

# HELSINKI ECHO

## HELSINKI BITES – A GUIDE TO THE HISTORY OF THE CITY

**WELCOME TO A JOURNEY THROUGH THE FASCINATING HISTORY OF HELSINKI!** This journey will take you through various eras and lets you experience the atmos-

phere of the times. You can take a walk through the streets of the 1930s and check out window displays or spend time on the beach trying on swimsuits. If you feel tired, you can have a rest in a 1950s

home and listen to the radio. You can also pop into a bar to play hits on the jukebox or peer into the secret world of an inner courtyard. Helsinki Echo will show you the way, take it with you!



**VIBRANT CITY OF THE 1930'S**



**LEISURE TIME**



**AT HOME IN THE 1950'S**



**GRIEF AND DRAMA**



**THE CHANGING FACE OF THE CITY**



**NOSTALGIC 1970'S BAR**



**THE CARE-TAKER'S REALM**



**A SKATE-BOARDER'S KEEN EYE**





**THE CAFÉ BRONDIN** at Etelä-Esplanadi 20 becomes a popular meeting place among artists in the 1910s. The regulars include such names as Jalmari Ruokokoski, Tyko Sallinen,

Wäinö Aaltonen, Rudolf Koivu and Eino Leino. One of the “Brondinistas” is named Ponkki. “Ponkki was no artist. He had no speciality, but he understood everybody. No one recalled him

having a permanent place to stay since student days, and every member of our coterie felt it their duty to put him up when he turned up at your doorstep.”\*  
\* Vilho Nenonen: Tavattiin Brondalla.



Ice-cream seller at the corner of Sturenkatu and Mäkeläncatu streets. Sakari Pälsi, 1932.

**TRAVELLING**, and flying in particular, is still a rare luxury. Inauguration of the Malmi airport in December 1936 signals the end of the era of floatplanes and the marine airport at Katajanokka. Towards the end of the decade, it is possible to fly from Helsinki to Tallinn, Stockholm, Kaunas and Berlin. Domestic flights connect to Turku, Maarianhamina, Tampere, Vaasa, Viipuri, Imatra, Oulu and Kemi.

**A 1934 HELSINKI GUIDEBOOK** makes a souvenir recommendation: handicrafts that are appreciated by Finns as well – fabrics made by local women. “When the paterfamilias in Helsinki comes of a certain age, his wife will in good time start making a wall rug for him or perhaps an Oriental carpet.” A gift like this is “a masterpiece that bears testimony down the generations to the maker’s diligence and skill”.

**SPREADING LIKE ELANTO**  
Shops of the Elanto Cooperative were a familiar sight in Helsinki. In 1935 it has a total of 239 corner shops around the city, among them:

- 101 shops selling bread and milk
- 39 shops selling meat and cold cuts
- 52 grocer’s shops
- 27 drugstores
- 5 shoe shops
- 7 fabric and clothing shops
- 3 shops selling suits and dresses
- 4 shops selling household goods
- 1 tobacco shop

Winter’s day at Johanneksenkenttä playing field. When Temperature Plummets, Aho & Soldan, 1933. Film. Yle Archives.



A couple on Heikinkatu street. Sakari Pälsi, ca. 1930.



Ritarihuone Park, 1930s.

**MERIVAARA’S** functionalist furniture was high-end design in the 1930s and thus not found in every home. In his book Appelsiininsiemen, Mika Waltari describes the interior of a flat in Töölö: “If only it were like this at

home, too, everything so simple yet doubtlessly very expensive, those straight, fine lines, the black fabric and nickel-plated tubes of some chairs, opal glass plafonds. Next to this, our home seemed very old-

fashioned, with old, heavy mahogany in the drawing room, a tall mirror, a brown grand piano and candle-sticks, Dutch plates on the wall above the sideboard, old framed lithographs in Father’s study.”

**TALKING MOVIES MAKE THEIR BREAKTHROUGH** in the early 1930s. Cinemas have to update their equipment, and Piccadilly in Kluuvikatu street reopens on 30 August 1931 under the name Maxim. The cinema auditorium, built in 1909, is among the oldest in Helsinki. Sound increases the popularity of Finnish cinema, and actors become stars in Hollywood style, led by Tauno Palo, Ansa Ikonen and Regina Linnanheimo.



Trams on Kaisaniemenkatu street, 1930s.



# PANORAMAS

are wide landscape images that are made by taking photographs from one point in all directions of the compass. Stitching the pictures together produces an unbroken 360-degree view. When the earliest panoramas of Helsinki were made, the entire built city could still be seen from a high-enough vantage point. High panoramas show the whole of Helsinki from a perspective that people do not have access to. The boundaries and structure of the city can be seen at a glance, as if on a three-dimensional map.



Hotel Torni under construction. Olof Sundström, 1930.



Kallio Church under construction, Signe Brander, 1911.

## RECORDING OLD HELSINKI

In 1906 the town councillors appoint a special antiques board and task it with photographing and recording buildings and other places that will soon lose their former appearance due to new construction and other changes. They hire Signe Brander for the job, known as a skilful landscape photographer. The work progresses, and in 1912 Miss Brander climbs into the tower of the newly completed Kallio Church and records a view of the workers’ district around the church.



