

HELSINKI PHOTO FESTIVAL 2021



What we are

Helsinki Photo Festival is a visual arts event focused on photography. The event is held annually and brings a new art experience to the Greater Helsinki area. In a period of 12 weeks curated photography exhibitions can be discovered 24/7 in public spaces and at art institutions and former industrial areas. Most exhibitions are accessible free of charge.

Every year the festival selects +50 open call winners from different genres. The contest is judged by a jury of leading experts in photography and education. The program includes numerous exhibitions, pop-ups and pedagogical events inviting photo enthusiasts of all ages from any gender, race or class.

Spectators can visit safely all exhibitions provided keeping safe distance and follow government recommendations and advice.

Visitor numbers at glance / exhibition projects

2018 Kalasatama incl. parks & Kallio Block party +40.000
2019 Helsinki Zoo & Old Customs House incl. parks +250.000
2020 The National Museum of Finland & JCDecaux Signage incl. parks
let the number rose to more than a million +1.000.000



Open call

Fact sheet

2021

Fearless

428 submissions

5307 images

55 countries

2020

Trust

310 submissions

2784 images

45 countries

2019

Anarchy

170 submissions

1540 images

39 countries

2018

Love

195 submissions

1682 images

37 countries

Face your fear to become fearless

Helsinki Photo Festival fourth open call invites everyone from all over the world to submit their work(s) in the festival theme: *Fearless*.

We challenge photographers and artists of all ages to share with us the connections you would see with our theme, in imaginative, creative expressive interpretation. Artists are required to write as part of their submission an explanation of how their work fits with the theme.

What does it take to lose your fear? Can we live without fear or will it make us numb? Are the words courageous and fearless synonyms? Is the one full of fear and still moving forward being fearless? Does being fearless make you more heroic and adventurous? What role plays fearless in society and human history? In these times when all our life is changing in unexpected ways what does fearless mean? Can being fearless improve your life or will it ruin it?

In fact, there are many ways to interpret and associate with Fearless. What is yours?

Meet the Jury - 2021

Marianne Ager (DK), Curator for Brandts Museum, Odense

Alexa Becker (DE), Acquisitions Editor for photography & art books for Kehrer Verlag

Emanuela Mirabelli (IT), Photo Editor of Marie Claire Italy

Rafael Rybczynski (DK), Artistic Director of Helsinki Photo Festival

Stig Marlon Weston (NO), Photographer Director of studio collective CYAN

Naoya Yoshikawa (JP), Photographer; Professor at Osaka University of Arts

Federico Estol (UY) Photographer; Artistic Director of San José Foto Festival

Andy Adams (US), Curator and writer; Director of FlakPhoto Projects

Karoliina Korpilahti (FI), Head of the Programme at The Finnish Institute in Estonia

Curt Richter (US), Accomplished photographer and lecturer

Stefan Bremer (FI), Lecturer and Photographer; State Art Professor in 1999-2004

Moritz Neumüller (AT), Curator, educator & writer in the field of Photography & New Media

The conditions & info for open call can be found at www.bit.ly/2Wg7eDH



Photograph:
© Arno Rafael Minkkinen
Hite, Utah, 1997

**“Art is Risk
Made Visible”**

- Arno Rafael Minkkinen

Program

Festival map

Media partner

voima

Upcoming press coverage

GUP magazine edition #69 (to be released in May 2021) will feature Helsinki Photo Festival's solo exhibition artists: *David Barreiro* (Spain) and *Svante Gullichsen* (Finland).

GUP Magazine is an international publication on photography. The print edition reaches approximate 50.000 readers per issue/quarter.

