

Annette Arlander,

## YEAR OF THE DRAGON

24.8. - 8.9.2013



ANNETTE ARLANDER

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GALLERIA HUUTO JÄTKÄSAARI

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See the blog: <http://aa-callingthedragon.blogspot.fi/>

Year of the Dragon forms the penultimate works of the 12-year series I began vide 2002. It was recorded in 2012, the year of the Dragon. The works from the previc

Rabbit, were displayed at Gallery Jangva in January 2013. Each year I have four environments and a new kind of relationship between the human body and the place. The barely audible tinkle of the small bell, is essential. My way of working is based on performance art, video art and environmental art, moving in the borderland between them.

The dragon is the only mythical animal in the 12-year cycle of the Chinese calendar named after an animal. It represents creative power, success and good fortune. The dragon is a monster that the hero has to defeat in order to save the princess or it is on the border between the known and unknown, like in old maps and the expression of the unknown. Therefore, I believe that one can only try to call the dragon.

During the year of the Dragon (2012), I called the dragon more or less once a week from a bunker, which was used to defuse mines after World War II. I did this by ringing a small green ceramic bell bought as a souvenir from a temple in Kyoto. I recorded the performances on video. The project is in a blog known as Calling the Dragon (<http://aa-callingthedragon.blogspot.com>) in three languages.

I also called the dragon by waving a green ribbon towards the camera on the panorama on the roof of the bunker. Similarly, I waved the green ribbon towards the camera while the camera stood on the roof of the bunker. I did this during those times of year when the wind blows by birds or foliage. In addition, I called the dragon by ringing the bell while standing on the roof of the bunker at 3-hour intervals during the last day and night of the year of the Dragon.

These three works are now displayed at this exhibition in the form of video installation.

*Calling the Dragon* - four-channel video installation. The video was recorded in four channels from the bunker on the roof of the bunker, which is located on the southern tip of Harakka Island. I called the dragon once a week between February 4, 2012 and February 3, 2013, a total of 40 times.

Part 1: Wrapped in a green scarf, I call the dragon by ringing a small green ceramic bell in the bunker facing north.

Part 2: Wrapped in a green scarf, I call the dragon by ringing a small green ceramic bell in the bunker facing east.

Part 3: Wrapped in a green scarf, I call the dragon by ringing a small green ceramic bell in the bunker facing south.

Part 4: Wrapped in a green scarf, I call the dragon by ringing a small green ceramic bell in the bunker facing west.

*Year of the Dragon* - two-channel video installation. The video was recorded from the bunker and from the roof of the bunker towards the panorama spot between the bunker and the roof of the bunker.

February 3, 2013, a total of 40 times.

Part 1: Wrapped in a green scarf, I call the dragon by waving a green ribbon tied to the roof of the bunker and facing north during the winter, spring and fall.

Part 2: Wrapped in a green scarf, I call the dragon by waving a green ribbon tied to the viewing area and facing south during the winter, spring and fall.

*Day and Night of the Dragon.* The video was recorded during a 24-hour period at 3-4 pm on February 2 and 3 pm on February 3. Wrapped in a green scarf, I call the dragon by waving a green ceramic bell from the panorama spot facing south.