

SAMI JUHANI REKOLA

POST-MEDIUM THINKER, HANDS-ON EXPLORER AND A PRECARY ART WORKER

CONTACT

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Helsinki, Finland

EDUCATION

Master of Arts

Aalto University

2017-2019

Visual Culture and Contemporary Art

Bachelor of Arts

Metropolia UAS

2012-2016

Applied art and devising, group processes

REFERREES

Elina Aho

visual artist, psychologist,
pedagogue, artist-developer

Max Ryyänen

senior lecturer & programme
director at Aalto-University,
docent in aesthetics

PROFILE

My main medium is durational performance that usually includes some participatory elements. I often work with public spaces: the tensions, repetitions, somatic landscapes, ecologies and normativities present there interest me.

Other areas of expertise are: group/workshop leading, co-creation skills, devising-method, somatic transformation processes (e.g. butoh), meditation facilitating, experience design, sound work (podcasts), VR acting

SELECTED WORK EXPERIENCE

2023

Becoming Wholly

a butoh workshop
to lose face and build a dozen, or none
Mitäs Mitäs Mitäs -festival, Nuutajärvi

Love Simulation EVE

a holistic virtual reality theatre experience
that makes you want to sign up for a mind upload
Espoo City Theatre

reAktion #1

a 4-channel video performance installation
studying how free performative gestures transform public space
Yö Fest 3.1, Yö Gallery, Helsinki

In Transit

a durational performance (with Ninnu Koskenalho)
bringing the tropics in
Yö Fest 3.1, Yö Gallery, Helsinki

2022

Cracking the Mind - You Are What the Attention Economy Wants

an essay
about how capitalism enters the last unconquered continent
NO NIIN -magazine, online and print edition #2

Fixatedly gawping at staring

a four-hour performance with an intermission
about the essentials of performance art: presence
Yö Fest 2.1, Yö Gallery, Helsinki

2021

Rakkautemme tunteina

a 12-hour performance of participatory nature (with Silja Eriksson)
celebrating our 10-year journey: sharing the skills, spreading the love, feeling the slowness
Joogaholiaa, Helsinki

4evaSmooth

a smoothie bar with a menu of performances (with Silja Eriksson)
offering nurture, nutrients and a safe space inside a performance blender
Mitäs Mitäs Mitäs -festival, Nuutajärvi

bunker

a four-hour performance
devours a man with a building project and puts him on display
Ars 108 -festival, Nokia

Affordable views

an essay
about the death of my father, inheritance, the body and capitalism
NO NIIN -magazine, online and print edition #1

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SELECTED WORK EXPERIENCE

2020

iLight

a performance in the disguise of a meditation
exploring the boundaries between bodies and technology
Gallery Huuto (part of MYÖ -exhibition), Helsinki

2019

Kenen huoneessa?

an exhibition specific dance performance
surrendering to the atmospheres of renaissance paintings by Lucas Cranach
the Elder
Sinebrychoff Art Museum, Helsinki

Dolly

a butoh performance
with embodied ecocatastrophies and satanic overtones
Helsinki Butoh Festival, Höyhentämö

Weather Station I-III

performer in Essi Kausalainen's work
settling down and tuning in: feeling the bones and the fabrics
Saari Residence Harvest Party, Mynämäki

performance almanac

a series of 30 daily performances
exploring office-like space with the lunar cycle as a dramaturgical backdrop
Aalto University Väre-building, Espoo

2018

The Shop

a durational participatory performance (with Silja Eriksson)
offering the possibility to make dreams come true
New Performance Turku Festival, Turku

Packaged landscapes

a durational participatory performance & audio-visual installation
exploring plastic's materiality, beauty and burdens
Foto FLUSS, Wolkersdorf, Austria

2017

Staring at the metro entrance

concepting and facilitating a group performance
of silence and staring, to have another kind of conversation together
Aalto University metro station, Espoo

18 446 744 073 709 551 615

a durational participatory performance
in which the story of a chess board becomes a fun experiment on capitalism
Telakka, Tampere

2016

social local mobile

a devised site-specific dance performance (together with working group)
of a place becoming movement, atmospheres, characters and stories
reflecting upon itself
Baana, Helsinki

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GRANTS

2022

500€ microgrant for a Rakkauspodcast live event, City of Helsinki
4600€ grant for 2 months of artistic work, Arts Promotion Centre (Taike)

2021

6000€ grant for 3 months of artistic work, Arts Promotion Centre (Taike)
4000€ grant for 2 months of artistic work, Arts Promotion Centre (Taike)

2020

3000€ grant for 1,5 months of artistic work, Arts Promotion Centre (Taike)

2019

500€ grant for a performance series, Aalto University

2018

4000€ travel grant for the exhibition "Sharing Control" in Austria (for working group), Aalto University

7000€ grant for the "Legacies of Contamination"- project in Greenland (for working group), Aalto University

2017

30200€ travel grant for a Nordic research project (for working group), Nordplus

2016

200€ travel grant for contact improvisation studies in Berlin, Metropolia UAS

ONGOING PROJECTS

collaborative workflow with anthropologist Ninnu Koskenalho:

working on the second iteration of reAktion -performance series, writing an essay on the socially constructed face and building up material for a 3-year project on the narratives surrounding love

teaching position at Satakunnan AMK:

teaching a course on artistic research 20.11.2023-14.12.2023