HELSINKI PHOTO FESTIVAL 7.7.-30.9.2021

Outdoor exhibitions

- 1 Hanasaaren Taidepuisto Hanasaarenranta 5, Espoo
- 2 Ebeneser-säätiö | Lastentarhamuseo Helsinginkatu 3-5
- 3 Finlandia-talo Mannerheimintie 13e
- 4 Ulmastadion Hammarskjöldintie 5
- 5 Vantaan taidemuseo Artsi Paalutori 3, Vantaa
- 6 Karhupuisto (TBC)
- 7 Tähtitorninvuoren puisto (TBC)
- 8 Kaivopuisto (TBC)
- 9 Kasarmitori Summer (TBC)
- 10 Keran Hallit / Espoo Photo Days Karamalmintie 2, Espoo
- 11 Thurmaninaukio & Kauniainen train station Kauniainen

Indoor exhibitions

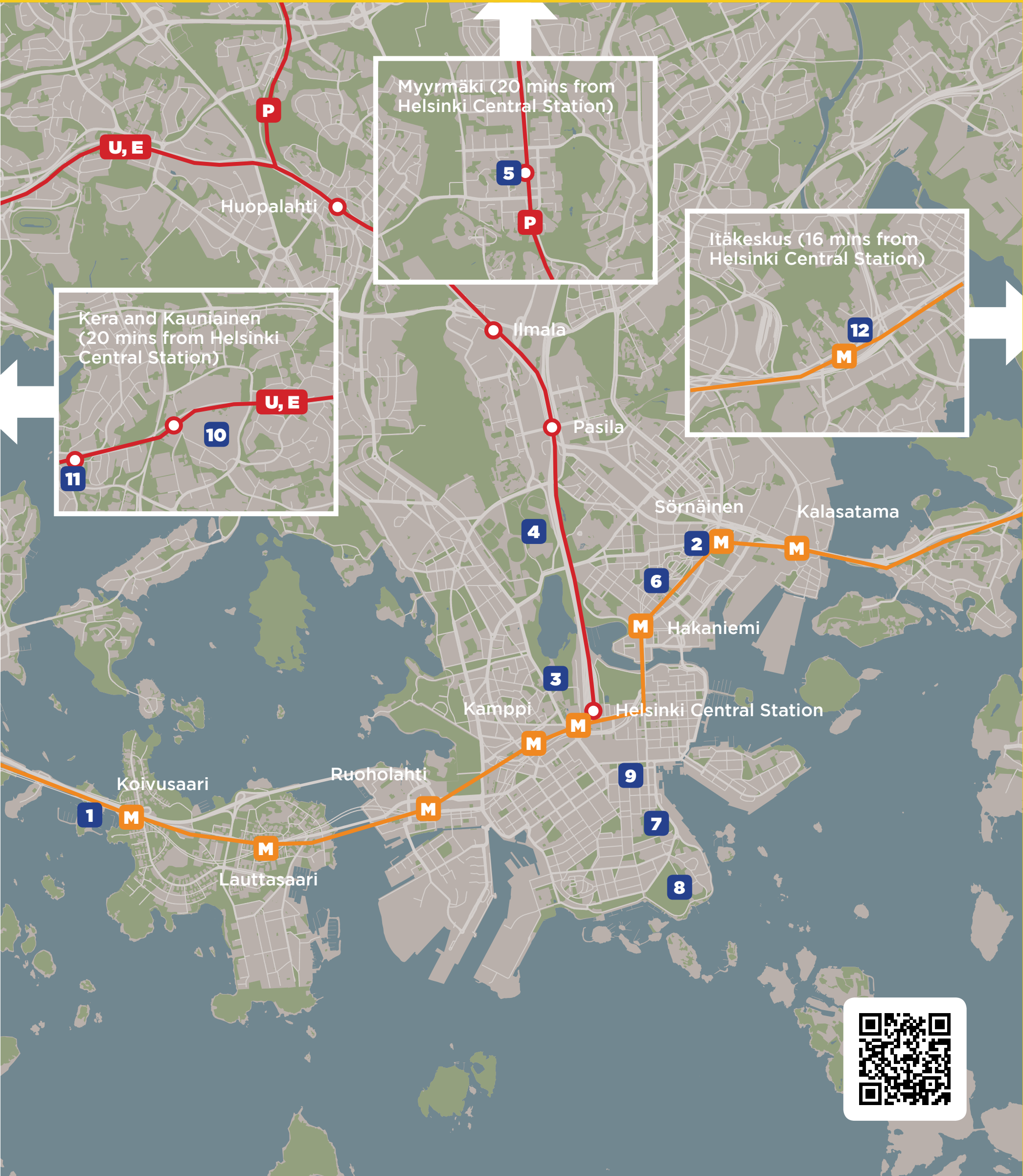
- 12 Kulttuurikeskus Stoa Turunlinnantie 1