Sakkela ja rehellinen  
**poika**  
otetaan valokuvia myymään nyt  
heti.  
**Signe Brander.**

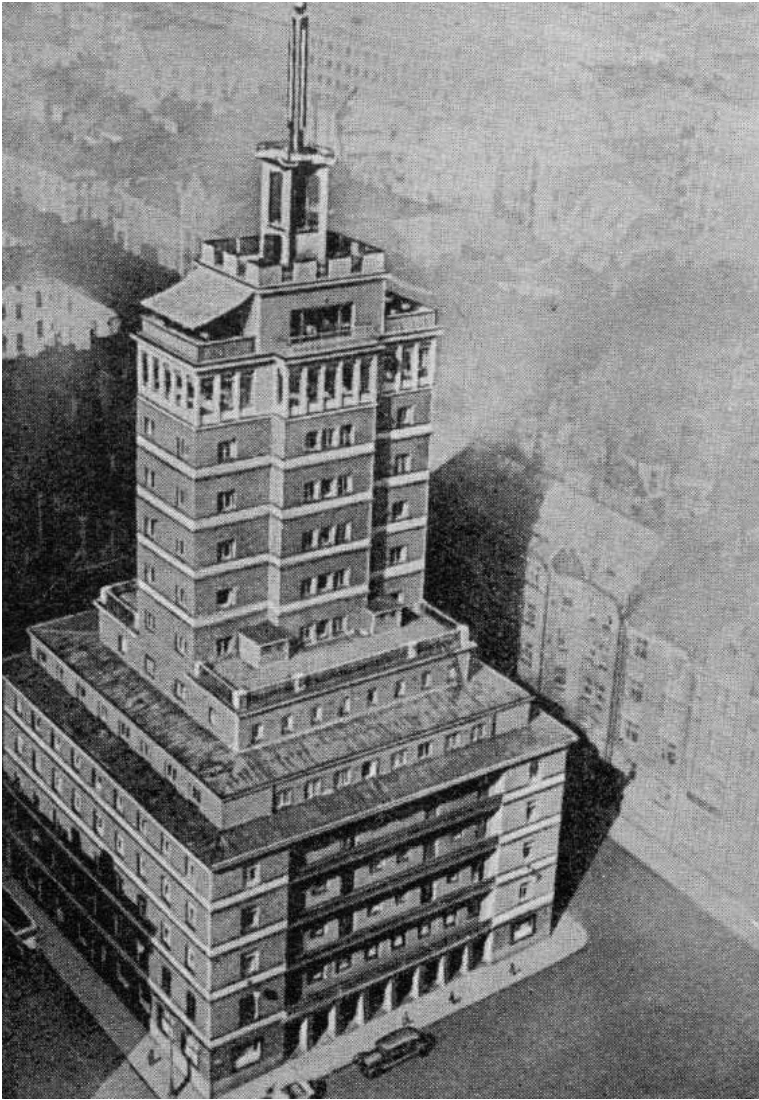
## BIRD’S EYE VIEW OF HELSINKI.

Photographer Eugen Hoffers has had the novel idea of climbing up to the tower of the St Nicholas’ Church and photographing our capital from that high angle. This produces a new, enchanting, full-circle bird’s eye



Cover of Hoffers’s original panorama portfolio.

view of the city. The pictures are taken skilfully and are elegantly stitched into a single panorama. The entire panorama costs 72 marks, individual plates are four marks, and they are available from Mr Hoffers’s studio.



# TRAVELLING TO THE CAPITAL

*Hotel Torni* -  
the first skyscraper in Helsinki!

At Hotel TORNİ, you have a choice of first-class, premium rooms for travellers – in all price categories.

Every room has running hot and cold water, bathroom with toilet, and a telephone. Spacious show-rooms and galleries are available for use by travelling salesmen. Continental menu and service in the restaurant. A comfortable dining room for hotel guests.

Café-Restaurant on the 13th floor.  
A stupendous view over the entirety of Helsinki and its environs!

Hotel Torni advertising card, 1930.



# LEISURE IN THE LATE 19TH CENTURY

Differences in standards of living are great between classes in Helsinki. The city grows fast. The wealthy spend their leisure time around the

city in cafés, parks and skating rinks. Workers’ days are long, sometimes up to 12 or even 14 hours, and their only free time is on Sunday.

Then they pursue hobbies, participate in workers amusements and in the summer go hiking in the national parks.



A day on the beach in Kallvik, Vuosaari, 1910s.

**OUTINGS** are a pastime now accessible to an ever greater number of people. On summer weekends you may come across groups getting ready to board a steamship, motorboat or rowboat in order to spend a day on the wonderful beaches of Helsinki. Workers’ associations, temperance societies and ordinary working-class families go on outings to Seurasaari, Korkeasaari, Lammassaari or some other nearby island.



A summer’s day on the seaside.

