



PUBLICS
Kohta
Frame Contemporary
Art Finland

9–10 June 2022
with
Carolina Rito
Bassam El Baroni
Cynthia Cruz

SYMPOSIUM

Warmly welcome to Open Up and Shape Helsinki Symposium, organized by PUBLICS and Kohta, convened over two days to celebrate the international launch of the new SHAPE online platform. In planning Open Up and Shape Helsinki Symposium, we keep in mind our many immediate and common challenges. How can we open up resources, including funding and the institutions providing it? How can we make such resources more transparent and productive? The symposium is structured around three intersecting topics:

- Infrastructures of power, and (re-)distribution
- Institutional reimagining and future publics
- Class, money and access

Open Up and Shape Helsinki Symposium is free and being held as part of the Open Up, a project that has been co-funded by the European Commission under the Creative Europe Programme. Frame Contemporary Art Finland joins the collaboration by co-hosting one session in the context of Rehearsing Hospitalities public program.

Relevant links:
shape-helsinki.fi
openupeu.com
IG: @openupeu

PROGRAM AT PUBLICS

THURSDAY 9 JUNE

10:00 Coffee and Introduction by Paul O'Neill
10:30 Keynote by Carolina Rito, with Joasia Krysa
12:00 Lunch
13:00 Rants & Raves
13:30 Keynote by Bassam El Baroni, with Constantinos Miltiadis
15:00 Closing notes, reflection by Dahlia El Broul

Screening: *Deep Structure* by Ilona Sagar

Deep Structure, explores the links between architecture, health and community wellbeing through the lens of Sheffield's Park Hill estate.

Six Chairs Book Shop

A collection of Six Chairs Books will be available during the symposium. Six Chairs Books is an independent art & theory bookstore, a publishing house and a web platform.

Drinks & Mingle

FRIDAY 10 JUNE

12:00 Introduction by Jussi Koitela; Rants & Raves
12:30 Keynote by Cynthia Cruz, with Niko Hallikainen
14:00 Panel Conversation: Justina Zubaitė-Bundzė, Helen Kaplinsky, Maria Mkrticheva, Irina Mutt and Henri Terho
16:00 Closing notes, reflection by Henna Harri

Drinks & Mingle

17:00 Evening Programme at Kohta



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VENUE: PUBLICS

PUBLICS is a curatorial and commissioning agency with a dedicated research library and event space in Vallila, Helsinki. PUBLICS explores a “work together” institutional model with multiple overlapping objectives, thematic strands and collaborations. PUBLICS’ space is located at the crossroad of Sturenkatu (main street) and Kangasalanatie, next to an antique book shop. PUBLICS’ outdoor sign *Eat the Rich*, produced and donated by Liam Gillick, is visible on Sturenkatu side.

Please be kind and respectful to others while visiting, speaking or otherwise occupying the space. No forms of oppression, othering, and discriminations are accepted. Do not make assumptions of ethnicity, sexuality, gender etc. The symposium is documented, please contact the staff in case you do not want to be photographed. Feel free to come in and join during any time of the event, also feel comfortable to use the toilet in the backspace or leave at any time.

THURSDAYS LUNCH FOR THE GUESTS:

Plein, Suvannontie 18, 00510 Helsinki
Covered by PUBLICS

FRIDAY’S LUNCH OPTIONS NEARBY PUBLICS:

Addis, Ethiopian kitchen, Sturenkatu 28, 00510 Helsinki
Roots, Vegan café, Eurantie 8-10, 00550 Helsinki
Ketoartesaanit Kahvila, Café & bakery, Sturenkatu 36, 00550 Helsinki

Address:

Sturenkatu 37-41 4b,
00550 Helsinki

Nearest tram stops:

Vallilan Varikko for 6 & 8
Hattulantie for 1 & 7

Nearest metro:

Sörnäinen,
connecting with all trams

Relevant links:

publics.fi
IG: @publicsfi

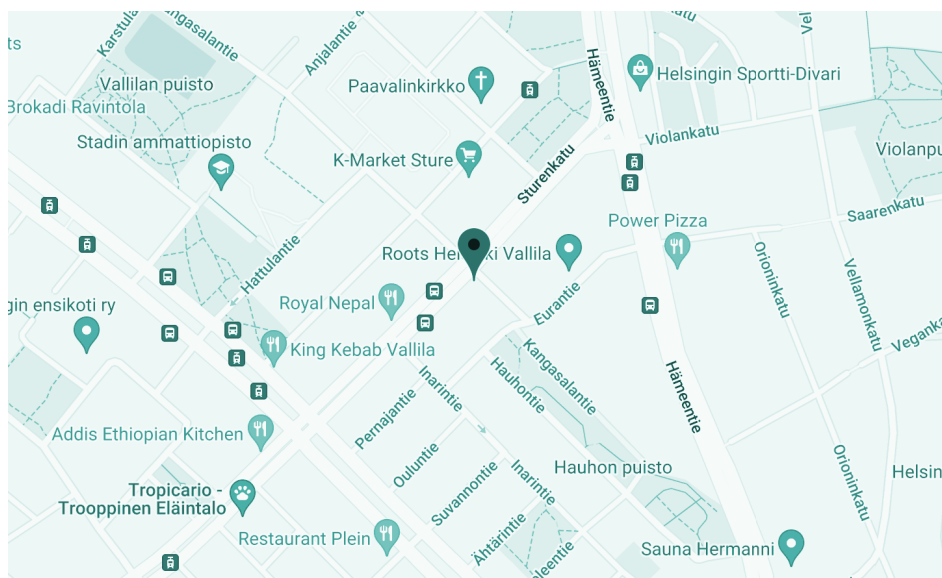
Wifi:

