

Anssi Hanhela anssihanhela@anssi.org

http://www.anssi.org//visualart

B.1962

# **Art Studies**

2005- University of Lapland, Department of Art Education 2006-07 Umeå University 2001 Education of Arts and Media, Kemi-Tornio University of Applied Sciences 1986 Art School of Kankaanpää, Painter Professional Memberships Finnish Painters' Union Artists` Association of Lapland Artists` Association of Oulu

## Solo Exhibitions, selected

Gallery Katariina, Strangers, Helsinki artists' association tm•gallery Helsinki 2020 1994, 1995, 1998, 2000, 2006, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2020 Helsinki Several exhibitions in Finland since 1986 Sweden: 2007 Vindeln, Konst i Kvarn 1995 Gothenburg, Gallery Konstepidemin, 1995 Luleå Galleri Pictor, Switzerland: 1995 Schaffhausen, Galerie Schiff 1997 Winterthur, Galerie Löwen Russia: 1998 St.Petersburg, Borey Art gallery Norway: 2005 Vadsö, Galleri Light Of Varanger 1999 The Nordic Artists' Centre in Dale

## Group Exhibitions, selected

2014 Kemin taidemuseo BangBang#KEMI, Oulun taiteilijaseura 2010 The Finnish Artists 2010 exhibition

2010 HOME TODAY art works of family theme The Aine Art Museum
2009 My North, Rantakasarmi, Helsinki, The Nordic Art Association
2008 AVA Galleria presents The Art Career exhibition, Valencia, Spain, Finland
2005 Graphica Creativa, Jyväskylä
2004 Art from Finland, Petrozavodsk, Russia
1996 Hip Övertorneå, Sweden
1995 Virtaa Haaparanta, Sweden
1995 Mänttä Art Festival
1994 Gruppa Moja Murmansk and Severomorsk, Russia
1992 Laplands´ Art Murmansk, Russia
1987, 1989, 1991, 1995, 1996, 1998 SKjL exhibition

## International Exhibitions

2015 ENIGMA, Arndt Haike gallery, Berlin, Danmark 2015, How to Read in the Dark, The Arts Promotion Centre Finland, Joensuu, Riga, Berlin 2012 I live on the Arctic Circle, Eesti Tallinna, Latvia Riika 2011-13 Karvavahetuse aeg, Lapimaa nüüdiskunst, Eesti, Latvia 2010 7th International Miniprint Finland 2010 9th Lessedra World Art Print Annual - Mini Print Bulgaria 2010 Mail Art project "Avtoportret/Enter" Yaroslavl Art museum Russia 2008 AVA Galleria presents The Art Career exhibition, Valencia Espanja, Helsinki 2008-09 Colouring The North, Verkligheten, Umeå, Stockholm Sweden 2006 Egoart prize, nominated artist. www.egoart.sk (andrei g) 2006 Artperiscope-The Light, Tabor gallery, Czestochowa, Czech Republic 2006 Fifth Annual International Miniatures Exhibition "little m", Lithuania 2005 Art Nature, Utrecht, Netherlands 2003World Art Collection, National Art Gallery of Seoul, Korea 2002 The Barents Art Exhibition Arkhangelsk, Russia 2002 Karelian Holidays Petrozavodsk Russia 2000 Reasons to love the Earth 2000-2001 1999 Art- E- Mail Virtual Art Exhibit, Columbia 1999 Art-e-mail in MAC21 International Contemporary Art Fair, Spain 1996-97 Bowl Project, Finland 1995 Baltic Sea States Triennial of Graphic Art, Poland 1995 Box`95, Lithuania 1994 Laplands' Art Summer, Finland 1994 1998 Man and Woman Nude Art, Estonia 1994 Grafik från Nordkalotten, Sweden 1993 The 4th Riga Minigraphics Triennial, Latvia 1992 The Baltic Countries Graphic Art Triennale, Poland 1991 Nordkalottens Höstsalong, Sweden 1991 Nordisk Kunst, Denmark 1990 Graphica Creativa, Finland 1989 Nordisk Teckningstriennal, Sweden 1985 Plan Air, Poland

## Happenings and workshops

2005 From The Light, Video Art, Tampere, Helsinki 2004 The First Volgograd International Festival of videoart "Videology" 2004 Studio Là-bas→, Cable Factory, Helsinki, Andrei G.: video installation FURY 2004 Studio Là-bas→, Cable Factory, Helsinki, Andrei G.: video projection, Lauri Luhta: performance, djing 2004 Là - Bas -> live art happening, Oulu, Finland 2002 International Snag sculpture symposium, Inari, Lapland 1999 International Ice Festival, The Norwegian Glacier Museum, Fjærland

#### **Works in Collections**

Art School of Kankaanpää; City Of Oulu; City of Raahe; Kaleva Printing House, Oulu; Council of Oulu Region; Finnmark fylkeskommune, Vadsö, Norway; Graphica Creativa ry, Jyväskylä; Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation; Kemi Art Museum; Lapland Hospital District, Muurola; OP Oulu; Oulu Museum of Art; Oulu-opisto, Kiiminkijoki Unit; Oulu Saskia ry; Petrozavodsk City Exhibition Hall, Russia;

Sztuka Polska, Gdansk,

Poland; The Association for Respiratory Health in Oulu Region; The Northern Ostrobothnia Hospital District,

Haukipudas; Union of the Professional Engineers in Finland

The Collections of the Finnish State

Other Artistic Activity http://www.anssi.org/visualart

Anssi Hanhela was born in 1962. After many years of studying and working all over Finland, Hanhela returned to his roots in Haukipudas, Northern Ostrobothnia.

Hanhela started his career in the 1980s painting expressive landscapes.

After having painted constructivist images of gods and minimalist hidden images that dealt with sexuality, he circled back to expressionism when he started painting colorful, expressive art that consists of stories and scenes of life.

The works deal with, among others, problems of loneliness and social oppression. Love is another important theme. A man's life is a struggle between reality and his own sensitive emotions. It is an existential distress about which of the traces drawn in his memory are real, and which are colored by strong emotions and daydreaming born out of loneliness.

Everything is nevertheless just as real, the world around him takes strongly shape through one's self.

In most paintings, the viewer can find Hanhela himself, a dark-haired man with a mustache, sometimes even wearing a stern expression on his face. Humor is a part of the internal world portrayed by the works. Erotic themes and the striped shirt era are retreating. The latter of which especially reflects changes in the artist's personal life. Ghosts, spirits and breaths are new features in his work. They mirror his own thoughts and those around him, they also portray meetings and fantasies in another dimension.

In Hanhela's works ghosts represent goodness and give a person strength. Ghosts appear sometimes from his own head and sometimes as if from another dimension. Ghosts are thoughts whose goodness or wickedness depends on the day and the circumstances. Societal uncertainty gives birth to evil spirits. The world today is possessed by egotism, conceit and excessive individualism. That's why we need ghosts.

Ghosts are copies of humans, but they are hidden in Hanhela's works. Hanhela says he saw his own ghost once. The thought of supernatural beings comes from the artist's interest in Finnish mythology, and it creates a rich imaginary internal world in his life.