### Huvimatka

**Koiton Kesä-siirtolaan Lammassaareen** tänään sunnuntaina 20 p. t. k. Höyrylaiva „Söder“ lähtee joka täysitunti Unionink. päästä Pitkäsillan vierestä klo 9 a.p. alkaen iltaan asti. Laivamaksu 30 p. mennessä ja tullessa. Perillä hauskaa. 10709  
Hels. S. 2 k. 8 s. 60 mm.  
S. V. L. 1 k.

Uusi Suometar 20.6.1909.

# CAUGHT BY THE SLEUTH’S CAMERA

In the late 1880s, young Nils Wasastjerna buys a waistcoat camera and begins to photograph the life of his family and his friends, young flâneurs, in Helsinki. In his pictures, people are seen taking a walk in Esplanadi park, celebrating May Day in Kaisaniemi and skating in the Pohjoisranta rink, a place of amusement and courtship popular among young people. On a sunny spring day, Wasastjerna photographs locals watching Murtaja, the first icebreaker made in Finland in 1890, open up the South Harbour after the winter.



Businessman Rudolf Elfving and Assistant Judge P. A. Rönnbäck on a promenade in Pohjois-Esplanadi street.

The exhibition includes 40 photographs taken between 1889 and 1892.

Born into the family of a wealthy civil servant, Nils Wasastjerna (1872–1951) has been an enthusiastic photographer since his teens. He studies architecture at first but switches to insurance business and then to interior design and architecture. Wasastjerna is a respected critic of architecture and a patron of culture and architecture, and he works as director of Helsinki City Museum from 1913–1920.



## PRIMUS

**Maailman etevin Fotogénkelttiö.**  
**„Yli 2,000,000 myyty“.**

Päitsi vanhempia malleja Vuoden uutuuksia:  
**Primus No 501**, jossa on polttajaventtiili ja järjestettävissä oleva liekki, täydellisin keittiö mailmassa.

**Primus No 21** huckea, mutta vahva.  
**Primus Lilliput No 30.**

**Välttämättömiä Primus tarpeita:**  
**Primus Keittoliesiä. — Primus Silitysuuni. — Primus Balansi. Osia ja tiivisteitä on aina varastossa.**  
**Summissa ja vähittäin, myy**

**G. F Stockmann O. Y.** 6484

Helsingin Sanomat 14.5.1905

**WORRISOME NEWS** arrives from Töölönlahti bay and other beaches in Helsinki in summer 1907. The seawater has become so filthy in places that even the most eager swimmer will not embrace the waves. A terrible stench assails the nose on the begrimed beaches. This is because the waste waters of the city are being discharged directly into the sea. The quality of water in the sea and city pipes must be investigated post-haste and the matter redressed immediately.

**DO YOU HAVE A PRIMUS STOVE?** Developed in Sweden, the Primus stove is now available in Helsinki. The stove can be used for cooking but also for heating water for a washing machine or a clothes iron. It is handy for making coffee on a weekend outing.

**Almerian Viinirypäleitä,**  
Rosmarineja, Tyrolin- ja monenmuunlaisia Omenia,  
Rypälerusinoita ja Konfekt-Fukonia,  
**Krakmandelia, raapatuita,**  
Monenlaisia Pähkinöitä,  
Paronia ja Bergamotteja,  
**Tuoreita Marmeladeja,**  
**Kanderattuja Hedelmiä,**  
Ranskan ja Wenäjän,  
Suurin varasto  
**Delikatesseja, Konserveja**  
y. m. asken tulleita paljottain ja vähittäin kohtuullisiin hintoihin myyvät  
**Veljekset Popoff.**

Uusi Suometar 1.12.1885.



**DWELLINGS IN HELSINKI** are not very big in the 1950s. There are many flats with 1 or 2 rooms, and in many homes the kitchen doubles as a bedroom. Statistics show that 30 percent of all inhabitants of Helsinki live in cramped conditions, which means more than two persons per room in the dwelling, the kitchen included. The lack of space is made worse by lodgers. Even families living in cramped quarters may take in a friend

or a relative in need of accommodation. People living in bigger flats may even have to take in complete strangers, should the housing committee deem there to be enough room.



**THE RADIO** has become a staple fixture in every home! People listen to the elegantly designed devices with rapt attention. And why shouldn't they, when there are broadcasts from early morning to late at night with both serious programmes and entertainment? All listeners, even the youngest, are catered to. In school, the entire class hushes down to listen to the legendary Markus-setä, whose show the most gifted students sometimes get to visit.

**HETEKÄ** is the number one selling bed in Finland, with almost half a million pieces produced. Styled as a couch or a convertible sofa, the bed is launched in 1932 by a company named Helsingin Teräshuonekalutehdas, or Helsinki Steel Furniture Factory. The name is shortened into HeTeKa, and it is eventually used for all beds of the type, although there are dozens of different manufacturers around the country. Regardless of who developed it, the heteka bed has come to enjoy the undivided favour of all Finns because of its ease of use and hygienic design.

Te nukutte  
**makeasti**  
Heteka-sohvasängyssä.

Heteka suo Teille virkistävän levon  
ja lisää asuntonne pinta-alaa.