Network: Publics1
Pass: eattherich1

For more information,
please contact:

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VENUE: KOHTA

Kohta is an artist-initiated kunsthalle for Helsinki with the mission to feature artistic thinking in its many forms and showcase artists from different generations and media. Kohta will host the evening programme on Friday evening. Kohta is located at Teurastamo area, a complex of restaurants and bars in the neighborhood of Kalasatama. Enter Teurastamo through the Teurastamo gate (Teurastamon portti) and you will find Kohta on your right when entering the gate.

Address:

Teurastamo inner yard
Työpajankatu 2 B
Building 7, 3rd floor
00580 Helsinki

Nearest tram stops:

Lautatarhankatu for 6 & 8

Nearest metro:

Kalasatama

Relevant links:

kohta.fi

IG: [@helsinkitaidehalli](https://www.instagram.com/helsinkitaidehalli)

For more information,
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PARTICIPANTS

Bassam El Baroni is associate professor in curating at the School of Arts, Design and Architecture, Aalto University, and editor of *Between the Material and the Possible: Infrastructural Re-Examination and Speculation in Art* published by Sternberg Press.

Cynthia Cruz is the author of *The Melancholia of Class: A Manifesto for the Working Class*, and *Disquieting: Essays on Silence* and seven critically acclaimed collections of her poetry, including *Hotel Oblivion* published by Four Way Books.

Carolina Rito is Professor of Creative Practice Research, at the Research Centre for Arts, Memory and Communities (CAMC), at Coventry University. Rito coedited *Institution as Praxis – New Curatorial Directions for Collaborative Research* published by Sternberg Press.

Joasia Krysa is curator of the 2nd edition of Helsinki Biennial opening summer 2023, and Professor of Exhibition Research and Head of Art and Design at Liverpool John Moores University, with an adjunct position at Liverpool Biennial.

Constantinos Miltiadis is a transdisciplinary architect and doctoral researcher in the Departments of Design and of Architecture at the School of ARTS of Aalto University. His work focuses on aesthetic phenomena between technology and culture.

Niko Hallikainen teaches creative writing in the dance performance programmes at University of the Arts Helsinki. Niko is currently finishing his second novel, dealing with spectres, libido and bad luck in the landscape of the Nordic class system.

Justina Zubaitė-Bundzė is a contemporary art librarian, responsible for the collection and the event's program at the Reading Room of the Contemporary Art Centre (CAC), Vilnius and owns an independent art bookshop Six Chairs Books.

Helen Kaplinsky is a curator and writer based in Helsinki and London, researching cyberfeminist legacies, postdigital identity and ownership. She is currently undertaking a PhD in Curating at Liverpool John Moores University, Exhibition Research Lab (UK) and is part of *Beyond Matter*, a research collaboration across several European galleries.



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Maria Mkrtycheva is a curator, educator and researcher. She is currently conducting PhD research at the University of Wolverhampton, part of the FEINART network, focusing on the relationships between the art institutions and the public(s) through the notions of situatedness, asymmetrical reciprocity and in-betweenness.

Irina Mutt is an in(ter)dependent writer and curator from Barcelona currently based in Helsinki. She has been part of the public program commission at Hangar BCN and for the Catalan Critic Association.

Henri Terho is the Head of Arts Support in Arts Promotion Centre Finland. He is also the chair of Finnish State Art Commission.

Dahlia El Broul is an artist, educator and curator, the chair of Catalysti; an arts association focused on anti-racist work, inclusivity, and equity. Dahlia is currently a PhD student at the University of Fine Arts Hamburg (HFBK).

Henna Harri is the director of the Association of Photographic Artists and Photographic Gallery Hippolyte in Helsinki, Finland. She is co-directing Art Fair Suomi, a biennial contemporary art festival in Helsinki.

Ilona Sagar's work responds to the social and historic context found in the public and private spaces we inhabit, using a diverse range of media spanning moving-image, text, performance and assemblage. Sagar is the Stanley Picker Arts Fellow 2021 and the Saastamoinen Foundation, Helsinki, artist in residence for 2022.

Rants and Raves are delivered by:

Alkovi, Catalysti, Globe Art Point, Kohta, PALO Art Productions, Pengerkatu 7 – Työhuone, Pixelache, Publics, Rab Rab Press, Trojan Horse, Vargas Print Studio.

PUBLICS

K O H T A

frame contemporary art
finland



Talteen edistämiskeskus
Centret för konstfrämjande
Arts Promotion Centre Finland



FINNISH NATIONAL
AGENCY FOR EDUCATION



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