ART IN ARABIANRANTA

Art collaboration 2000–2011
When the redevelopment of Arabianranta is finished in 2012, Helsinki will be the World Design Capital. Finnish design holds a strong presence in the district: in its history, its success stories, its makers. This is manifest in the number of art schools, in the street and place names, and in the ambience created by the works of art integrated into the development of the neighbourhood. Arabianranta was developed on a wasteland, which the City of Helsinki cleaned and reinforced for new housing. Consequently, the City of Helsinki required that 1 to 2 per cent of the project costs be invested in new art.

The artists who worked for the Arabia factory in the 1950s aimed at creating everyday utensils that were not only functional but also pleasing to the eye. The art project in Arabianranta continues this tradition by providing everyday surroundings with variety and inspiration through art. Art tells stories; in addition to the tradition of design, it has contributed to the visibility of the other strata present in the Arabianranta environment, such as nature, history and communality. As Helsinki’s eastern main road, Hämeentie is a historical entrance route to the city. It passes through the original location of the town; the Vanhakaupunki rapids and power station; the Arabia factory; and wooden villas and early industrial buildings. This is a special place, with traces from the 16th to 21st centuries in a relatively small area.

Instead of allocating existing works of art to new buildings, the Arabianranta
The project integrates the creation of art into the building design, involving the architect, the developer and the art coordinator. The artists create their works independently, but during the process, they establish contacts with other people and institutions operating in the neighborhood and acquire information on the environment of the work-in-progress and future residents. The process creates a space, as it were, in which the artist explores the location and the needs of future residents. All works of art are unique, and many are connected to the various elements present in the area, giving them visibility.

Most works of art on the north side of Arabianranta are located by entrances. They make ordinary staircases special, celebrating the moment of homecoming with the residents. Art has helped to designate places and accentuate events such as arrival, ending residential streets, opening up towards the waterfront park and special needs housing. In the southern Toukoranta area, the artistic concept has been developed to treat the outdoor spaces between buildings as a whole. These “art courtyards” are each provided with their own special theme, and the artists have worked in close collaboration with the designers of the parks. The Tapio Wirkkala park, designed by the American artist and director Robert Wilson, adds an international touch; located next to Arabiankatu street, it invites visitors to enter its nine rooms for shared moments and activities.

The communal saunas on the rooftop terraces of each building and the raised communal gardens serving all residents of the area contribute to the development of a feeling of community. In an interesting way, the horizontal contour reinforces your experience of the place: you become aware of the ground below your feet, the stories it holds, and the views opening up between the buildings. The works of art guide your gaze towards your immediate surroundings, adding an artist’s viewpoint to it, making it special. They link the residential area to its surroundings, functioning both as a gateway to nature and a place of contact with other residents. These experiences are integrated into the everyday lives of the area’s residents, providing them with festive moments. The residential areas are not merely collections of buildings; the everyday lives of the residents take place in the immediate surroundings of the buildings – people meet, get to know each other, get together and celebrate.

Helsinki, 13 April 2010
Tuula Isohanni, Doctor of Arts
Art Coordinator
The Garden of Retreat
The Garden of Movement
The Garden of Growth
The Garden of the Senses
The Garden of Reflections

There are several strata of nature, history and communality present in Arabianranta.
The map includes all completed works of art as well as works in progress. They are numbered according to location.

The list of artists is presented overleaf.
WORKS OF ART AT ARABIANRANTA

List of artists according to the map numbering in the preceding pages

1 Sami Rintala ................................p. 12
2 Roy Mänttäri ................................p. 13
3 Hannu Siren ................................p. 14
4 Annala art gardens .........................p. 15
5 Pekka Kauhanen ............................p. 16
6 Antero Koskinen ............................p. 17
7 Eeva Kaisa and Timo Berry ...............p. 18
8 Esa Vesmanen ..............................p. 19
9 Helena Hietanen and Jaakko Niemelä p. 20
10 Tälyschakir ................................p. 21
11 Marja Kanervo .............................p. 22
12 Arabianranta allotments .................p. 23
13 Florian Garnter ............................p. 24
14 Annika Bergvik-Forsander ...............p. 25
15 Kivi and Tuuli Sotamaa ..................p. 26
16 Jere Saarelainen ..........................p. 27
17 Markku Hakuri .............................p. 28
18 Perti Metsälämpi ...........................p. 29
19 Pekka Paikkari .............................p. 30
20 Kaisu Koivistö ..............................p. 31
21 Tiina Rytkönen ............................p. 32
22 Kazushi Nakada ............................p. 33
23 Tarja Ervasti ................................p. 34
24 Howard Smith ..............................p. 35
25 Lauri Astala .................................p. 36
26 Petri Anttonen .............................p. 37
27 Ilkka Halso ..................................p. 38
28 Jaana Kokko ...............................p. 39
29 Mikko Mäkkä ..............................p. 40
30 Julia Weckman .............................p. 41
31 Markku Pääkkönen .........................p. 42
32 Elna Aalto ..................................p. 43
33 Samuli Naamanka .........................p. 44
34 Johanna Hyrkäs and Tiina Kuhanen p. 45
35 Anne Siirtola ...............................p. 46
36 Robert Wilson ..............................p. 47
37 Kiriš Kiviirviitä .........................p. 48
38 Jyrki Buller and Tuomas Tuokko .....p. 49
39 Stig Baumgarter .........................p. 50
40 Ritva Määtänen-Valkama ...............p. 51
41 Chiaki Kobinata ...........................p. 52
42 Tiina Veräjänkorva .......................p. 53
43 Jan Pesonen ................................p. 54
44 Merja Salonen .............................p. 55
45 Pasi Karijula and Marko Vuokola ....p. 56
46 Reino Vihinen .............................p. 57
47 Päivi Kiuru, Maarit Mäkelä and Johanna Rytkölä p. 58
48 Päivi Kiuru and Samuli Naamanka ....p. 59
49 Hannu Aaltonen ..........................p. 60
50 Mirja Niemelä .............................p. 61
51 Jukka Vikberg ..............................p. 62
52 Lauri Saarinen ............................p. 63
53 Bokvillan .................................p. 64
54 Desiree Sevelius ...........................p. 65
55 Anu Tuominen .............................p. 66
56 Petri Hytönen .............................p. 67
57 Riikka Kevö ..................................p. 68
58 Kaja Kontulainen ........................p. 69
59 Oona Tikkaaja .............................p. 70
60 Johanna Hyrkäs .........................p. 71
61 Eeva Kaisa Berry, Timo Berry and Teresa Rönkää p. 72
62 Johanna Hyrkäs ...........................p. 73
63 Tommi Grönlund and Petteri Nisunen p. 74
64 Emilia Weckman and Teresa Rönkää p. 75
65 Tuula Isohanni ............................p. 76
66 Eija Hakko .................................p. 77
67 Heidi Ritalahua ...........................p. 78
68 Johan Olin and Aamu Song ............p. 79
69 Kai van der Puij ..........................p. 80
70 Outi Turpeinen ...........................p. 81
71 Johan Olin and Aamu Song ............p. 82
72 Riikka Latva-Somppi .....................p. 83
73 Christine Candolin .......................p. 84
74 Ulla Pohjola ...............................p. 85
75 Raija Siikamäki ............................p. 86
76 Ann Sundholm ............................p. 87
77 Saara Ekström .............................p. 88
78 Reeta Cagnani and Sari Tenni ......p. 89
79 Ulrika Ferm ...............................p. 90
80 Tanja Sipilä ...............................p. 91
81 Markus Åström ...........................p. 92
82 Sofie Saari .................................p. 93
83 Paula Blåfield .............................p. 94
84 Urs Beat Roth ..............................p. 95
85 Juha Sääskii ...............................p. 96