**PUBLIC SAUNAS** compensate for poor washing facilities at home. In the early 1950s, as many as 56% of all dwellings have no bathroom and 60% have no hot water. The 1951 telephone directory lists contact information for 59 public saunas. They range from

Elanto's sauna on Helsinginkatu street to the sauna club of the Kulosaari Debating Society, from the sauna in Hotel Klaus Kurki in the centre to Marttila's saunas in Pitäjänmäki.

After sauna. Nils Andersson, 1976.

# WHY DON'T WE MAKE A FILM?



Making home films becomes a popular hobby in the 1950s, a trend reflected in the ever-increasing sales of home film equipment. Amateur filmmaking clubs multiply. What can explain such explosive growth? Look at your snapshots and imagine what it would be like to see the first steps of your child in MOVING images! Most people want to film their family, replacing the photo album with a film canister. Some even make movies for competitions, but that's different. The exhibition includes home movies by Ensio Hietala from the 1950s in Herttoniemi.

**A PRESSURE COOKER** is a great way to cook. The food is cooked in hot, high-pressure steam under a tightly closed lid. This method requires much less time than cooking with an ordinary kettle, and the ingredients retain their crunch. The rapid cooker has a mechanism that keeps the lid closed tightly. When using a pressure cooker, however, be sure to monitor the time carefully, lest the pressure blow up the cooker!

El enää pohjaan  
palanutta puuroa  
ja kuivunelta  
ruokia!

**Pikapata**  
poistaa Teiltä lopullakin  
nuo huolet.  
Säästää aikaa, vaivaa ja  
polttoaineita.  
Sopii kaikkeen käyttöön  
mihin valurautapata  
yleensä.  
Säilyttää parhaiten ma-  
kuaineet keitetäessä.

Yksinkertainen ja vaaraton  
käyttö. **H a l p a h i n t a.**  
Saatavana Oman Kodin  
tavaravälitysosastosta  
sekä rautakaupoista.

Valmistaja:  
**Veljekset Friis Oy.**  
Yksipihlaja.

**Valitkaa *NovoSonic*  
uusi ääni, uusi ulkonäkö**

Sävyttävänä on yleiseen tietoisuuteen iskeytynyt Philips-radioiden NovoSonic-tunnus — uusi ääni. Tästä sanomasta on tullut jo ohje, luotettava suuntaviitta, jota seuraamalla jokaisen on turvallista valita vastaanotin. Jos haluatte kotinne hyvän radion, ottakaa aikaa ja kätäkää itse kuuntelemaan NovoSonic-ääntä. Philips-radiovastaanottimien muotoilussa on siirrytty yhä matalampiin ja pitkänomaisempiin malleihin — puhtaita suoria viivoja ilman turhia helyjä. NovoSonic 572 A on keskihintaluokan radio, jolla on kaikki loistoradion ominaisuudet.

**PHILIPS** PHILIPS

HINTA 39.500.—

Älkää unohtako PHILIPS-äänilevyjä.



# THE FIRST DAY OF THE WINTER WAR

On 30 November 1939, Soviet bombers make two aerial attacks on Helsinki, killing 91 people and injuring 236. The heaviest air raids during World War II take place in February 1944. On three nights at ten-day intervals, bombers drop nearly 12,000 bombs, of which 740 hit the city. The February raids kill 146 people and injure 356. A total of 109 buildings are destroyed. Radio show. Reporter Veikko Itkonen. Yle Archives.



A bomb has set a building on fire, 1943.

**A BOOTLEG OPERATION**  
is exposed in the railway freight depot. A piano containing 140 litres of pure alcohol is found in a large shipping crate. Under questioning, the sender, unemployed agent Eetu O., 35, says he purchased the spirits

from a couple of unknown men. He had the packing crate built in a carpentry shop for two thousand marks, with the aim of using it to smuggle alcohol. Sent to Sortavala, the crate was in use for the first time.



Confiscation at the Railway Station. Crime Museum.

**GUSTAF FREDRIK AND MARIA EVELINA** Rosenström’s four children die as infants in a period of just two years. A memorial plaque for the children is made with a photograph of each child in the coffin and a decorative piece made of their hair.



Ages and causes of death of the Rosenström children:  
**Ellen Maria**  
2 Dec 1888 – 31 Jan 1891 (2 y 1 m 28 d).  
A week of dry pneumonia.  
**Fredrik Rudolf**  
3 Nov 1889 – 28 Sep 1891 (1 y 10 m 28 d).  
Encephalitis.  
**Einar Valdemar**  
6 Feb 1891 – 5 Mar 1892 (1 y 27 d).  
Prolonged illness.  
**Fredrik Valdemar**  
10 Aug 1892 – 26 Nov 1892 (3 m 16 d).  
Prolonged illness.

Although infant mortality declines in the late 19th century, one child in four dies under the age of 12 months at that time. Now the number of infant deaths in Finland is ca. 100 per year.

**A MEMENTO FROM 1918** Many people fighting in the 1918 Civil War want to have their photograph taken before being sent to the front. Many temporary photo studios are set up, some close to the front. These pictures prove to be fateful after the war, when perpetrators of war crimes and atrocities are sought. Since a studio photograph can be a crucial piece of evidence, some people keep these pictures hidden away, even years after the end of the war.