Pedagogy events

- 1 Hanasaari Nordic Seminar **August 27**
- 3 Finlandia-talo Portfolio Reviews **September 3**
- 2 Ebeneser-säätiö Camera Obscura Workshop / Taiteiden Yö **August 19**

Transportation

Metro Trains U/E to Espoo and P to Myyrmäki



Finlandia Hall exhibition

7.7.-30.9.2021

Portfolio reviews, Terassisali

3.9.2021

The Finlandia Hall will host an international photo exhibition in the garden area towards Mannerheimintie. The festival's second Portfolio Review will be held September 3, in the Terassisali at Finlandia Hall.

Portfolio reviews are open to photographers of all levels to showcase their work and to get back professional feedback as well as networking with people who may be able to help artist with their career development. The first prize winner of this year's Portfolio Review will be exhibited solo at Helsinki Photo Festival 2022. The winner and up to five runners up will be also offered the opportunity to participate in the Festival's limited edition print program.

www.finlandiatalo.fi



Ebeneser Foundation - The Kindergarten Museum 7.7.-30.9.2021

In collaboration with the Ebeneser Foundation - the Kindergarten museum, Helsinki Photo Festival will bring a curated photography exhibition for children to Helsinginkatu in Sörnainen, accessible 24/7 from July 7-September 30, 2021.

www.lastentarhamuseo.fi



Uimastadion - Helsinki swimming stadium

7.7.-15.9.2021

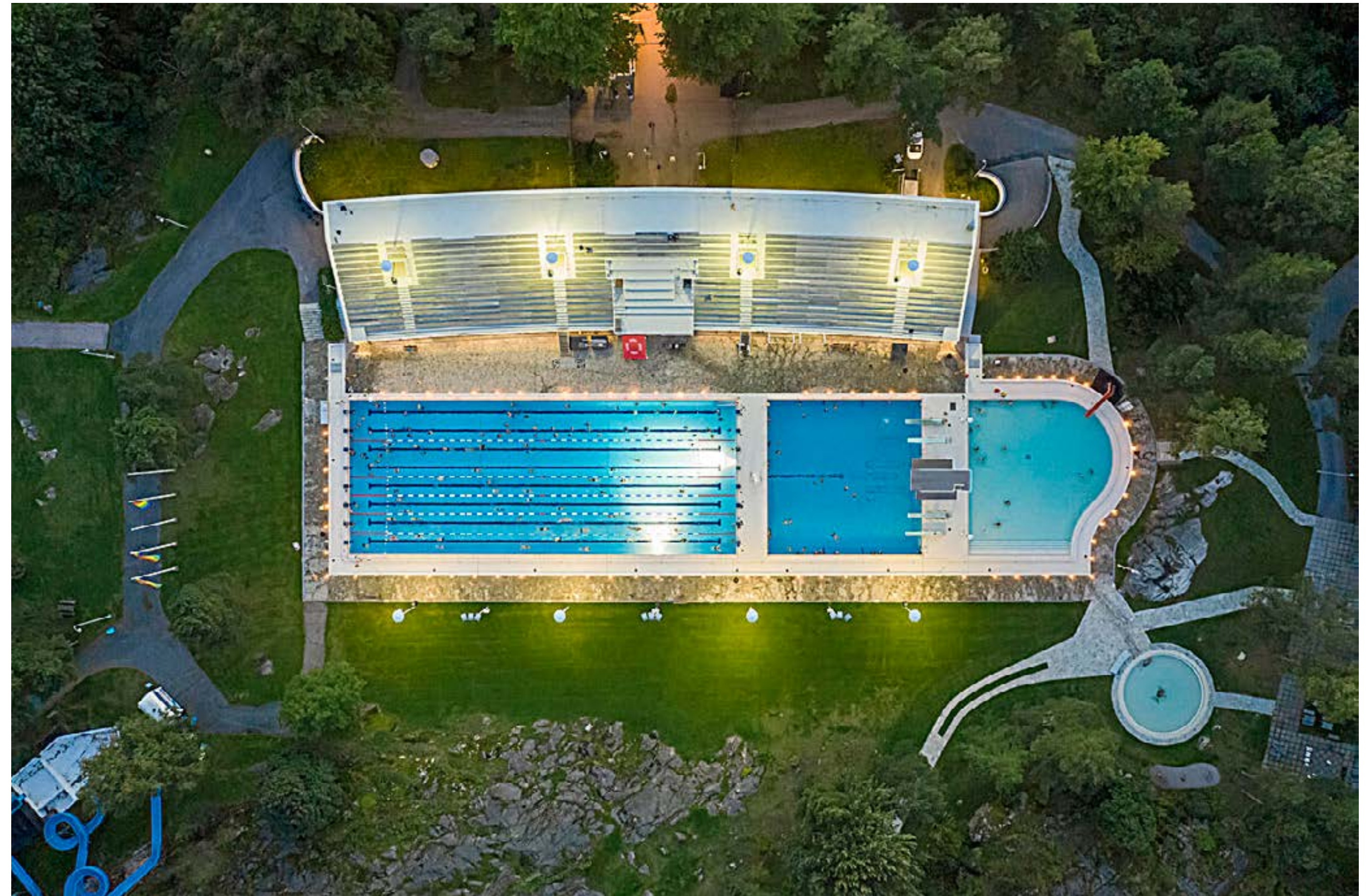
For the first time, the Helsinki Swimming Stadium - Uimastadion will host a photo exhibition.