Works of art around the Arabianranta district:

86 Hilda Kozári and Esa Vesmanen ....p. 97
87 Marja Nurminen ..........................p. 98
ROY MÄNTTÄRI

name: Benches in the Kellomäki summer church, 2012  
location: Vanhankaupungintie, Kellomäki

landscape design: Maisema-arkkitehdit Byman & Ruokonen

developer/client: The Parish Union of Helsinki

A plinth in the Vanhakaupunki district marks the spot where Helsinki’s first church used to be in the 1550s. The site will see new life and will be used for sacral ceremonies again in the summer of 2012. The church’s 11 black granite benches form a composition on the church floor. The church was built on top of a graveyard, which is why the benches have no substructures.

SAMI RINTALA

title: Sediment, 2008  
location: crossing of Lahdenväylä and Koskelantie

developer/client: City of Helsinki Public Works Department

According to the artist’s original idea, the noise barrier was to be made of various recycled building materials (rubber tyres, crushed bricks and pieces of concrete), with the horizontal layers depicting the different sediments of human activity in the area. The finished work consists of differently coloured stones in wire baskets; the top layer is made of recycled glass. Later, the glass layer will be provided with illumination. The horizontal stripes of the noise barrier provide a serene backdrop for the road’s heavy traffic, guiding the viewer’s gaze along the road.
The work of art aims at organising the courtyard into multi-faceted, small-scale impressions of space. It simultaneously distances the courtyard from and integrates it into the surrounding urban space. The work of art results from a collaboration between the artist and ALA Architects.

There is also an earlier work by Hannu Siren in the area: Varjoja, in the entrance yard of the Metropolia University of Applied Sciences (the former Stadia) at Hämeentie 161.

The Annala art gardens are special places in the old Annala manor grounds that have been enhanced with art. The people responsible for introducing art to the area, including Tuula Isohanni, Päivi Kiuru, Maija Pitz-Koponen, Anu Ranta and Sari Snellman, have created places where the inhabitants and visitors of Helsinki can sit down to contemplate and relax. These sites feature poems and small works of art. The artistic content for each place changes annually.
PEKKA KAUMANEN

*title:* Aurinkopoika, 2011  
*location:* Kaanaankatu 6  
*architecture:* Arkkitehtitoimisto Huttunen-Lipasti-Pakkalanen  
*developer/client:* ATT

Sculpture has stepped in from the outdoors, functioning as entrance columns and a facade relief and as a free-form sculpture on the waterfront side of the building. The works of art are made of cast bronze. The artist describes his work: “The Sun Boy waits for the dawn, leading the residents into a new day.”

ANTERO KOSKINEN

*title:* Triadi, 2011  
*location:* Kaanaankatu 9  
*architecture:* Arkkitehtitoimisto Hannu Jaakkola  
*developer/client:* Rand ja Tuulberg

The three-part sculpture, which the artist has made from black diorite quarried from the Hyvinkää area, forms an entrance gate to three point-blocks. There are low sculpture walls featuring relief-like details on either side of the central part. The Japanese-style shapes refer to the historical layers of the place, recalling the international port that used to be located nearby, in Vanhankaupunginlahti bay. The sculpture forms a meeting place for the residents, in the same way as a village well in former times.
The light line drawings covering all the walls by the entrances depict wetland flora typical of the area and other common wild plants. The delicate lines provide a poetic contrast to the hard concrete wall. They import recollections into the staircases: recollections of herbariums, collecting plants and learning about them. They also make each staircase unique and special. The drawings are made with Graphic Concrete™. The same technique was applied in creating the semi-abstract reed pattern on the wall panels of the rooftop terrace.

The bronze rocks rising from the ground lead to the pergola space on the waterfront side of the courtyard. Near the waterline there is a place for viewing and recreation: all the bronze rocks are visible from here, and they also serve as gently swaying seating stones.
Together with the door lights, the railing lights on the north side of the gallery access building provide lighting for the walkways. The LED lights, which react to movement, are programmed to also create changing wave patterns on the railings and the gallery floor every now and then. In addition, the residents can program their own designs or texts to be reflected on the wall.

**HELENA HIETANEN AND JAAKKO NIEMELÄ**

*Title:* Valopeli, 2009  
*Location:* Posliinikatu 3  
*Architecture:* Arkkitehtuuri- ja muotoilutoimisto Talli  
*Developer/Client:* Sato

The patterned glazing of the balconies provide the facade with variety, but also add to privacy. The motifs chosen by the artist are inspired by the reeds of the nearby shore. The work of art results from a collaboration between the artist, the developer and the architects.

**TÜLAY SCHAKIR**

*Completed in:* 2008  
*Location:* Keramiikkakatu 7 and Muotoilijankatu 6  
*Architecture:* Arkkitehtuuri- ja muotoilutoimisto B&M  
*Developer/Client:* Alfred A. Palmberg

*Photo:* Jaakko Ketomäki/Obelux

*Photo:* Mathias Nyström
The first part of the work of art consists of the concrete wall surface of the entrance lobby, with unpainted circles indicating the diameters of the pipes inside the wall. The second part consists of material collected by the artist during construction, now on display in an interchangeable platform turned into a showcase. The artist describes her work: “The mounds of waste that were an integral part of the old Arabianranta have been removed. I wanted to import a recollection of such a non-organised world into this new, carefully designed environment.”


