

## Press Release

For immediate release

# Artists' Island 2025 brings the power of art and community to Harakka

**Artists' Island 2025** is a group exhibition of 26 artists, unfolding across Harakka Island in Helsinki from 9–28 September 2025. The exhibition is curated by Antti Kauppinen and continues the series of acclaimed Artists' Island exhibitions held in 2021 and 2023.

The exhibition presents works by artists working at Harakka Artist House and highlights their unique working environment – the island's nature, history, and community.

"I invite visitors to view the exhibition as a whole through the perspective of past and present, of the artists' arrival at Harakka and their growth as artists there. This temporal dialogue is reflected in many ways in the works and the exhibition as a whole. The works look deeply into the temporal depth of each artist's practice," describes curator Antti Kauppinen.

Artist Annette Arlander reminds us of the continuity and change within the community:

"The first artists who came to Harakka in autumn 1988 encountered a very different environment from the one we are in today. People have come and gone, every year someone has left and someone new has arrived, moods have shifted, the community has lived. Yet the geese have probably changed the island more than the people."

## Theme: "No man is an island"

The guiding theme of the exhibition is based on John Donne's thought "*No man is an island*." It crystallises the essence of Harakka's artistic community: the work of individual creators interweaves into a larger whole where nature, history, and community are entwined. The exhibition also reflects the artists' growth and long-term work on the island, where community and individual artistic expression reinforce one another.

## Participating artists

Sirkku Ala-Harja, Annette Arlander, Pira Cousin, Aino Favén, Noora Geagea, Walter Götsch, Iiris Hälli, Emmi Jormalainen, Liisa Kallio, Osmo Kivimäki, Kastehelmi Korpjaakko, Anni Leppälä, Marika Maijala, Soili Mustapää, Heikki Mäntymaa, Tuula Närhinen, Tuomo Rainio, Aleksi Remsu, Laura Ruotsalainen, Kaisa Salmi, Noora Sandgren, Johanna Suonpää, Tiio Suorsa, Virpi Vesanen-Laukkanen, Kari Yli-Annala, Aoi Yoshizawa.

## Harakka Artist House and the island

Harakka Artist House is a former military chemical laboratory, built in 1929, that has served as artists' studios since 1989. The house accommodates 30 studios for artists from various fields: visual artists, photographers, designers, performance artists, and craftspeople.

Harakka Island is located just off Kaivopuisto Park and is reached by ferry from Ullanlinna pier (round trip €9). Admission to the exhibition is free.

## The curator

**Antti Kauppinen** (b. 1977), the curator of the exhibition, is a Helsinki-based cultural researcher, art historian, and human rights activist. He has worked extensively in the art and cultural field as a writer, lecturer, and performer. In his work, he combines an interest in visual culture, identities, sexuality, environmental protection, and food culture. As a curator, he emphasizes diversity of voices, community, and dialogue between different forms of cultural expression.

## Exhibition information

### Artists' Island 2025

10–28 September 2025

Open: Tue–Sun, 1–6 pm

Opening: Tue 9 Sept, 5–8 pm

Location: Harakka Island, Helsinki

Producer: Harakka ry

Supporters: Svenska kulturfonden, City of Helsinki

### More information:

Curator Antti Kauppinen, +358 50 574 8323

[www.harakka.fi](http://www.harakka.fi)

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