

**Resumé: Merja Puustinen, Media & Visual Artist****Home & Studio Address:**

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**Merja Puustinen** was born in Hamina, Finland, 1963. She has collaborated together with Andy Best since 1993. Both have a background in sculpture, video and installation art. They were amongst the first online web artists, and during the mid to late 1990's worked with virtual multiuser 3D worlds on the internet. The artists work currently with large scale installations and interactive works. Merja Puustinen is completing her PhD research on interactive media art at the Academy of Fine Arts, Helsinki.

Trustee positions: Valtion taideteostoimikunta since 2013-2016, VISEK board member 2011-2015.

Prizes: Finnish State Prize for the media arts in 1998, Ljusare Konst – Tryggare Stad, Katrineholm environmental art competition 2016 with Andy Best.

**Media Art Exhibitions and Art Projects:**

**Solo exhibition, Sculptor Gallerie, Helsinki 2019**

**Hippulan vinkuu**-lasten taidefestivaali Hämeenlinna 2018

**TV-Dinner** in Tongue Town, Modern Art Museum (MAM), Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2017

**Solo exhibition** with Andy Best, Arbetetsmuseum, Norrköping 2017

**Solo exhibition** with Andy Best, Kotka Merimuseo, Wellamo 2017

**"Could Nine"** with Andy Best HÄH-veistospuisto, Taidekeskus Taarasti, Nastola 2017

**Every Day**, First prize, Ljusare Konst-Tryggare Stad environmental art project for Katrineholm, Sweden 2016

**Kuumaa puuroa ja kumiperunoita**, solo exhibition with Andy Best, Kajaani Art Museum, 2016

**Paradise Express**, solo exhibition with Andy Best, Rauma Art Museum, 2015

**Päivästä päivään**, environmental art project, Jyväskylä art museum and Valon kaupunki-project, produced by Taike, Jyväskylä 2015

**RE/F.r.a.ce**, Visual Methods Conference, Brighton Digital Festival 15-16.9.2015

**RE/F.r.a.ce**, Pikseliähky, 2015

**Paradise Express**, solo exhibition with Andy Best, Katrineholm Kunsthalle, 2014

**Who the Bells toll**, Gallery.Exe, city event Cape Town, South Africa 2013.

**Who the Bells toll**, Supermarket, Stockholm Art Fair 2013

**1+1=5**, city installation, Kalnciema Kvartāls, Riga, Latvia 2013

**FLE5H0.1**, multimedia dance performance, live sound & visual design, Dimanche Rouge festival, Tallinn, Estonia, October 2012

**RE/F/r.ACE**, multimedia performance, ISEA2012 Albuquerque, USA, Sept 2012

**Wild at Heart**, city installation for Helsinki Design Week, September 2012

**Eurocultured Turku 2012** – Installation of giant interactive bouncy “...empty stomach” in Turku, Sept 2012

**Edible**, group exhibition, The Science Gallery, Dublin, Eire, February - April 2012

**Gallery L2**, a private media art exhibition in Stockholm, autumn 2011

**TV Dinner** at Eurocultured Festival, Manchester, UK and Turku Cultural Capital spring and summer 2011.

**Into the Wide Blue Yonder**, private media art exhibition, Gallery Mältinranta 5.-22.3.2011, Tampere.

“**Ovi Rivoon**”, group exhibition in Ars Auttoinen, spring 2011.

Sensor based interactive media art installation in connection with **Selfportraits from Khayelitsya**- exhibition, Helinä Rautavaara Museum, WeeGee Art Centre, Espoo 2010.

“**The Complete History of Food**”, by Bompas and Parr LLP, London 2010

**Mäntän kuvataideviikot**, Mänttä 13.6.-22.8.2010

**AND Festival**, Grizedale Forest, Cumbria, UK April 2010

“**Making Sense**” – Shire Hall Gallery, Staffordshire, UK. March – May 2010 (upcoming)

**Monkey Business at Kerava Art Museum** – a private media art exhibition including bouncy castles and robots with interactive sound elements, Kerava, Finland November-December 2009.