A vacant site owned by the city of Helsinki was turned into a temporary garden and allotment area that is scheduled to be in place for at least five years. Students on the Aalto University School of Art and Design master’s degree programme in environmental art, led by Scott Andrew Elliott, made the design for the area. Artova, the Arabianranta neighbourhood association, has leased the plot from the city of Helsinki, and the urban gardeners of Arabianranta use it to grow herbs and vegetables in their plant boxes.

location: Muotoilijankatu 5 landscape design: students on the Aalto University School of Art and Design master’s degree programme in environmental art in 2010–2011
The enamelled, wall-high work of art on the facade at street level is visible for the entire length of the street. It guides visitors and residents to the entrances of the building in a welcoming manner. The warm colour scheme and rounded shapes refer to human users as well as the architecture and the varied facade colouring of the block.

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This communal yard is the largest communal courtyard in the area, linking the buildings along Hämeentie to the waterfront park. The steel curves of the work of art create vaulted zones, which articulate the courtyard and its use. It also introduces a gesture, which concentrates into an object-like outdoor space, a gazebo. When you walk through it, you can find new aspects to the landscape. The work of art is named after a warm Saharan wind.

**Title:** Sirocco, 2010  
**Location:** Yhteispiha 6, Muotoilijankatu/Posliinikatu  
**Garden Design:** Puutarhasuunnittelu Arrakaski & Tahvonen  
**Developer/Client:** Arabian Palvelu

The works of art are sandblasted drawings on staircase windows, depicting various types of reeds growing on nearby shores. When it is dark, they are illuminated, which provides the tall windows with a lacy impression, as the shadows of the reeds are reflected near the entrances. The work of art in the courtyard consists of a sheltered place by the brick wall, where the residents bring their own stones to contribute to the creation of a Zen-inspired path.

**Title:** Järvikaisla, Merikaisla, Osmanikäämi and Kotiranta, 2008  
**Location:** Muotoilijampiha 6  
**Architecture:** Arkkitehtiryhmä A6  
**Garden Design:** MA-Arkitehdit  
**Developer/Client:** Skanska
Visible from Muotoilijankatu all the way to Hämeentie, the sculpture under the facade eaves functions as a cooling-off balcony for the users of the communal sauna. It also provides the sauna users with a moment of visual pleasure, allowing them a view of the landscape towards the waterfront. The theme of the work of art can be interpreted to refer to the fragility of human life and dreams, but also as a reminder of the wealth of nesting migratory birds at the nearby Vanhankaupunginlahti bay. It also serves as an interactive work of light art.

The works of art decorating the staircases are inspired by tree species growing in the area, such as the black alder in Verkatehdas park, the oak in Annala park and the hazel in the Viikki natural preservation area. Sandblasted on the 12-metre tall windows, the patterns depict the canopy of each tree, and the wooden panels coated with a veneer of the same species welcome the residents home. The patinated brass decorations attached to the panels show the size and shape of the leaves.
The work of art consists of two facade reliefs made of ceramic tubes. Aphorisms and thoughts written by the residents have been sandblasted into the surface of the tubes. The artist describes the work: “Light, shade, transparency. A reduced form which evolves from and returns to the building. A whole combining the durability, shaded colours and naturalness of contemporary ceramics as part of a built environment.”

Made of metal, the work of art is attached to the facade by the main entrance. The artist describes the work: “It consists of welded steel drops or cones. Here and there you can see a couple of shiny chromed pieces, which represent contingency. Their shine makes them stand out from the rest of the structure.”
Rihla is a temporary canopy serving as an info pavilion. The spiral is assembled from 22 identical wooden boards. It resulted from collaboration between the Aalto University School of Art and Design and the Wood Studio of the School of Science and Technology and functions a gate to the Masters of Arts festival of the School of Art and Design.

The work of light art on the surface of a Helsinki City Transport wiring mast has its own pulse and rhythm. The mirror structure reflects the environment, merging the installation into it. The movement of light depicts the fluctuation of darkness and light, blurring the expected course of the day. The artist describes his work: “In my art, I have defined everyday issues as reality. To me, art means a fusion of human sensations and intelligence. In my work I aim at creating a strong shared presence of reality and fantasy.”
TARJA ERVASTI

title: Tuulen kuvia, 2005  location: Kaj Franckin katu 1
architecture: ARK Kahri & Co  developer/client: Sato

The work of art consists of two spiral-like optical fibre ribbons embedded in brick facades. They are powered by a wind turbine on the roof of the building. The environment directly controls the work of art: the colour scheme and the movements of the ribbons are linked to the weather. The work of art also makes energy use visible in the area. The artist describes her work: “Wind became a content contributor to the piece. The vortical movement of wind is its visual motif. To me, a rising spiral is also a symbol of the cycle of life.”

HOWARD SMITH

completed in: 2008  location: Kaj Franckin katu
landscape design: Maisemasuunnittelu Hemgård
developer/client: City of Helsinki Public Works Department

The eight colourful metal pieces provide the grass terrace sloping towards the shore with a rhythm. The blue-tiled enclosure at the start of the street shows the handiwork of the designers of the Arabia factory. The outsides of the walls are made with Graphic Concrete™; they depict the designers’ signatures and Arabia factory stamps. The work is based on the development of Arabianranta, of which the first drafts were made as early as 1995.
The work of art grows through the entrance lobby wall as a bronze branch referring to the deciduous trees growing in the area. The work of art and the life of the wooden nesting box can be viewed at a closer distance from the glass-walled first floor corridor. A box that could be the real home of a bird now resides in the heart of a student housing unit.

**title:** Kotipuu, 2006  
**location:** Kylterinranta student housing, Kaj Franckin katu 4  
**architecture:** Arkkitehtitoimisto Brunow & Maunula  
**developer/client:** Student Union of the Helsinki School of Economics (KY-palvelu Oy and VVO Rakennutaja Oy)

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The theme of the photographs in the third-floor corridor is time. The artist describes his work: “The 12 photographs of the sequence narrate a cyclical story of change. The changes that take place within a day and a year are depicted by abstract photographs shot using a special technique; through colour transition, they create a balanced whole.”