**JUST LIKE THE END OF THE WORLD** Timo, Mikko and Antero are in Ruttupuisto park when they see a thick black cloud of smoke. “We knew right away that the VR warehouses were on fire,” they say. They are dead certain that it is arson and they intend to watch the drama to the very end. “Got to get more beer.” Hundreds, perhaps thousands of people in Helsinki come to see the fire. Everyone has a mobile phone with which to photograph each other and invite friends to join them. The VR warehouses burned down on 5 May 2006.



**KATAJANOKKA PRISON**  
Completed in 1837, the Helsinki County Prison is operational until 2002 and in its last years serves as a remand prison. Prisoners who have done time in Katajanokka include President Risto Ryti and famous confidence man Ruben Oskar Auervaara. In 2002 the Helsinki City Museum photographs the interior of the prison prior to its conversion into a hotel.

A cell in Katajanokka prison. Sakari Kiuru, 2002.



**HELSINKI. 1878** Helsinki City Museum commissions a scale model of the city from Bruno Aspelin’s agency. Based on a 1878 map of the city, the model is completed in sections between 1917 and 1931 at a scale of 1:500. It shows Helsinki at the start of a period of change and growth. The scale model is on show until the beginning of the 1980s, first for more than 50 years in Hakasalmi Villa and then in the Tram Museum from the late 1990s to 2008. It is possible to identify many familiar landmarks in the model but there are also defects and omissions, as the model is built based on pictures and maps.

**OLYMPIC HELSINKI** Commissioned by the Helsinki Tourist Agency, artist Aarne Nopsanen (1907–1990) draws a stylised colour map of the city for the 1952 Helsinki Summer Olympics. Just a few test prints are made of the map, and it is never distributed.



A detail from Nopsanen’s map.

**FORTIFICATION AND CITY** This German propaganda map of Helsinki is from the time of the Crimean War in the mid-1850s. Its purpose is to show Helsinki as an invincible fortress town. In August 1855, the Viapori fortress is bombarded by the English–French navy for three days, killing 55 and injuring 204 Russians and destroying several buildings. The city itself is undamaged.



Emperor Nicholas I.



A propaganda map of Helsinki from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

**NEW LIGHTS** The city centre has been lit during the dark hours by gas since the early 1860s. There are over 400 lamps in the city, and public spaces are also lit with gas lamps. Electric lights are first used in 1877 in the yard of the railway engineering shop, the power for which is generated with a so-called Gramme magneto. In summer 1878, restaurateurs Kämp and Lindgren use electric lights to illuminate the Kaivopuisto park during a musical soirée.

**WELCOMING PARTY** for the Guard of Finland. About 500 members of the Finnish Guards’ Rifle Battalion return from the Russo-Turkish War via St Petersburg to Helsinki on 9 May 1878. The crowd cheers and a recep-

tion is held in Töölö park. Speeches are made in Finnish and Swedish. The troops then march into the city, followed by the public. At the Student House, they are greeted with song by students. From the Balkans the soldiers

have brought a Greek orphan of about 10 years named Aleksei Apostol, whom captain Ramsay takes as his protégé. The Emperor awards the soldiers with crosses of the Order of St George for valour.



Old Maternity Hospital on Tehtaankatu street. K. Helve, 1923.

Dagens Nyheter 17.8.1878

**BRUNNSHUSET.**  
*1 dag Lördag den 17 Augusti*  
**Musikalisk Soirée**  
af  
**Bjelomorska regementets musikkår**  
under anförande af Herr Kapellmästar **H. A. Feiler.**  
Början sker kl. **1/2 8 e. m.**  
Biljetter jemte program å **25 mk.**  
Vid mörkrets inbrott upplyses parken af elektriskt ljus.

**CHILDREN’S HEALTH CARE** has taken a huge leap forward. We are pleased to know that the new delivery room will open its doors, and that the Inoculation Office will vaccinate children by districts to prevent the spread of smallpox in our country. Details about inoculation schedules can be found in newspapers.

**Kuulutuksia.  
Rokon-istutus.**

Maksuttomaan rokon-istutukseen, jota määrätysjää järjestyksessä toimitetaan joka tiistaina talossa n:o 13 Abrahaminkadun varrella (Grifinkadun kulmassa), kutsutaan tulewaksi tiistai<sup>ksi</sup> 15 p. lokak. k:lo 11 e. pp. lapset, joihin ei vielä ole rokkoa istutettu, huviloista läntisen wiertotien sekä Odes- & Humlewikin välillä.  
Rokon-istutus-toimisto.

Uusi Suometar 11.10.1878



# BEER DEREGULATION

In 1962 the state alcohol monopoly, Alkoholiliike, establishes Kanta-ravintolat Oy, an experimental chain of beer bars that aims to steer consumption from strong drinks to mild ones. In part because of the positive results of the experiment, beer is deregulated and in 1969 can henceforth be sold also in grocery stores and cafés. Under the new dispensation, beer bars start appearing in towns and suburbs. In 1969 Richard’s Pub and Annan Pub are launched in Helsinki.

