

**MARKKU HAKURI**  
**AND**  
**FRIENDS PRESENT:**

**HOLE  
IN THE  
UNIVERSE**



**kerava art museum**  
**27.5.–28.8.'11**

*Pilar Andeyro, Riikka Aresalo, Michal Cimala, Scott Andrew Elliott, Markku Hakuri, Tristan Hamel, Roel Meijs, Salla Salin, Dan Snow, Juliane Stiegele*

Markku Hakuri, sculptor and professor of Environmental Art at the Aalto University School of Art and Design, has invited to the Hole in the Universe exhibition renowned environmental artists from Europe and the United States as well as graduates and students of the international Environmental Art Programme of Aalto University School of Art and Design. All of the artists are united by their desire to create art in the environment, resulting in memorable experiences and sharing what one might call a poetic character.

Hakuri writes:

*Environmental art is a public act. It is a statement which has its ethic and aesthetic premises. Life is an enigma which we try to solve in the space between two events, life and death. We call this space reality, the world or environment, and attempt to control it by research, analysis, individualization and labelling. In environmental art the space surrounding us is an essential part of the artwork or indeed the starting point for acting and constructing. Environmental art is focused on the human and the relationship between peoples' acts and reality, the world and the environment, where everything is connected and influences each other – and nothing ever stays the same.*

*We have continually expanded our space of reality. From the house to the surroundings, from the surroundings to the globe, from the globe to the solar system, from the solar system to the Milky Way, from the Milky Way to... The next step is of course the universe and infinity. Are they reality and until what point? What comes after infinity and what came before the beginning? How to we handle these questions? By means of imagination or with the help of experience?*

*French philosopher Gaston Bachelard ponders these questions in his book Poetics of Space: "In point of fact, daydreaming, from the very first second, is an entirely constituted state. We do not see it start, and yet it always starts the same way, that is, it flees the object nearby and right away it is far off, elsewhere, in the space of elsewhere." Living in the day to day reality and at the same time being able to be transported elsewhere is our unique ability and opportunity.*

*It is a moment of revelation, an unexplainable feeling of being in the world and the chance at happiness and freedom – freedom from reality. It is a Hole in the Universe or the Rabbit's hole in Alice's Wonderland.*

The artistic experiences of the Hole in the Universe exhibition are the work of, apart from Markku Hakuri, environmental artists Michal Cimala from the Czech Republic, Juliane Stiegele from Germany and Dan Snow from the United States. Of Hakuri's former students of Environmental Art included are Roel Meijs from Holland and Scott Elliott from Canada and of his current students Pilar Andeyro from Spain and Tristan Hamel from France as well as Riikka Aresalo and Salla Salin from Finland.

A PUBLIC SEMINAR at Kerava Art Museum opens the exhibition on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of May from 12 o'clock to 4pm. Artists of the exhibition describe their work and answer the questions: Why do I make art? And why do I make it the way I do? The chairman of the seminar is Ossi Naukkarinen, Doctor of philosophy and Head of research at the Art Department of Aalto University School of Art and Design. Further information: [jenni.meskus@kerava.fi](mailto:jenni.meskus@kerava.fi) or +358 40 318 3435. The seminar is free of charge.

THE EXHIBITION HAS BEEN MADE IN ASSOCIATION WITH:



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opening hours: tue–fri 12–18, sat–sun 11–17

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