**title:** Ajan kosketus, 2006  
**location:** Kylterinranta student housing, Kaj Franckin katu 4  
**architecture:** Arkkitehtitoimisto Brunow & Maunula  
**developer/client:** Student Union of the Helsinki School of Economics (KY-palvelu Oy and VVO Rakennutaja Oy)

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**photographer:** Petri Anttonen
The photographs in the second-floor corridor depict illuminated installations. The artist describes his work: “In all images there is an artificially lit construction covered with a green, transparent mesh rising from a blue, nocturnal landscape. It represents a desired state. This is an attempt to control nature and our environment by enclosing, researching, protecting or repairing.”

title: Restoration, 2006
location: Kylterinranta student housing, Kaj Franckin katu 4
architecture: Arkkitehtitoimisto Brunow & Maunula
developer/client: Student Union of the Helsinki School of Economics (KY-palvelu Oy and VVO Rakennutaja Oy)

The ground-floor photography deals with the problematics of gaze and presence in a liminal space. The artist describes her work: “The corridor is a liminal space, a place of encounter, of reluctant inconspicuousness or voluntary conspicuousness; an encounter with another person or (here) an image of a person.”

location: Kylterinranta student housing, Kaj Franckin katu 4
architecture: Arkkitehtitoimisto Brunow & Maunula
developer/client: Student Union of the Helsinki School of Economics (KY-palvelu Oy and VVO Rakennutaja Oy)
Consisting of five collages of photographs, the work is located in the first-floor corridor and depicts the process of constructing the building. The artist describes his work: “The theme of the collages is the gradual formation of the spaces in the student housing unit. The photographs reveal how the spaces evolved and how the environment turned from a construction site into human dwellings. The collages combine the details photographed during construction in a new way, assembling various levels of time.”

The top-floor photographs in the student housing unit show a frolicking dog. The artist describes her work: “Freedom is at its best and most joyous when it comes as a surprise, like a dog that escapes from its leash.” The work, whose title also refers to the classical decorative motif known as “running dog”, depicts not only the longing of freedom students may experience but our universal wish to experience unlimited liberty and wildness. The lives of both men and dogs consist of small moments of joy.
MARKKU PÄÄKKÖNEN

title: Kinememearabia and Arabmemearabia, 2005  
location: Kaj Franckin katu 5 and 6  
arquitectura: Arkkitehtitoimisto Jukka Turtiainen  
developer/client: ATT

The works of art, consisting of coloured glass, are located in the staircases and facades of two residential buildings. They are based on a series entitled Meemit (Memes). The artist describes his work: “The colour scheme is very personal in two ways. Some have been defined by me, and some have been created through the participation of the future residents, who expressed their favourite colours by using crayons and verbal descriptions.”

ELINA AALTO

title: Arabian matto, 2006  
location: Communal yard 3, Gunnel Nymanin katu/Kaj Franckin katu  
garden design: Maisemasuunnittelu Hengőrd  
developer/client: Arabian Palvelu

The work of art is an 11m x 6m field of ceramic tiles. The artist wanted to create an environmental work of art that could be experienced by anyone living in or visiting the area. When you walk on the field, it looks like an abstract colour field, but seen from above, from the upper floors, it looks like an Oriental carpet. Arabian matto was chosen as the environmental work of art of the year by the Foundation for Environmental Art in 2007.
The three piers by the Arba group (Samuli Naamanka, Jan Pesonen and Merja Salonen) are located in the waterfront park. The artists describe their work: “The altered shoreline creates recollections of former piers in their original places. The piers convey the ambience of the old shore: departure and arrival. These new places provide a setting for a number of activities, such as recreation, encounter, play, sunbathing etc.” The forms, dimensions and body materials of the piers tie them together and make them a unified work of art.

**SAMULI NAAMANKA**

*Title:* Laiturit, 2007  
*Location:* Arabianranta waterfront park  
*Landscape design:* Maisemasuunnittelu Hemgård  
*Developer/client:* City of Helsinki Public Works Department

During development, the housing company carried out a community art project during which the artists arranged a variety of communication and collaboration opportunities for the future residents and the people involved in the building’s design and construction. They resulted in, for example, designs for exterior doors and stencilled art walls on facades. The participants of the pottery workshops created tableware to be used in the communal saunas, made of clay from the site. The lifts of the building are provided with a soundscape documenting the sounds of the construction site.

**JOHANNA HYRKÄS AND TIINA KUHANEN**

*Completed in:* 2005  
*Location:* Gunnel Nymanin piha 2  
*Architecture:* Ark-house arkkitehdit  
*Developer/client:* VVO
Mosaics made of broken porcelain are located by the entrances; a lone ribbon of mosaic in the staircase continues up to the top floors. The rich mosaic collages manifest the versatility and colour schemes of ceramics. The artist describes her work: “The collages are made of different pieces of porcelainware. I have collected them from the Vanhankaupunginlahti fields, which used to serve as dumps. The oldest pieces are from the 1920s or so, and the newest from recent decades.”

Surrounded by residential buildings, the urban park is designed by applying classical park design themes in a wholly novel way. You enter the rectangular park through tall gates, and the pier-like paths lead you to the square-shaped centre of activity, which is like an island. The square is divided into rooms with different ambiances, where you can find various art motifs linked to the home as well as suggested themes for shared time.
The works of are located in the staircases and by the walkway passing through the block. The works in the staircases are made of hand-made ceramic tiles which feature the landscape of Arabianranta, the encounter between water and soil. This is a method of bringing the surrounding landscape inside the building. The walls of the distribution substation in the yard and the staircases are clad with specially made, red-clay brick. The texts on the bricks describe bicycling and are written by people of different ages.

**KIRSI KIVIVIRTA**

**title:** Seinät puhuvat seinät ja Kesät talvet, 2005  
**location:** Communal yard 2, Gunnel Nymanin katu 5, Toini Muonan katu 6 and 8  
**architecture:** Arkkitehdit Hannunkari & Mäkipaja  
**developer/client:** ATT, Arabian Palvelu, Sato-Asumisoikeus and Vatrotalot

The works are located in the staircases and by the walkway passing through the block. The works in the staircases are made of hand-made ceramic tiles which feature the landscape of Arabianranta, the encounter between water and soil. This is a method of bringing the surrounding landscape inside the building. The walls of the distribution substation in the yard and the staircases are clad with specially made, red-clay brick. The texts on the bricks describe bicycling and are written by people of different ages.

**JVRKI BULLER AND TUOMAS TUOKKO**

**title:** SIMMO- electrical enclosure, 2003  
**location:** Arabianranta residential car parks  
**client:** City of Helsinki  
**manufacturer:** Siemens

The socket outlet posts of the car parks are equipped with lighting. In 1999, the City of Helsinki ordered a new electric enclosure concept for Arabianranta; it was designed by two students from the University of Art and Design Helsinki supervised by Professor Raimo Nikkanen. Manufactured by Siemens, the enclosures are made of profiled aluminium.
The murals are located in the six-metre-tall entrances of the staircases and the corridors leading to the courtyard. The artist describes his work: “The visual themes of the murals are based on a moving human figure. The colourful box shapes are repeated identically in different spaces and, depending on the space, form human figures or larger spatial and landscape compositions. One theme is to change the viewers’ relationship to the painted space through changing directions of passage and gaze, and make them think about the blurring borderline between image and space.”