Temporary photo displays will be set up in the swimming stadium to showcase the works of international award-winning visual artists.

The exhibition at Uimastadion can only be visited during opening hours and be seen in connection with purchasing a regular ticket to the facility.

www.myhelsinki.fi

Helsinki



Hanaholmen x Nordic Village

7.7.-30.9.2021

Nordic Seminar, Celsius auditorium

27.8.2021

Helsinki Photo Festival will open a Nordic Village exhibition on the theme of 2021 “Fearless” from Jul 7-Sep 30 at the Art Park at Hanaholmen – Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre in Espoo. The finalists of the Nordic open call and emerging Finnish photographer Svante Gullichsen will be exhibited. A Nordic seminar with experts in the photographic field will be organised on August 27, 2021.

Nordic Village is a talent platform fostered by Helsinki Photo Festival to support emerging Nordic photographers. The platform exhibits visual artists from the countries of the north to a broad audience in Finland and internationally. The program includes educational activities with experts and artists from the Nordics.

www.hanaholmen.fi
www.helsinkiphotofestival.com/nordic-village



Vantaa Art Museum Artsi

1.8.-30.9.2021

Vantaa Art Museum Artsi in collaboration with Helsinki Photo Festival's will present a photo exhibition with various works of 20-30 international artists from the festival's annual open call finalists.

Helsinki Photo Festival will wrap up the museum's facade to produce a new art experience letting spectators explore visual art exhibitions outdoors.

www.artsimuseo.com



VANTAAN
TAIDEMUSEO
ARTSI

Vantaa, Myyrmäki

1.8.-30.9.2021

Vantaa Art Museum Artsi in collaboration with Helsinki Photo Festival's will present a photo exhibition with various works of 20-30 international artists from the festival's annual open call finalists.

A 100m long wall fence photo exhibition will be set up around a new residential building site opposite the Vantaa Art Museum Artsi.

www.artsimuseo.com



VANTAAN
TAIDEMUSEO
ARTSI

Fira

HARTELA

ARAZZO

Keran Hallit, Espoo

12.7.-30.9.2021

In collaboration with Keran Hallit, Helsinki Photo Festival is planning an ambitious summer exhibition at SOK's properties in Espoo.

