

ÅSA HELLMAN

Born 23.9 1947 in Porvoo, Finland

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Video of ceramic installation Three Whirling Motorized Flamenco Dancers, 2014:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/6ribb1qrya92ywu/Flamenco%20dancers%20video.mp4>

Makes unique ceramic pieces using a wide range of techniques such as throwing, hand building and slab-building. Her work consists of wall-reliefs and sculptures as well as big plates and pots. Most pieces are made of high-fired stoneware, decorated with coloured engobes and sometime lustres. Her most important public commissions are two big wall-reliefs for the restaurant of the cruising-vessel Birka Princess, as well as a large relief for Kårböle Elementary School in Helsinki. Works in her own studio in Porvoo since 1993.

Studies

1978-1979 Royal College of Art, London, ceramics department (British Council grant)

1974-1975 University of Belgrade, Faculty of Applied Arts

1969-1973 University of Art and Design, Helsinki, (now Aalto University) ceramics department

1967-1969 University of Helsinki, cum laude degree in art-history

1965-66 Oberlin High School, Ohio, U.S.A.

Ceramic pieces in public collections

Victoria & Albert Museum, Design museum, Helsinki; Rhösska Museum, Göteborg, Sweden; National Museum of Decorative Art, Trondheim, Norway; National Museum, Stockholm; Wäinö Aaltonen Museum, Turku; Museum of Applied Art, Belgrade; Museum of Porvoo; Museum of Arabia Factory; Finnish State Guest House; Hotel Vaakuna; Health Center of Porvoo; Fexima Oy; Fortum Art Foundation; Finnish Parliament Art Collection; Telenokia; Finn-Stroi; Art Council of Sweden (for the Residence of the Swedish Prime Minister); Saastamoinen Foundation, Emma; Craft Museum of Finland, Jyväskylä; Pro Artibus Foundation, Salo Art Museum.

Positions of trust

World Craft Council Finnish Delegate 2012-2014

Board member, Taiteilijat O (Craftsmen of Ornamo) 2010-2014

Board member of National Council for Design Finland 2007 – 09.

Board member of Pro Artibus Foundation 2002 -04

Board member of Arts Council of Uusimaa 1994-97 (vice-chairman 98-2000);

Board member of Artist's Association of Porvoo 1990ties

World Craft Council Finnish Delegate 1978-84

Board member of World Crafts Council Europe 1978-83;

Board member of Ornamo, TKO and TAIKO (founding member) during the 1980ties

Member of Finnish Design Council in the 1980ties

Awards and Prizes

Craftsman of the Year 2005, Finnish Association of Designers Ornamo
Best Art Book 2004 (Ceramic Art in Finland, Otava, Thames & Hudson, Söderströms)
Cultural Prize of Stina Krook Foundation 2002,
Cultural Prize of City of Porvoo 1997;
II prize (with a group) L'Europe à Table, Macon, France
Finnish State Award of Industrial Arts 1981

Publishing work

Ceramic Art in Finland, Editor in Chief and Principal Author, Thames & Hudson, 2004
(Finnish edition Otava 2004, Swedish edition Söderströms 2006)
Published articles on design for Crafts (GB), Form (Sweden), Heimatwerk (Switzerland),
Helsingin Sanomat and Taito-magazine, (Finland).
Freelance art critic for Hufvudstadsbladet 1971-2013
Art critic of Borgåbladet 1968-73

Professional experience

2008 Keramiikan kevät, exhibition in Galleri Oljemark, curator with Kristina Riska
2006-07 Uunituoretta and Lisää uunituoretta- exhibitions, curator
1986-87 Part-time teacher, General Studies at University of Art and Design Helsinki
1984-2010 lecturer and evaluator of master degree papers, University of Art and Design
Helsinki
1983-86 Part-time teacher, ceramics department, University of Art and Design, Helsinki
1981-82 Design and commissions for Craftsmen's Guild, London
1981-82 Kingsgate Workshops, London,
1979-81 Steven Braine Ceramic Studio, London
1973-93 Pot Viapori Ceramic Studio, Suomenlinna
1971-73 Ceramics Cellar workshop, founding member, Aleksis Kivenk.18, Helsinki
1972 Arabia Factory, laboratory and art-department, apprentice
1971 Bente Lemche Ceramic Studio, Denmark
1968 Amos Anderson Art Museum, exhibition assistant
1967-69 Museum of Porvoo, cataloguing of ceramic collection

Exhibitions outside Finland from 2002 onwards:

2015 Nordic Heritage Museum, Seattle, U.S. A., 2014 Minneapolis Institute of Arts, U.S.A.
2014 Galerie Marianne Heller, Heidelberg, Germany
2012 Officine Saffi Ceramic Art Gallery, Milan, Italy
2012 Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche in Faenza, Italy
2010 Weich Hard Finnish, Nordische Botschaften, Gemeinschaftshaus, Berlin
2010 Luxus 09, L'Arthotèque de Caen, France
2010 Feuer und Eis, Keramikmuseum Westerwald and Galerie Marianne Heller, Heidelberg
2009 Glass and Ceramics in landscape, Elagin Palace Museum, Saint Petersburg
2009 Millelaghi sogni e segreti, Åsa Hellman/Merja Winqvist, Estile Gallery, Rooma
2005 The 11th National Pottery & Ceramics Festival, Hatfield House, Englanti
2003 The 10th National Pottery & Ceramics Festival, Hatfield House, Englanti
2002 Artspace, Barn Galleries, Aston, Englanti