The murals are located in the six-metre-tall entrances of the staircases and the corridors leading to the courtyard. The artist describes her work: “In the sidelight, from the windows, the colours on the rough surface provide the wall with an impression of architectural materiality. The geometrical colour composition aims at an uplifting, calming ambience to balance out everyday rushing.”

Each entrance mural is differently coloured and accompanied by individual murals on the staircases. The artist describes her work: “In the sidelight, from the windows, the colours on the rough surface provide the wall with an impression of architectural materiality. The geometrical colour composition aims at an uplifting, calming ambience to balance out everyday rushing.”
The rounded shapes of the black granite sculpture in the courtyard formed by the point-blocks provide an opposite to the right angles of the built environment. The artist describes her work: “I am inspired by the contour of the Finnish landscape: gently sloping but also rough and rugged. I wanted my sculpture to be reminiscent of natural terrain, but with a bit of fun. I hope it will make the residents curious, inviting them to approach and touch it.”

CHIAKI KOBINATA
completed in: 2003  location: Toini Muonan piha
architecture: Kirsti Siven & Asko Takala Arkkitehdit  developer/client: Sato

Consisting of blue ceramic pieces, the curving “line” at the front of the buildings provides people with places to sit, and the columns between the buildings frame the waterfront landscape into a living painting. All ceramic items are unique and made by hand. The artist describes her work: “My work combines my observations on nature and architecture. The blue colour accentuates the sky and the sea and guides you to the history of ceramics.”

TIINA VERÄJÄNKORVA
title: Siniset hetket, 2004  location: Toini Muonan piha
architecture: Kirsti Siven & Asko Takala Arkkitehdit  developer/client: Sato
The three piers by the Arba group (Samuli Naamanka, Jan Pesonen and Merja Salonen) are located in the waterfront park. The artists describe their work: “The altered shoreline creates recollections of former piers in their original places. The piers convey the ambience of the old shore: departure and arrival. These new places provide a setting for a number of activities, such as recreation, encounter, play, sunbathing etc.” The forms, dimensions and body materials of the piers tie them together and make them a unified work of art.

**JAN PESONEN**

*Title:* Laiturit, 2007  
*Location:* Arabianranta waterfront park  
*Landscape Design:*Maisemasuunnittelu Hemgård  
*Developer/Client:* City of Helsinki Public Works Department

**MERJA SALONEN**

*Title:* Laiturit, 2007  
*Location:* Arabianranta waterfront park  
*Landscape Design:*Maisemasuunnittelu Hemgård  
*Developer/Client:* City of Helsinki Public Works Department
The environmental work of art in the sports park has been completed in stages. The first phases consisted of temporary works of light art. The second phase consists of three supporting rods attached to lampposts at the southern end, with mirrors which reflect the available light. The artists have studied the behaviour of natural and artificial light and how to use it as the primary material in the permanent work of art, OLO No:38, to be constructed on the site.

PASI KARJULA AND MARKO VUOKOLA

**title:** Olo No 38, 2005  **location:** Arabia sports park

**rakennuttaja/tilaaja:** City of Helsinki Sports Department

The vertical, abstract pieces made of tiles contribute to the spaciousness and architectural essence of the staircases. They continue up to the top floors. The artist appreciates how the town plan integrates into the surrounding nature, and wanted to bring the colour schemes of the different seasons to the staircases. Each of the four staircases features a different season; the stripes of the summer tiling, for example, include the colours of ripe cherries and warm sand.

REINO VIHINEN

**title:** Vuodenajat: Kevät, Kesä, Syksy ja Talvi, 2002  **location:** Rörstrandipiha

**architecture:** Arkkitehtitoimisto Pauliina ja Juha Kronlåf  **developer/client:** Skanska
The work of art is a 12-metre ceramic wall-like sculpture consisting of pieces of varying size. It follows the old shoreline of the early 20th century. The pier of the Arabia factory, from where products were shipped used to stand in this place. The serigraphy images tell the story of the factory from the late 19th century to the days of the designer Toini Muona in the 1970s.

The concrete wall units of the staircases and the walk-through corridor are made of Graphic Concrete™. Each has a different theme and colouring, which provide the entrances with a unique character and also tell about the history of the area. On the ground floor, the units continue all the way through the building. The other walls of the staircase are painted. The colours and visual themes shift as they move towards the waterfront.
The installations in front of each entrance consist of steel flowers made of cast iron moulds. In this building housing students and researchers, they remind the viewer of the importance of recycling. The artist describes his work: “After a full life cycle in a glass factory, the moulds were doomed to being melted down. By becoming basic elements in a work of art, these abandoned means of production were revalued. They received a permanent intrinsic value free from utilisation, with the spirit and character they gained from their original use and meaning as an essential element.”

The ceramic tiles in the staircase of the student and researcher housing are partly made of metal-industry waste. The shapes of the ceramic leaves depict the diversity and power of regeneration in nature. The artist describes her work: “The waste materials used in the piece link it to our day and our responsibility to nature and its protection. The work combines the history of Finnish ceramics, contemporary research carried out at the Aalto University School of Art and Design, and the ceramics of the future, which makes use of waste materials.”
The very first art project at Arabianranta, located at the entrance to the area on Arabiankatu street, has welcomed every new resident. The 82 bird sculptures in cast bronze give visibility to the birds living in the area. Each bird is of the same size, but has a unique character and is provided with its Latin name. All these species nested in Vanhankaupunginlahti bay in 2000. The birds also remind the viewer of the birdwatching traditions of the area; as early as the 1850s, the artist Magnus von Wright walked on these shores and painted the birds he saw.

**JUKKA VIKBERG**

**title:** Lintuparatiisi, 2002  
**location:** Hirsipuunkallio, Arabiankatu  
**developer/client:** City of Helsinki Public Works Department

The fence on top of the cliff is also a work of art; its sloping form creates a protective basket, preventing anyone from falling off. In the old days, fences in Vanhakaupunki were made of stones and wire mesh: the materials of this fence refer to them. Made by hand by Helsinki city smiths, the fence also refers to the long lines of reeds on the shore, and the foliage of willows.