23 international photographers will be set up on the facade with multi large prints at the industrial warehouse area in Kera.

www.keranhallit.fi/en



Kauniainen

16.8.–20.9.2021

In collaboration with the City of Kauniainen, Helsinki Photo Festival will set up a 4 weeks photo exhibition with the best image from each open call finalist of the Fearless theme. Altogether 50 images will be displayed in the exhibition at the city's new market square at Thurmaninaukio and at the railway station.

www.kauniainen.fi/en



Galleria Futura

Popup gallery

Founded in 2018, Galleria Futura is the popup gallery of Helsinki Photo Festival.

Each year the gallery invites photo enthusiasts and collectors to explore unseen and censored exhibitions of the festival's open call finalists or selected solo artist projects.

Currently, the association is planning to start an own photographic center in downtown Helsinki.

www.instagram.com/galleriafutura

GALLERIA
FUTURA



Media Coverage

Helsinki Photo Festival is becoming annually an outstanding global platform for photography through its press coverage on television such as Euronews and YLE; newspapers such as The Guardian, Marie Claire Italy, Turun Sanomat, Helsingin Sanomat and IZvestia Russia, and art media such as GUP Magazine, L’oeil del la Photographie, LFI - Leica Fotografie International and This is Finland.

Read about us

[THE GUARDIAN](#)

[THE BMJ - THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL](#)

[THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS](#)

[RUOTUVÄKI - News magazine of the Finnish Defense Forces](#)

[YLE News](#)

[LFI - LEICA FOTOGRAFIE INTERNATIONAL](#)

[THIS IS FINLAND](#)

[L’ OEIL DE LA PHOTOGRAPHIE/THE EYE OF PHOTOGRAPHY](#)

For press enquiries contact us at: hej@helsinkiphotofestival.com

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Linkedin [fr.linkedin.com](#)



“When an Italian magazine editor visits the Helsinki Photo Festival, which is organised by a Danish at the National Museum of Finland and highlights a Portuguese photographer. Globalisation is not all bad!”

- Nuno Serrao

Ebeneser Foundation x Helphoto bilingual online photography courses for children 3.9.2021

The Ebeneser Foundation is developing in collaboration with Helsinki Photo Festival a bilingual online learning activity pilot to inspire and stimulate children and beginners to kickstart photography skills (to be used with ipad & tablets).

For the photography courses, printed and digital material educational material will be created. We want to give a free tool to teachers, other professionals, parents and children how to learn more about photography and arouse interest in visual art in children (age 5-6), in primary school (age 7-15) and all other stakeholders to benefit from, for example, making better pictures, compositions, through an online photography course.

Ebeneser Foundation will administer the educational course to all ECEC centres in the Greater Helsinki area. The bilingual course will be made available in Finnish and Swedish. The lengths per online course will be max 5-7 minutes.

www.lastentarhamuseo.fi



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International: Lens op de Mens Pelt Fotofestival (Belgium) 6.6.-30.9.2021

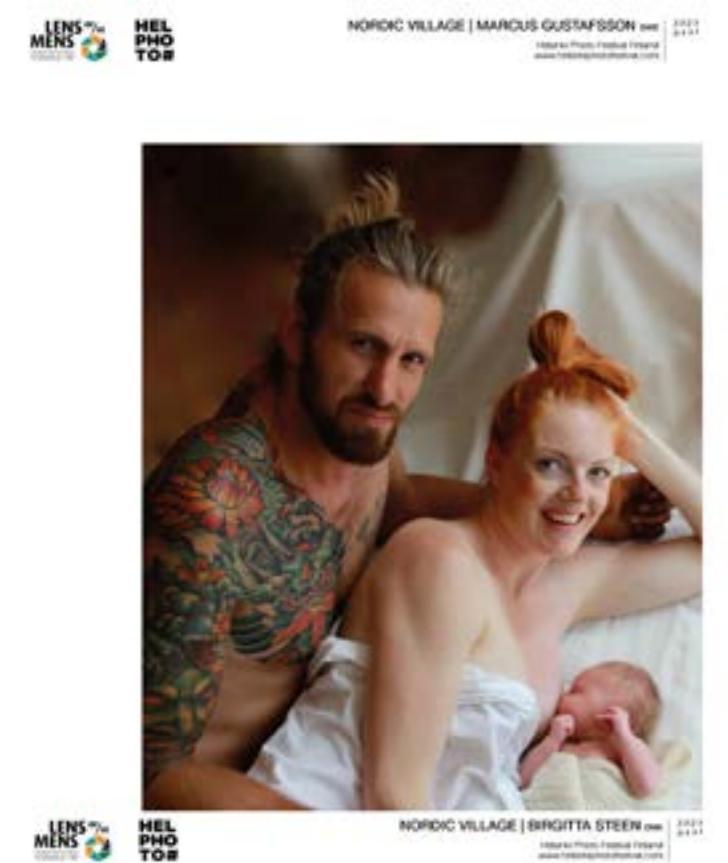
Nordic Village becomes a touring exhibition. 12 Nordic visual art projects will be exhibited at the biennial Lens op de Mens at Fotofestival Pelt in Belgium. The exhibition can be visited from June 6-September 30, 2021.