Angleterre, with its British pub-inspired interior, opens its doors in 1976 on Fredrikinkatu street, where it operates to this day. Pubs represent a new culture of alcohol consumption. Eating is no longer compulsory, as you can simply step in to have a drink and a chat. As late as the early 1980s, strong beer in the IVA tax class is still more popular than the weaker III beer, but towards the end of the decade the latter becomes available on tap and passes IVA beer in popularity.



Doorman at Restaurant Kultaisen Oravan Grilli, Ympyrätalo. Simo Rista, ca. 1970.

# TOP SINGLES IN FINLAND, 1975

- |     |                                               |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1.  | Marion<br>El Bimbo                            |
| 2.  | Erkki Junkkarinen<br>Ruusuja Hopeamaljassa    |
| 3.  | Vicky<br>Kun Chicago Kuoli                    |
| 4.  | Fredi<br>Ava Sydämesi Mulle                   |
| 5.  | Hurricanes<br>Get On                          |
| 6.  | Katri Helena<br>Vasten Auringon Siltaa        |
| 7.  | Sleepy Sleepers<br>Kuka Mitä Häh              |
| 8.  | George Baker Selection<br>Paloma Blanca       |
| 9.  | Katri Helena<br>Paloma Blanca                 |
| 10. | Erkki Liikanen<br>Evakkoreki                  |
| 11. | Erkki Liikanen<br>Meiä Veera                  |
| 12. | Gloria Gaynor<br>Never Can Say Goodbye        |
| 13. | Kivikasvot<br>Tankeros Love                   |
| 14. | Wess & Dori Ghezzi<br>Era                     |
| 15. | Rock ‘N’ Roll Band<br>I’m Gonna Roll          |
| 16. | Teach-In<br>Ding-A-Dong                       |
| 17. | Juice Leskinen & Coitus Int.<br>Se Oli Jautaa |
| 18. | Labelle<br>Lady Marmalade                     |
| 19. | The Rubettes<br>I Can Do It                   |
| 20. | Carl Douglas<br>Kung Fu Fighting              |



Advertisement for Tunnelin Levy record store.



German-made payazzo from the late 1920s.

**THE FIRST JUKEBOXES** arrive in Finland in the 1930s. Jukeboxes playing singles make their appearance in the mid-1950s, and for a long time there is a 1950s-era German Seeburg jukebox in the café at Linnanmäki amusement park. Initially, jukeboxes are privately owned, but from 1962 onward the Finnish Slot Machine Association (RAY) begins to control most jukeboxes. Their popularity peaks in the 1970s, when RAY has 2,800 machines in cafés and restaurants.

In the late 1980s, there are only about a thousand left. As sound equipment develops, the number of jukeboxes dwindles, although some still remain in active use in bars and by collectors.

**THE FIRST PAYAZZO** penny arcade machines are imported from Germany in the 1920s. The German name of the game is bajazzo, which derives from the Italian pagliaccio, or clown, whose hat is used to catch a ball in the original version of the game. At first, payazzos are prohibited because they are seen as a form of gambling, but the injunction is repealed in 1928. The first Finnish machines are built in 1929. The machines are in private ownership, but starting in 1933, slot machines can only be run by charitable organisations: they are considered immoral and

any revenue must therefore be used for non-profit purposes. The Finnish Slot Machine Association (RAY) is established for this very purpose in 1938. The all-time classic, a 50 penny payazzo, is introduced in 1967. Most of RAY’s revenues up to the 1970s come from payazzos and jukeboxes. At the peak of its popularity in the late 1970s, there are up to 8,500 payazzos in use. Their popularity eventually wanes, and the decline is accelerated by the 1986 launch of RAY Poker. The last payazzo is decommissioned in March 2015.



Restaurant Laatu-Haiti, Snellmaninkatu 19. Kari Hakli, 1972.



**A CARPENTER** living in Punavuori begins to keep a diary on 1 January 1892. His identity remains unknown to this day. His daily entries about the weather, work and everyday events are laconic. The carpenter has no permanent job, and he walks from house to house with his toolbox, offering to fix furniture. In the spring, he gets a more lucrative job, building the interior of a steamboat. His wife, Fina, attends church regularly, and he occasionally has a drink or a beer with a neighbour, but hardly anything else ever happens. The double suicide on Uudenmaankatu street and other scandals reported in the papers are mentioned only in passing. The last entries are made in July of the same year. We do not know how the story continues.



A carpenter at his work. Joel Nokelainen, 1982.

**UNEMPLOYMENT** during the winter is a common occurrence in Helsinki, but between 1891 and 1894 the situation is serious. In the winter of 1891, the local police precinct reports: “Some general shortage of employment began to occur in these parts as early as the start of November, and the worker who either through recklessness or lack of foresight had neglected to save some of his earlier fair income now approached the harsh winter with dark frowns on his brow and mind.” There are more unemployed people than ever before, and they are no longer content to suffer silently: a sense of threat is now evident in their behaviour. The city launches an employment service and provides relief work.

Busker plays a self-made violin in a yard.  
Väinö Kannisto, 1940s.



**TERRIBLE DOUBLE SUICIDE** “A double murder was committed here yesterday morning, so terrible and at the same time so moving and pitiful in nature that something comparable has most likely never occurred before in our country. At 6 o’clock in the morning, office clerk Ossian Engvall and restaurant servitor Ellen Forsman ended their lives in the former’s flat in house no. 4 on Uudenmaankatu, in that the former first shot his mistress and then himself.”