**LAURI SAARINEN**

**completed in:** 2003  
**location:** Hirsipuunkallio, Arabiankatu  
**landscape design:** Maisemasuunnittelu Hemgård  
**developer/client:** City of Helsinki Public Works Department
The art project aimed at preserving the unique ambience of the 150-year-old wooden building and its garden. An old wooden house by a newly developed residential area is a reminder of what was before. The building functions as a communal space for the residents of Arabianranta, Toukola, Arabia and Vanhakaupunki.

**BOKVILLAN**

- **location:** Hämeentie 125
- **architecture:** Arkkitehtitoimisto Merja Nieminen ja Kari Järvinen
- **developer/client:** Arabian Palvelu and Helsinki City Real Estate Department

The old fence of the Bokvillan garden on Hämeentie had to be relocated when the street was widened. The new fence was built on the model of the old fence. The artist’s new fence post caps use the blue ceramic fragments from the old fence that was located in the same spot. The pieces with figurines of animals spotted in the area bring joy to the children on their way to their nearby school. Says the artist: “The pieces are like windows to the past, while also looking to the future in a new residential area.”

**DESIREE SEVELIUS**

- **title:** Bokvillanin eläimet, 2004
- **location:** Hämeentie 125
- **fence design:** Maisemasuunnittelu Hemgård
- **developer/client:** City of Helsinki Public Works Department
The dominant elements of the former terminus of tram route 6, the curving track and the cable post, have been preserved in their original places as an art project. For those who worked at the Arabia factory and for the arts students in the area, they are a reminder of how people used to get to work or school. The out-of-service tram bogies on the tracks tell the story of the tram route’s history. The square is lit with discarded light fittings from the city of Helsinki’s energy company, Helsingin Energia.

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**ANU TUOMINEN**

**title:** Kutosen päätäri, 2006  
**location:** Arabian aukio, Hämeentie/Intiankatu  
**landscape design:** Molino  
**developer/client:** City of Helsinki Public Works Department

The work comprises five glass paintings on the glass wall of the Aralis library hall. The pictures painted within the silhouette pictures evoke images of spaces, situations and emotions. The layers of the glass paintings include hints of the place as a centre of applied arts and design and as a location where nature has a strong presence.

**PETRI HYTÖNEN**

**title:** Arabiassa, 2004  
**location:** Aralis Library and Information Centre, Hämeentie 135 A  
**architecture:** Arkkitehdit Tömmö/Arabianranta Library and Arkkitehtitoimisto Tuomo Siitonen/Art Libraries  
**developer/client:** Helsinki City Library and Art Libraries

The work comprises five glass paintings on the glass wall of the Aralis library hall. The pictures painted within the silhouette pictures evoke images of spaces, situations and emotions. The layers of the glass paintings include hints of the place as a centre of applied arts and design and as a location where nature has a strong presence.
RIIKKA KEVO

**title:** Seinä jota ei ole, 2004  
**location:** Aralis Library and Information Centre, Hämeeentie 135 A  
**architecture:** Arkkitehdit Tamminen/Arabianrantta Library and Arkkitehtitoimisto Tuomas Siritinen/Art Libraries  
**developer/client:** Helsinki City Library and Art Libraries

The glass mosaic works have been hung from the ceiling structures of the library hall, forming a line of windows in the air. The material for the works has been collected by the artist, who has used discarded windows from buildings in the Helsinki city centre, such as the Helsinki Cathedral and Tennis Palace, and from demolished buildings, such as the one that housed the Pikku Parlamentti restaurant, as well as fragments of windows from the Arabia factory. This way the artist wants to stimulate thinking about recycling ideas and matter. The past and the present are intertwined.

KAJJA KONTULAINEN

**title:** Arabian hevoset, 2003  
**location:** Arabia comprehensive school, Berliinkatu 4  
**architecture:** Arkkitehtitoimisto Kai Wartiainen  
**developer/client:** The City of Helsinki Education Department and the Helsinki City Art Museum

The life-size bronze horses in the schoolyard, in a sunny spot by the building, lend themselves to children’s play and climbing. The work has been commissioned by the Helsinki City Art Museum.
OONA TIKKAOJA

**title:** Riutta, 2009  
**location:** Arabia comprehensive school (Arabia 2), Berliininkatu 4  
**architecture:** Arkkitehtitoimisto Leena Yli-Lontinen  
**developer/client:** The Helsinki City Art Museum

The work comprises six sculptures that evoke images of the rich colours of the deep sea to brighten up the daily life at the school. The sculptures are made of shapes cut out of acrylic boards. The artist describes her work: “The coral reefs offer their many inhabitants a pleasant and safe environment to grow in.” The work was commissioned by the Helsinki City Art Museum.

JOHANNA HYRKÄS

**title:** Taidepolku, 2013  
**location:** From Roomankatu to Berliininkatu through the art gardens

The art path passes through all the Toukoranta communal yards and ties them together. The path material is black asphalt. Graphics themed to each yard are painted on the surface, using road marking paint or mix. Some of the works may rise from the surface and assume a three-dimensional shape, for example as seats.
At centre stage in the yard is the carefully finished, sculptural, paved central route and the landscaping. The central route is linked to common areas, retreats and play areas with special visual designs. The theme includes details, such as gates subtly integrated into the structures and steel wall; dry-land piers suggesting the sea; poems; water features and plants.

**EEVA KAISA BERRY, TIMO BERRY AND TERESA RÖNKÄ**

**title:** Hiljentymisen piha, 2013  
**location:** Communal yard 13, the Garden of Retreat, the block between Lontoonkatu and Berlininkatu  
**garden design:** LOCI Maisema-arkkitehdit  
**developer/client:** ATT, Arabian Palvelu, HOAS

A meandering path crosses the art garden, and offers many nice places to have a seat and admire the views. The garden will also be adorned by a functional sculpture located along the path. The cottage can be used for throwing a garden party or displaying works of art. The patio is equipped with a tap for anyone needing to water their plants.

**JOHANNA HYRKÄS**

**title:** Pihatalo, 2013  
**location:** Communal yard 12, the Garden of Movement, the block between Lontoonkatu and Berlininkatu  
**garden design:** Maisema-arkkitehdit Byman & Ruokonen  
**developer/client:** ATT, Arabian Palvelu, Pöyry
The garden paths make the middle part a serene, lush oasis. Together, the undulating lawn and the white walls creating special places form a composition that can be admired through the windows of the residents. The garden offers opportunities for spontaneous recreation and play. The theme of growth is visible in the contours and the nature.