The following artists will present two works from their series:

MARIA KJARTANS (IS)
ÓMAR SVERRISSON (IS)
STIG MARLON WESTON (NO)
SVITHASETH (NO)
JENNY ROVA (SE)
SEBASTIAN SARDI (SE)
MARCUS GUSTAFSSON (SE)
HENRI AIRO (FI)
SVANTE GULLICHSEN (FI)
MARJA SALEVA (FI)
BIRGITTA STEEN (DK)
LAURA KROGH & ANDREAS HAUBJERG (DK)

www.fotofestivalpelt.be/en

www.helsinki-photo-festival.com/nordic-village



Auction

Stockholms Auktionsverk to auction Helsinki Photo Festival's limited edition prints and donated art works. A selection of works to be offered for sale will be exhibited in the Auction House at Eteläranta 14 in the south harbour area in Helsinki. Date to be confirmed.

Stockholms Auktionsverk is the Nordic region's largest auction platform with 29 auction houses, about 12,000 ongoing auctions and about 4 million online visits a month.

www.auktionsverket.com



International: Photo London (UK)

9.-12.9.2021

Photo London invites visual art talent platform Nordic Village to exhibit new Nordic photography 2021 in the UK. The sixth edition of Photo London will be held at Somerset House between 9-12 September, with a VIP preview on 8 September.

Photo London brings together many of the world's leading galleries and dealers, as well as providing a platform for emerging galleries and artists pushing the boundary of the medium.

Limited edition prints to be seen of the following artists:

MARIA KJARTANS (IS)
STIG MARLON WESTON (NO)
SVANTE GULLICHSEN (FI)
MARJA SALEVA (FI)
BIRGITTA STEEN (DK)

Other Nordic artists to be confirmed. The final participation at the art fair 2021 to be confirmed.

www.photolondon.org

www.helsinki-photo-festival.com/nordic-village



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Posters

Every year a new series of A2 posters are distributed to Helsinki, Espoo, Vantaa and Kauniainen to promote the festival!



Festival Magazine

+100 page publication presenting all exhibited artists, expert profiles and events of the festival. The 2020 edition of Helsinki Photo News was published digitally only due to pandemic restrictions: [Link](#)

2021 edition: 20.000 printed copies.

For further details and media pricing contact us:
info@helsinkiphotofestival.com

Film Roll for Display

Permanent installation bid

Subverting people’s memory of reviewing films in mysterious dark rooms, the Film Roll for Display invites people to experience browsing through enlarged photography work by moving along the beautiful pier in the long daytime.

The Film Roll for Display evokes thoughts of time, space, and conversations between the viewer and the photographer through physical movement in outdoor environments. It introduces a new viewing experience for outdoor photography exhibitions to the residents, tourists, and boaters around the area.

- * Permanent 59m outdoor gallery installation proposal to City of Helsinki
- * Helsinki Photo Festival would curate different exhibitions all year round

* Update: The bid was not accepted, April 16, 2021



Photographs from previous years

2018



2018



2018



2019



2019



2020



2020



2020



Helsinki Photo Festival ry, is a non-profit association created to attract interest and disseminate information on photography and visual culture in Finland and abroad.

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