The papers report avidly on the tragedy occurring on 2 March 1892.

**COURTYARDS** can often be stark and shady places, but children will nevertheless play anywhere that is sheltered, in cellar corridors, and even in rubbish bins. They play tag and hopscotch and spread their die-cut figures, toy cars or marbles on the tarmac. They also play ball, even though it

is forbidden because it puts hung-up washing in danger. The caretaker and his wife keep order, but when they turn their backs, children invent all sorts of ways to test boundaries, such as by climbing the fire ladder. And if things really go wrong, you can always call mom to come to the window.



Children playing in Kallio. Eino Heinonen, 1950s.



Children playing on a pile of sand in the yard. Eino Heinonen, 1950s.

### Järjestyssäännöt

Unioninkadun 45:ssä asuville.

Paitsi mitä laki ja asetukset, yhtiösäännöt yhtiökokousten päätökset ja vuokrasopimukset säätävät, ovat seuraavat määräykset noudatettavat:

1: §.

**Vuokramaksut.**

Viittaamalla yhtiösäännön 7 §:ään määrätään, että vuokrat ovat suoritettavat etukäteen kunkin kuukauden neljänä ensimmäisenä arkipäivänä joko isännöitsijälle talon hallituksen määrääminä aikoina tai Asuntoosakeyhtiö Unionikatu 45:n pankkitiliin.

2: §.

**Rauhan häiritsemisestä naapurusten kesken.**

Talossa asuvat alkööt kolinalla, hälinällä tai muulla tavoin häiritkö naapuriansa; alköönkä soitettako ennen klo 8 aamulla tai 11 jälkeen illalla ilmoittamatta siitä talon isännöitsijälle.

Quote from the regulations of a residential building.

<p><b>Torhinnat 6—12 p:nä maaliskuuta.</b></p> <p><i>Ryhtimaan ja puutarhan tuotteita.</i></p> <p>Pernat 5 litraa 45—50 p. Lautat kpl. 5—15 p. Porkkanat 5 litra 60 p. Punajuurikkaat 5 litra 60 p. Pippurinjouset kg. 70—75 p. Maa-erikset 5 litra 3 m. Palastrukat 5 litra 50 p. Punajouset kpl. 5—10 p. Sillit kpl. 10—20 p. Dillit nippu 10 p. Perejia nippu 10 p. Sikoriiallaati kimpun 10 p. Sipuli kg. 25—30 p. Ruohosipuli kimpun 10 p. Haharberi kg. 3—20 p. Vesikilist solakurkut kpl. 4—5 p. Kikkaiskaali 50 p.—1. 50 p. Valkokasli 10—20 p. Hapankaali litra 15 p. Vilveksäli 15—35 p. Meirand kimpun 10 p.</p> <p><i>Karjan ja meijerin tuotteita.</i></p> <p>Maito, kuorimaton, litra 20 p. Sana, kuorittu, litra 10 p. Terminatio litra 20 p. Kerma litra 60 p. Pöyvelä kilogr. 2. 40.—2. 70 p. Runkavoi 10 kilogr. 25 m. Meijeri juncen lihaa kg. 1: 50—1. 90 p. Sana, cnaa lilla, kg. 20—30 p. Maalajijunsto kpl. 40—50 p. Erytilijunsto kg. 1: 20 p. Tuore lehusilika 10 kg 5—7 m. Pavasta cnaa 10 kg 8—10 m. Tuore silava 10 kg 12—12.50 m. Suolainen cnaa 10 kg 13: 50—14 m. Tuore lankasilika 10 kg 9—10 m. Pavasta cnaa kg 1 m.—1 m. 20 p. Juurtoavastika 10 kg 8—9 m. Vaukka kpl. 3: 50—4 m. Vaukka nunka kpl. 90—1: 20 p. Kielet kpl. 1: 10—1: 40 p. Tuore peronilika 10 kg 8—9 m. Sevustettu cnaa 10 kg 14 m. Tuore peronitelli 1 m. Hiiirijunsto kpl. 80 p. Vori, litra 35 p. Suomen kanaat pari 2: 50 p. Vaukka ” ” pari 3 m. Salakurkut kpl. 5 m. Kalkkamat kpl. 7—8 m. Hauket kpl. 4: 75 p. Maat, lit. 1: 40—2 m. Tauraselämä 70—100 m. Kantolohut 100—140 m. Taurashäntä 100—150 m.</p> <p><i>Pellon ja niityn tuotteita.</i></p> <p>Kaura holtolitra 8: 50 p. Ruisjauho 10 kg 2: 50 p. Levetyt ohrajaunot 10 kg 3: 50 p. Ohraajyyti 5 litraa 1: 50 p. Murot cnaa 5 litraa 1: 50 p. Höyrykeitetty kaurajyyti 5 litraa 1 m. 50 p. Valkot herneet 5 litraa 1: 50—1: 70 p. Viljerit cnaa 5 litraa 1: 50 p. Sika cnaa 5 litraa 1 m. Isokilevät 10 kg 2: 90—3: 20 p. Hapannet korpit 10 kg 4: 50 p. Rii-leijit kpl. 20 p. Vaukka, leija kpl. 40—50 p. Vaukka kpl. 40 p. Timoteileinat 10 kg 1: 20 p. Niityleinat 10 kg 90—90 p. Oikieppa 50 p.</p> <p><i>Moren ja veden tuotteita.</i></p> <p>Tuore lohik 5 m.—3: 50 p. Suolattu ” ” kg. 2: 10 p. Tuore taimen kg. 10 p. Erytilijouset aita 2: 50 p. Suolattu silakka 10 kg 1: 70—2 m. Tuore hauki kg 90 p. Mado kg 1 m. Kuha kg 90 p. Lahna kg 1 m. Sikka kg. 1: 50 p. Tuore silakka kg 30 p. Kuuore kg. 40—50 p. Muikat kg 35 p. Nahkiset 100 kpl. 4 m. Lusikkala kg. 45—50 p. Maukumatti kg. 2: 20 p. Mateematti kg. 1 m. Kruvunika kg. 5 m.</p> <p><i>Metsintuotteita ja riistan.</i></p> <p>Pyyt pari 1: 70—1: 90 p. Metsikamat pari 1: 25 p. Teerit pari 2: 50 p. Metsot pari 4: 50 m. Jänis kpl. 1 m.—1: 25 p.</p> <p><i>Rautatienasemalla:</i></p> <p>Koivuhalat metrin syli 14—16 m. Mäntyhalat metrin syli 10—12 m. Kuusihalat metrin syli 10—11 m.</p> <p><i>Rautatienorilla:</i></p> <p>Koivuhalat kuorma 4: 50—6 m. Mäntyhalat kuorma 4: 50—5: 50 m. Kuusuhalat kuorma 5—8 m. Puhallat hakki 7—8 m.</p> <p><i>Hedelmät, marjat y. m.</i></p> <p>Omenat 5 litraa 2: 50 p. Punahat litra 40 p. Karpalot litra 20 p.</p> <p><i>Tuolliustuotteita.</i></p> <p>Karvanmatot metri 50—60 p. Tikkamatot metri 40—60 p. Sevit kpl. 1: 50—2: 50 p. Ämpirit kpl. 90 p.—1 m. Pöyvelä kpl. 3—3: 50 p. Pöyvelä kpl. 2—3 m. Kiehet kpl. 60—70 p. Rysät pari 1: 50 p.</p>
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Market prices, 6—12.3.  
Päivälehti 15.3.1892



