2015 Les Photaumnales Festival, Beauvais, France

Spiral / Camera obscura

2015 Les Photaumnales Festival, Beauvais, France

2007 Musée des Beaux-Arts de Caen, France

2006 The Finnish Labour Museum Werstas,
Tampere, Finland

2006 Wäinö Aaltonen Art Museum, Turku, Finland

Birches / Camera obscura

2006 Vantaa Art Museum, Finland

Eyes and Mouth / Camera obscura

2015 Rovaniemi Art museum, Rovaniemi, Finland
Kuopio Art museum, Kuopio, Finland

2014 TR1 Kunsthalle, Tampere, Finland

2013 Nordic Light Festival, Kristiansund, Norway

2012 Gallery Ratamo, Jyväskylä, Finland

2011 Museum of Lohja, Finland

2010 Gallery Menoparkas, Kaunas, Lithuania

2008 Mäntinranta Artcenter, Tampere, Finland

2007 Mikkeli Photographic Centre, Finland

2006 Gallery Heino, Helsinki, Finland

Mother's Buckets / Camera obscura

2015 Rovaniemi Art museum, Rovaniemi, Finland
Kuopio Art museum, Kuopio, Finland

2014 TR1 Kunsthalle, Tampere, Finland

2014 Zebrastraat, Genth, Belgium

2013 Nordic Light Festival, Kristiansund, Norway

2009 Retretti, Punkaharju, Finland

2008 Mäntinranta Artcenter, Tampere, Finland

2007 National Centre of Photography,
St.Petersburg, Russia

2005 Rauma Art Museum, Finland

Comb / Camera obscura

2005 Central upper secondary school Sampo,
Tampere, Finland

Self portrait / Camera obscura

2005 The Finnish Museum of Photography,
Helsinki, Finland

2004 Gallery Rantakasarmi, Suomenlinna,
Helsinki, Finland

2003 Tampere Art Museum, Finland

2003 Gallery Heino, Helsinki, Finland

Snow / Camera obscura Works

1997 Snow castle, Kemi, Finland

1996 Arctic Festival in Luleå, Sweden

Screen / Camera obscura Works

2012 Näsilinna, Tampere, Finland

2007 Overbeck Gesellschaft, Lübeck, Germany
Gallery K, Huittinen, Finland

Rudolf Steiner school, Tampere, Finland

2005 Sara Hildén Academy, Tampere, Finland

Manezh, Central Exhibition Hall,
St.Petersburg, Russia

2004 The National Museum of Finland, Helsinki

2003 Photographic Centre Nykyaika, Tampere

- 2002 VII Mänttä Art Festival, Finland
Museum Centre Vapriikki, Tampere Finland
- 2000 The Finnish Museum of Photography,
Helsinki, Finland
- 1999 The Gallen-Kallela Museum, Espoo, Finland
- 1997 Rantagallery, Oulu, Finland

TEACHING

Visiting lecturer and workshops :

- University of Art and Design Helsinki,
department of photography
- University of Tampere, Finland
- Art Academy of Åbo, Finland
- Art School MAA, Helsinki
- The Liminka school of Arts, Liminka, Finland
- Fluss, Centre of Photography, Vienna, Austria
- Nordens Fotoskola, Stockholm, Sweden
- Fotohögskolan Göteborg, Sweden
- Art Academy of Tallinn, Estonia
- Studio Marangoni, Florence, Italy
- Vintage Photo Festival Bydgoszcz, Poland

1988–1990 Regional Artist of photography,
Province of Oulu, Finland

WORKING IN RESIDENCIES AND PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNEYS

- 2015 Grez-sur-Loing, France/
Finnish Cultural Foundation
- 2013 Rovaniemi, Finland /
Wihuri Foundation and
University of Lapland
- 2007 Rouen, France /
Pôle Image Haute de Normandie
- 2006 Eckerö, Åland Islands / NIFCA
- 2000 Burkina Faso, Africa /
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland
- 1999 Mazzano Romano, Italy /
Väinö Tanner Foundation
- 1998 Bergen, Norway / NIFCA
- 1993 Florence, Italy /
Artists' Association of Finland
- 1988–89 United States
- 1984–87 several journeys to Italy

