

To the media

THE YOUNG ARTIST OF THE YEAR 2010

Anni Leppälä has been selected as the Young Artist of the Year 2010. Leppälä will receive a 20,000 euro stipend awarded by the City of Tampere and supported by Nokia plc, as well as the opportunity to arrange a private exhibition at the Tampere Art Museum.

Anni Leppälä is the 26th Young Artist of the Year. She lives and works in Helsinki. Leppälä (b. 1981 in Helsinki) is studying in the photography program, MA, of the University of Art and Design Helsinki. She held her first private exhibition in 2004 and has participated in collective exhibitions from 2001.

“My interest towards photography is closely related to time in the past tense, to the possibility of being able to make a moment motionless, to make something stand still. That something has existed, and has now been set in static state. There is a certain aspect of lost moments and a feeling of letting go when looking at photographs. They exist at the intersection of the momentary and the constant, between the fleeting feeling of being alive and consciousness of the moments passing by.”

The committee making the decision was chaired by Taina Myllyharju, Director of the Tampere Art Museum, and included as members Berndt Arell, Director of the Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma; Janne Gallen-Kallela-Sirén, Director of the Helsinki City Art Museum; and artists Hannu Ojala, Osmo Rauhala, Katariina Salmijärvi and Janne Laine. MA Elina Bonelius was the committee secretary.

The nationwide Young Artist of the Year event was born in 1984 of the initiative of the Tampere Junior Chamber of Commerce. The event is organized by the Tampere Art Museum and the City of Tampere, and the committee includes representatives of the Tampere Art Association, the Tampere Artists' Association and the Artists' Association of Finland. The purpose of the event is to spotlight young, talented artists and to attract attention to new Finnish pictorial art and its phenomena.

The *Young Artist of the Year 2010 – Anni Leppälä* exhibition is at the Tampere Art Museum from 17 April to 30 May 2010.

Pictures and CV available at www.tampere.fi/english/artmuseum

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The Tampere Art Museum is open Tue–Sun 10–18, Puutarhakatu 34, Tampere.
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