

Minna Heikinaho

Doctoral Student

Academy of Fine Arts of the University of The Arts Helsinki (Finland)

Collaborator: Anni Kiviranta

FM, geographer

University of Helsinki (Finland)

Localization of The Place (A Walk)

The original meaning of place can become attenuated, however, if the urban space has no places for the here and now - places of encounter - between the person on one side and the space on the other, and our relationship to place within the urban space becomes aggravated. In contemporary society, people constitute a political mass that has become alienated from community, and within which political action is no longer recognisable. Social action is by nature mimetic, based on repetition, imitation, sameness and identification. If an encounter with the other involves fear, for example, the situation may come to a head; it is then seen as a threat, a strike is followed by counterstrike, and we are in a circumstance of violence. The face reveals the sensoriness of the body, and in this state of sensory presence, our perception is awakened by the preconscious and separate that lie behind the countenance of the other. Emmanuel Levinas believes that, by virtue of our being sensory and incomplete in our own lives, ethics is lived in a bodily and perceptible way relative to the other, and because the subject is a vulnerable and sensory being, we are suitable receptacles for ethnicity. However, this experience never returns unchanged to its point of departure, it is always different, and the event of encounter is asymmetrical. A city exploration excursion / An Event Paikan paikantuminen / A location of The Place (Sensory excursions to explore and activate a conversation with nature) We will find out what the nature community tells us and what we tell from ourselves to nature. How do we discuss with nature subjects? How are we constructing the conversation with one another? How do we locate ourselves when we, human subjects are discussing with nature subjects. Idea: To confront human and nature subject, explore them through each other. The form and achievement: A communal (participatory) and collective sensory excursions, shared collective and personal experience (knowledge). The excursion will be realized in co-operation with local nature (Merihaka). We will observe the surroundings (environment) by sensory experiences (the tasks of senses: smell, hear, touch). I and the researcher of ecology will build some questions of nature (the tasks of senses) before hand.

Minna Heikinaho: Finnish Academy of Fine Arts (BFA 1994, MFA 2004), Slade School of Fine Arts, Media Department (1995) and Doctoral student of Fine Arts (DFA 2008 -). Teacher in the Institute of Fine Arts at Lahti University of Applied Sciences (1998-2004). Senior Lecture in the School of Art and Media (Pori), The University of Art and Design Helsinki (2004-2008). Main community art projects include Free Breakfast (1994) in the Hakaniemi district in Helsinki and Push Firma Beige (1996-2001), an action site in the district of Kallio in Helsinki. Both approached local residents in the urban space, rendered visible different perspectives on the city and participated in local activities, and empowered and activated local residents and communities to enter dialogue. Other urban art Project include The Artist-in-Akiya in Kyojima, Tokyo (2000), Momentum - Nordic Festival of Contemporary Art in Moss, Norway (2000), Of power and social bond in Mois de la

Photo à Montreal (2001), Super Structures in Ho Chi Minh City (2008), Saa sanoa / I may say (2008-2013) and Ruumiillisia harjoitteita / Body Exercises - productions (2013 -)

Anni Kiviranta: Master of Science (MSci, 2014) from the University of Helsinki. The Faculty of Biological and Environmental Sciences. Project Coordinator, Friends of the Earth Finland (Global Environment Education, 2014-). Member of Friends of the Earth Finland (Vice chairman 2012-13). The volunteer work in several environmental Finnish NGO's since 2007, participated in e.g. environmental education projects, campaigning and training. The passion for learning, sharing and the opportunity to think different: the values to contribute in our society including justice, understanding and empathy!