PHOTO BOOKS

Carried by Light, 2014

essay by Jyrki Siukonen, texts by Marja Pirilä
english/finnish, 269 pages, hard cover, 21.5 x 25.5 cm
publisher Musta Taide/ Aalto Arts Books

Inner Landscapes, 2012

with Tomoko Kurahara and Satoko Sai
english/finnish, 96 pages, paperback, 22 x 17 cm
texts by Veikko Halmetoja and Riitta Oittinen

I am, 2010

artist book/ taitelijakirja

Speaking Light, 2006

text by Harri Laakso
english/finnish, 48 pages, paperback, 23.5 x 19 cm
publisher Gallery Heino (sold out)

CAMERA OBSCURA interior/exterior, 2002

text by Janne Seppänen
english/finnish, 156 pages, hard cover, 19 x 14 cm
publisher Musta Taide

The Eyes of the Fingertips Are Opening, 1993

poems by Leena Krohn
english/finnish, 77 pages, paperback, 16.5 x 20 cm
publisher Musta Taide

WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

The Finnish Museum of Photography
EMMA, Espoo Museum of Modern Art
Helsinki Art Museum
Wäinö Aaltonen Art Museum
Tampere Art Museum
Salo Art Museum
Kuopio Art Museum
Art Museum of Aine, Tornio
Hämeenlinna Art Museum
Imatra Art Museum
Art Museum of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Sarajevo
The Finnish State Art Collection
Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Parishes
The Saastamoinen Foundation's Art Collection
The Renlund Foundation, Kokkola
Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation Art Collection
Tradeka Collection
City of Tampere
City of Turku
City of Jyväskylä
Hinkka & Hannula Collection
Swanlung Collection

Heino Collection, Finland
Private collections in Finland, Sweden,
the Neatherlands, Denmark, Germany, Italy,
France and United States

PUBLIC WORKS

2014 *Herbarium/Polypodiales*
Square of Finnish Bank , Tampere, Finland

2007 *Album/Camera obscura*
Portsa - Portsakoti, Turku, Finland

2005 *Comb/Camera obscura*
Upper secondary school Sampo , Tampere, Finland

AWARDS

2010 Art Award of The Arts Council of Pirkanmaa
2008 Werstas Award, The Finnish Labour
Museum, Tampere, Finland
2000 State Art Prize of Photography
2002 Backlight award, honorary mention
1992 Fotofinlandia finalist
1991 Fotofinlandia finalist

SELECTED GRANTS

2016 Arts Promotion Centre Finland, 3-year grant
2015 Finnish Cultural Foundation
Arts Promotion Centre Finland
Arts Council of Pirkanmaa
Frame Visual Art Finland
2014 National Council for Photographic Art
Frame Visual Art Finland
2013 Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation
Finnish Cultural Foundation, one-year grant
National Council for Photographic Art
2008 National Council for Photographic Art,
5-year grant
2007 Finnish Cultural Foundation, one-year grant
2006 Fine Arts Association of Finland
Arts Council of Finland
Arts Council of Pirkanmaa
Alfred Kordelin Foundation
2005 Arts Council of Finland
National Council for Photographic Art
2004 Arts Council of Finland
2003 Finnish Cultural Foundation, one-year grant
National Council for Photographic Art
2002 Frame Visual Art Finland
Arts Council of Finland
National Council for Photographic Art
2001 Arts Council of Finland
2000 Frame Visual Art Finland
1998 National Council for Photographic Art,
3-year grant
Väinö Tanner Foundation
1997 The Arts council for Province of Häme
1996 Arts council of Finland

1994 The Arts council for Province of Häme
1993 Leo and Regina Wainstein Foundation
1992 National Council for Photographic Art
1991 Arts council for Province of Oulu
1987 The Finnish Cultural Foundation

MEMBERSHIPS

Union of Artist Photographers in Finland
Photographic Centre Nyky aika, Tampere, Finland
Tampere Artists' Association, Finland