**Empty Stomach** at ISEA Belfast, UK August 2009.

**Empty Stomach**, an interactive bouncy sound sculpture in Eurocultured festival, Manchester, UK 24-25th May 2009

**Too Much of A Mouthful, Portable Pixel Playground**- commission for interactive play-friendly artwork from **folly digital**, Lancaster, UK 2008. Touring 2008-2010:

Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery, Carlisle, 2008

The Hub, Whitehaven, 2008

Solaris Centre, Blackpool, 2008

Carnforth Station, 2008

Lanternhouse, Ulverston, 2008

Tullie House, 2008

St Nicholas Arcades, Lancaster, 2009

Solaris Centre, Blackpool, 2009

Tullie House, 2009

Carnforth Station, 2009

Screen Deva Festival, Chester, 2009

Festival Oldham, 2009

Lanternhouse, 2009

ACE (Arts and Creative Enterprise) Centre, Nelson, Lancashire, 009

Social Enterprise Festival, Lancaster, 2009  
Solaris Centre, 2009  
Family Friendly Film Festival, organised by Arts About Manchester,  
Urbis, Manchester, 2009  
St Nicholas Arcades, Lancaster, 2009  
AND Festival, FACT, Liverpool, 2009  
Lanternhouse, 2009

**Digital Media 1.0**, Valencia, Spain 2008

**SpeakEasy**, MUU Gallery, Helsinki 2007

Flux II new media festival, WeeGee, Espoo 2007

Stomach pains, headache and dizziness, Wäinö Aaltonen Museum, Turku  
2006

**Kaappi & Rakkaimpani**- stage design for two mini operas for Turku Music  
Festival, Sigyn and Helsinki Festival, Aleksanterin teatteri. Composition by  
Seppo Pohjola, Libretto by Seppo Pohjola and Janne Suutarinen. Directed by  
Jaakko Nousiainen, 2007.

**PoGo** Pocket Application to Go - a demo E-learning application for mobile  
applications 2007.

**Laughing My Guts Out**- installation, Flux- Media Art Festival, Cartes ry,  
WeeGee- Art Museum, Espoo 2007 & Anti Art Festival, Kuopio 2007

**Stomach pains, headache and dizziness**. Video, sound and robotic  
installations. Wäinö Aaltonen Museum, Turku 2006-2007.

**1+1=5**, Finnish Institute, Stockholm 2006

**VTT** competition by invitation. A proposal for public media art project in  
Otaniemi head quarters. Espoo 2005.

**mLife**- artificial life application for 3G mobile phones (with Mika Huhtamäki).  
Helsinki 2004

**PEEPShow exhibition** for interactive video and sculpture. Sculptor Gallery.  
Helsinki 2004.

**Flu-IDs**: media installation with four aquariums and organic fluid circulation  
system with computer monitors displaying viral imagery. Co-production with  
Helsinki City Art Museum for Game On exhibition. Helsinki 2003

**Pet Factory: Pumpui**- 3D virtual pet for mobile and fixed Internet. Pet  
Factory enhances interactive virtual community on the Internet and 3D  
interfacing. Project launched in Finland and Britain during 2001-2002.

**Iceborg**: 3D multiuser interactive virtual community on the Internet. Co-  
production with the Banff Centre for the Arts, Canada, and Helsinki European  
City of Culture 2000, 1999–

**Conversations with Angels**: 3D multiuser interactive environment on the  
Internet. Co-production with the Banff Centre for the Arts, Canada, and  
Kiasma, Contemporary Art Museum, Helsinki, 1996-98

**Helsinki City Art Museum**: design and construction of Internet web site for  
the museum, Kluuvi Gallery, and outdoor public sculptures in Helsinki 1996-  
7.

**Silent Footsteps**: an environmental art work for Helsinki city consisting of 20  
bronze tiles with wild life animal footprints cast.