

PRESS RELEASE

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SECRET

an exhibition of the Cooperative of Artisans, Designers and Artists in Fiskars

9 May – 26 September 2010

The Granary, Fiskars, Finland

Daily from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Secrets and mysteries have fascinated mankind for thousands of years. They have been a source of inspiration for artists and scholars, who have also helped to create them. Creative people are often curious by nature and interested in all things unknown. Throughout history, artists and artisans have embedded hidden meanings and secrets in their works.

A secret can be knowledge, a skill, method or a formula; or even a coded language known only to the initiated. It can be something so strange that it reminds beyond human comprehension and consciousness, or something deliberately kept out of view. The word is also associated with things that are explicitly subdued or withdrawn; personal or not brought into the open.

Representing over 20 different disciplines, the members of the Arts and Crafts Cooperative of Fiskars, and their specially invited guests, interpret the theme of SECRET through their individual expressive works. Many of the works play with the idea of a message, or code. The message may be hidden in the symbolic language of colors or materials; the code may require a specialist knowledge, or skill, to decipher it.

The architecture, and mysterious atmosphere, of the beautiful Grain Store building has inspired many of exhibitors to create pieces predicated on dialogue between the artwork and the very space itself. Other artists have related the theme to religious subjects, or pondered the mystery of life itself. Their art speaks to, and works upon, the public on many levels, inviting a multiplicity of views and explanations.

We are honored to present an intriguing sample of works by artists invited to participate in the SECRET exhibition: artist **Outi Heiskanen** with her collaborators **Janne Laine** and **Markus Jäntti**, artist director **Marita Liulia**, and jewelry artist **Sari Liimatta**.

Members of the cooperative:

Erna Aaltonen, ceramic artist
 Eeva-Kaisa Ailus, artist
 Upi Anttila, knife maker, blacksmith
 Susanna Bagge, artist
 Kirsti Doukas, designer
 Lino Garghentino, artist
 Eero Haikala, interior designer
 Maarit Hirvonen, textile artist
 Tiina Karimaa, sculptor
 Paula Kovalainen, artisan
 Elina Makkonen, jewellery artist, designer
 Camilla Moberg, industrial designer
 Ron Nordström, artist
 Mari Ojala, stone mason
 Risto Paatero, ceramic artist
 Katri Pailos, artist
 Tuulia Penttilä, cabinet maker
 Milvi Pesari, textile designer
 Jouni Repo, cabinet maker
 Liisa Rissanen, ceramic artist

Kristian Saarikorpi, master goldsmith
 Anneli Sainio, ceramic artist
 Ari Turunen, jewellery artist
 Tiina Tuunanen, textile designer
 Viivi Varesvuo, graphic artist
 Kei Volmer, artist
 Karin Widnäs, ceramic artist
 Katja Öhrnberg, artist
 Nanna Bayer ceramic artist &
 Tarja Ervasti, light designer, artist
 Erja Huovila art printer &
 Anita Jensen, artist
 Rutsuko Sakata, textile artist,
 Annatuuli Saine, dancer,
 Taneli Haro & Mika Tertsunen, film makers
 Pia Nieminen textile artist &
 Helena Kallio, writer
 Rautarouvat:
 Barbieri, Bayer, Ervasti, Horte, Laiho.

Members of the exhibition working group:

designer Kirsti Doukas, lighting designer and artist Tarja Ervasti, painter and set designer Hanne Horte, and coordinator Catherine Aiha as exhibition secretary.

The exhibition is supported by

Fiskars Corporation, Ministry of Education, Svenska Kulturfonden, The National Council for Design, Amperin linja-autoliikenne Oy, Fiskarsin Laatupuu, FT-Transport Oy Ab, Hotel Restaurant Fiskars Wärdshus, Olof Ekman Oy Ab and Restaurant Kuparipaja.

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