**Title:** Ruutuhypy, 2013  
**Location:** Communal yard 11, the Garden of Growth, the block between Kotisaarenkatu and Brysselinkatu  
**Garden Design:** MA-Arkitehdit  
**Developer/Client:** SRV Asunnot, Arabian Palvelu, Pöyry, HOAS, Sato

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The white-concrete sculpture is designed to be a place for recreation. The formal idiom of the work is based on a reference to a boat and perhaps also a hammock. You can nestle on the lap of the “boat”. A concrete wall delineates spaces and also encircles the plant boxes. The retaining wall by the plant boxes continues as a curving bench, wide enough for not only sitting but also lying down or using it as a table.

**Title:** Vene, 2009  
**Location:** Communal yard 10, the Garden of the Senses, the block between Pariisinkatu and Kotisaarenkatu  
**Garden Design:** Maisemasuunnittelu Hemgård  
**Developer/Client:** Arabian Palvelu, Haahdetu, Pöyry
Three steel curves and coloured glass roofing elements form a place with warm reflected colours, in a work entitled Chora. At a symbolic level, the curves form a family, with a bear’s paw representing the father as a source of strength and courage, a bread-shaped stone of gratitude representing the mother, and a wishing well representing the child. Outside the circle, along the central pathway, there is a gobo light that reflects an image of a Jatulintarha, a mythical giant’s yard, onto the path when it is dark.

The mural begins from the Graphic Concrete walls of the staircases and continues out to the courtyard facades. The artist has woven an abstract web and provided the figures with shadowing, which raises them from the painted wall surface.
HEINI RIITAHUHTA

*title:* Arabian kukka, 2011  
*location:* Communal yard 9, the Garden of Reflections, the block between Roomankatu and Pariisinkatu  
*garden design:* Ympäristötoimisto  
*developer/client:* AT&T, Arabian Palvelu, Pöyry

The work consists of three to four mosaic roses placed on the lawn. The roses comprise unique hexagonal pieces of coloured ceramic. The material and the formal idiom refer to the Arabia factory. Seen through the windows of the residents, the roses look like giant flowers, but down in the yard they also provide a place for sitting and playing. At a closer look, there is a world of miniature shapes on the surfaces of the roses.

JOHAN OLIN AND AAMU SONG

*title:* Kaidetaide, 2009  
*location:* Pariisinkatu 8  
*architecture:* Arkkitehtitoimisto Olli-Pekka Jokela  
*developer/client:* YIT

The steel railings of the housing company As Oy Helsingin Pariisintorni seem to be bent by some strange magic into odd shapes, adding a bit of fun to a commonplace object. They also provide the people walking up the stairs with pleasant places to rest for a moment.
Flooranaukio square and the adjacent parking lot are divided by a straight wall. The steel sculpture seems to sink into the surface of the square. On the outside, the steel will be artificially corroded. The inside is shiny, with a kaleidoscope-like inner space.

**KAI VAN DER PUJU**  
*Title*: Kaleidoskooppi, 2012  
*Location*: Flooranaukio square  
*Architecture*: Arkkitehtuuritoimisto Heikkinen-Komonen  
*Developer/client*: City of Helsinki Public Works Department

The work comprises a unique screen print on art glass housed in a metal frame. The work is located in a transparent overhang on the seventh floor, and it is lit so you can see it from the street. A smaller piece located in the staircase of the same building on the first floor serves as an introduction to the larger piece further up in the building. The artist describes the work: “In my mind, the sailing and the seagulls’ screeches are associated with hot summer days in the beautiful Finnish archipelago. In a word: freedom.”

**OUTI TURPEINEN**  
*Title*: Lokin muna, 2011  
*Location*: Kotisaarenkatu 6  
*Architecture*: Arkkitehtitoimisto HMV  
*Developer/client*: SRV

The work comprises a unique screen print on art glass housed in a metal frame. The work is located in a transparent overhang on the seventh floor, and it is lit so you can see it from the street. A smaller piece located in the staircase of the same building on the first floor serves as an introduction to the larger piece further up in the building. The artist describes the work: “In my mind, the sailing and the seagulls’ screeches are associated with hot summer days in the beautiful Finnish archipelago. In a word: freedom.”
The glass of the pedestrian ramp railing features images of the common alder that grows in Arabianranta and golden silhouettes of the nightingale. Under the ramp there is a path and a bench on which a bronze nightingale perches. Anyone sitting down will also notice a quote from "The Nightingale," a fairytale by Hans Christian Andersen. The artist hopes that her work will encourage the child and the grown-up, or the visually impaired and the sighted, to share the thoughts inspired by the fairy tale. The work was chosen as the environmental work of art of the year in 2010.

**JOHAN OLIN AND AAMU SONG**

*Title:* Värä i ikkunassa, 2009  
*Location:* Kotisaarenkatu 3  
*Architecture:* Arkitehtiryhmä A6  
*Developer/Client:* OP-Eläkekassa

The work consists of 28 watercolours laminated onto the windows. Inspired by curtains fluttering in the wind, the artworks provide the staircases with movement and colour. In daytime, they add a hue to the landscape visible through the window; in the dark, they provide each staircase with a characteristic colour. The works of art were implemented using the Rakla Print Glass® technique.

**RIIKKA LATVA-SOMPI**

*Title:* Satakieli, 2009  
*Location:* Pariisinkatu 2  
*Architecture:* Arkkitehtitoimisto Stefan Ahlman  
*Developer/Client:* The Federation of Swedish Speaking Visually Impaired in Finland, Stiftelsen Svenska Blindgården, Samfundet Folkhälsan

The glass of the pedestrian ramp railing features images of the common alder that grows in Arabianranta and golden silhouettes of the nightingale. Under the ramp there is a path and a bench on which a bronze nightingale perches. Anyone sitting down will also notice a quote from “The Nightingale,” a fairytale by Hans Christian Andersen. The artist hopes that her work will encourage the child and the grown-up, or the visually impaired and the sighted, to share the thoughts inspired by the fairy tale. The work was chosen as the environmental work of art of the year in 2010.
CHRISTINE CANDOLIN

title: Fjärileffekten, 2006  
location: Student housing Cor-huset, Toukolankatu 11  
arquitectura: Arkitektitoimisto Anni Oja  
developer/client: Pro Artibus

The work comprises 16 glass panels supported by stainless steel bars and featuring images of butterflies and excerpts from Carl Michael Bellman’s lyrics. The artist says they symbolise joy, youthful dynamism and creative leisure time. She has imported the idea of the butterfly effect into the world of the students. Using your intelligence can result in great breakthroughs: an individual idea can have a profound effect, in the way the movement of the butterfly’s wing can contribute to global events.

ULLA POHJOLA

title: Valojoki, 2003  
location: Hämeentie 109  
arquitectura: Arkitektitoimisto Brunow & Maunula  
developer/client: ATT

The gateway is paved with Valokivi flagstones, embedded with optic fibres providing illumination and guidance. Invented by the artist, the flagstone provides designers and architects with an opportunity to enliven inner yards and parks, for example. The artist describes her work: “Light gives the work a cycle and a pattern, and shows the changing of the seasons. The stone emits the heat energy it has stored, and the light removes the fear created by the darkness.”
RAIJA SIJKAMÄKI

title: Lehvästö, 2003  location: Hämeentie 109
architecture: Arkitehtitoimisto Brunow & Maunula  developer/client: ATT

The work of art consists of pieces of glass melted from used television and computer monitors. Together with light and water, they create reflections in the courtyard and on the walls. The artist describes her work: “I hope that my work will provide viewers with recollections of the nearness of the sea and the unique nature of the area. Located outdoors, it will in its own way follow the rhythm of the nature and the changing of the seasons.”

ANN SUNDHOLM

title: Oasen, 2006  location: Jan-Magnus Jansson Square
developer/client: Pro Artibus

The work of art is located in the square in front of the main entrance of the Arcada University of Applied Sciences. It consists of three golden lions lying under a ball of light. Made of cast concrete, the work is surrounded by a water feature. The artist hopes that the work of art will emanate a feeling of peace and provide a place for resting. The project was financed by the Pro Artibus Foundation.
The lobby wall of Arcada features a work of art made of aluminium sequins; the parts move freely in the stream of air blown up through, creating a phenomenon that resembles ripples on water. The pattern derives from a 19th century wallpaper depicting the tree of life and knowledge. The artist wanted to plant this traditional motif in this building where the future and new information is being shaped. The project was financed by the Pro Artibus Foundation.


The work of art consists of two sandblasted glass panels, which also serve as privacy screens in front of the changing room doors. Its title, which translates as “the guards”, refers to the bold posture of the stern-looking figures, standing with their hands on their hips. In the opinion of the artists, the figures also bear a similarity to the floor plan of the building. The work won the second prize in a competition for young artists organised by Pro Artibus.

The 10 photographs in the series are located around the building. The goal of the artist was to document the phases of construction and highlight issues – such as materials and surfaces – that were hidden or removed before the completion of the building.

ULRIKA FERM

Title: Valokuvaprojekti, 2004  Location: Arcada, Jan-Magnus Janssonin aukio 1
Architecture: Arkkitehtitoimisto Stefan Ahlman Arkitektsbyrå Oy
Developer/client: Pro Artibus

The work is located in the inner courtyard and it comprises five golden, oversize doorframes with inner sides clad in steel mirror. The piece leads the thoughts of viewers along the passageway to the world outside. At the same time, the viewers see reflections of themselves and their environment.

TANJA SIPILÄ

Title: Gränser, 2004  Location: The northern inner courtyard of the Arcada building, Jan-Magnus Janssonin aukio 1  Architecture: Arkkitehtitoimisto Stefan Ahlman Arkitektsbyrå
Developer/client: Pro Artibus

photo: Ulrika Ferm

photo: Katarina Tallberg
MARKUS ÅSTRÖM

**Title:** Piknik, 2004  
**Location:** The southern inner courtyard of the Arcada building, Jan-Magnus Janssonin aukio 1  
**Architecture:** Arkkitehtitoimisto Stefan Ahlman Arkitektsbyrå  
**Developer/Client:** Pro Artibus

Cast in bronze, the work depicts a picnic taking place on the green inner courtyard. The artist wants to inspire viewers to go on a picnic or let students forget about their books for a moment and think about fun summer memories. The work won a shared first prize in a competition for young artists organised by Pro Artibus.

SOFIA SAARI

**Title:** Ab Imo, 2006  
**Location:** Practicum, Jan-Magnus Janssonin aukio 5  
**Architecture:** Arkkitehtitoimisto Stefan Ahlman Arkitektsbyrå  
**Developer/Client:** Practicum

The work comprises nine half-metre-long bronze leaves on the Practicum Vocational College premises: on the wooden deck of the terrace, the lawn in the yard, the facade and in the interior. The movement of leaves symbolises the passage of life, and wreaths of leaves have been used to celebrate winners and success.
PAULA BLÅFIELD

**title:** Mamma, 2006  **location:** Roomankatu 5  **architecture:** Arkitektitoimisto Stefan Ahlman Arkitektbyrå  **developer/client:** Pro Artibus

Located in the yard of a hall of residence, the name and soft formal idiom of this large sculpture reminds students of the comforts of home in the unfamiliar environment of the university. The three-metre and 7.5-ton sculpture is made of concrete, and the flame-like tuft of hair on the head of the figure is made of bronze.

URS BEAT ROTH

**name:** Hypercube, 2013  **location:** An islet located off the waterfront park at the start of Kotisaarenkatu  **landscape design:** Maisemasuunnittelu Hemgård  **developer/client:** City of Helsinki Public Works Department/Street and Park Division

Kotisaarenkatu links the historical monument commemorating the Finnish national anthem located in Kumštähti field and the anamorphic work to be erected on an islet off the waterfront park, in which mathematics and optical illusion are used to draw attention to how we see things. The work plays with our sense of sight, reminding us of the visually impaired users and residents of the neighbourhood.
The steel mesh fence between the waterfront park and the depot features figures that resemble traffic signs. They refer to the rules and limits we have to observe, also to protect our own privacy.

**Juha Sääski**

**to be completed in:** 2013  **location:** Rantapuisto

**landscape design:** Maisemasuunnittelu Herrgård  
**developer/client:** City of Helsinki Public Works Department/Street and Park Division

Veterinary laboratory’s old park is renovated for everybody’s use. The outdoor artwork Lyhty (Lantern) is done by Hilda Kozári and Esa Vesmanen. It’s made of white painted steel. The Lantern has an organic shape that changes through the day and night by the illumination. The site-specific project is integrated to the emergency exit of the underground garage.

**Hilda Kozári and Esa Vesmanen**

**name:** Lyhty, 2011  **location:** Eläinlääkäärinpuiasto, Hermanni  
**landscape design:** Kirsi Laatunen/ Vireo  
**developer/client:** ATT

**photo:** Esa Vesmanen
The artist was inspired by Finnish handicrafts, rag rugs and ryijy rugs and introduced their vivid colour palette to the communal space of the nursing home for the residents to enjoy. The work suggests a walk in the woods, with details of the undergrowth visible in the paintings. To create the paintings, 76,032 presses of the brush were required. The piece comprises three equally large paintings (230 X 152 cm), which have been hung on the back wall of a light well in the hall.