URBAN SOUNDTRACK

We are all affected by the sounds of the city. For some of us, the sounds are mere background noise that is only noticeable when it stops. Others are much more affected by the sounds and

do not seem to be able to escape them. In summer 2015, sound artist Mikko H. Haapoja documented the sounds of Helsinki along a line that runs across the city’s historical centre, from Observatory Hill to Kallio Church.

He edited the recordings into a 16-minute soundtrack that, through sound, reveals a summer’s day in Helsinki. Listening to the recording, one can see how strong memories are formed through sound.



Panorama from the tower of Kallio Church to the south. Siltasaarenkatu street in the foreground. Anton Rönnerberg, 1931.

THE LAST PHONE BOOTH

The mobile phone serves as the death of the phone booth. In the 1990s, when Finland becomes a pioneer in the use

of mobile phones in a very short span of time, the need for public telephones declines sharply. In the end, the last example of this fixture – once so common in parks and on streets – can be found in a street museum opened in 1998 in Sofiankatu. As the museum booth has repeatedly been damaged by garbage trucks or service cars, its fate is sealed as well. The decision has been made that the booth is beyond repair. History repeats itself here: in the old days, many phone booths were either out of order or messy because of vandalism. At the very least, that one particular page you needed had inevitably been torn out of the directory!



Sakari Kiuru, 2001.

CALL AND LISTEN

You can make a call from the public phone and listen to inhabitants of Helsinki talk about their home town. The Helsinki City Museum has put up a ‘story yurt’ to collect stories, having appeared in Kannelmäki in 2014 and in Maunula in 2015. The project will continue to tour the city for more stories. Stories are videoed in the yurt and then presented in exhibitions at the museum. It is a pleasure to see how eager people in Helsinki are to share their stories in front of a camera.

SKATEBOARDER’S EYE

Skaters are always on the lookout for new spots. We may justifiably talk about a skater’s eye, because skaters’ gaze roams the urban space constantly, looking for potential places to skate.

From a skater’s perspective, all places are interesting. Soccer players hardly view parks as potential or suitable soccer fields, because a purpose-built field is in any case better and more level. Skaters, on the other hand, cannot turn a blind

eye to interesting places, even if they tried. Even when watching tv shows or movies, skaters are on the lookout for spots. They may think: “That spot outside the New York County Courthouse looks interesting!” Many people who have given up skateboarding say they still look upon urban spaces with a skater’s eyes. This favourite pastime leaves an indelible mark.

Tommi\_Bsnosepick\_Suvilahti. Mikko Kempas, 2014.

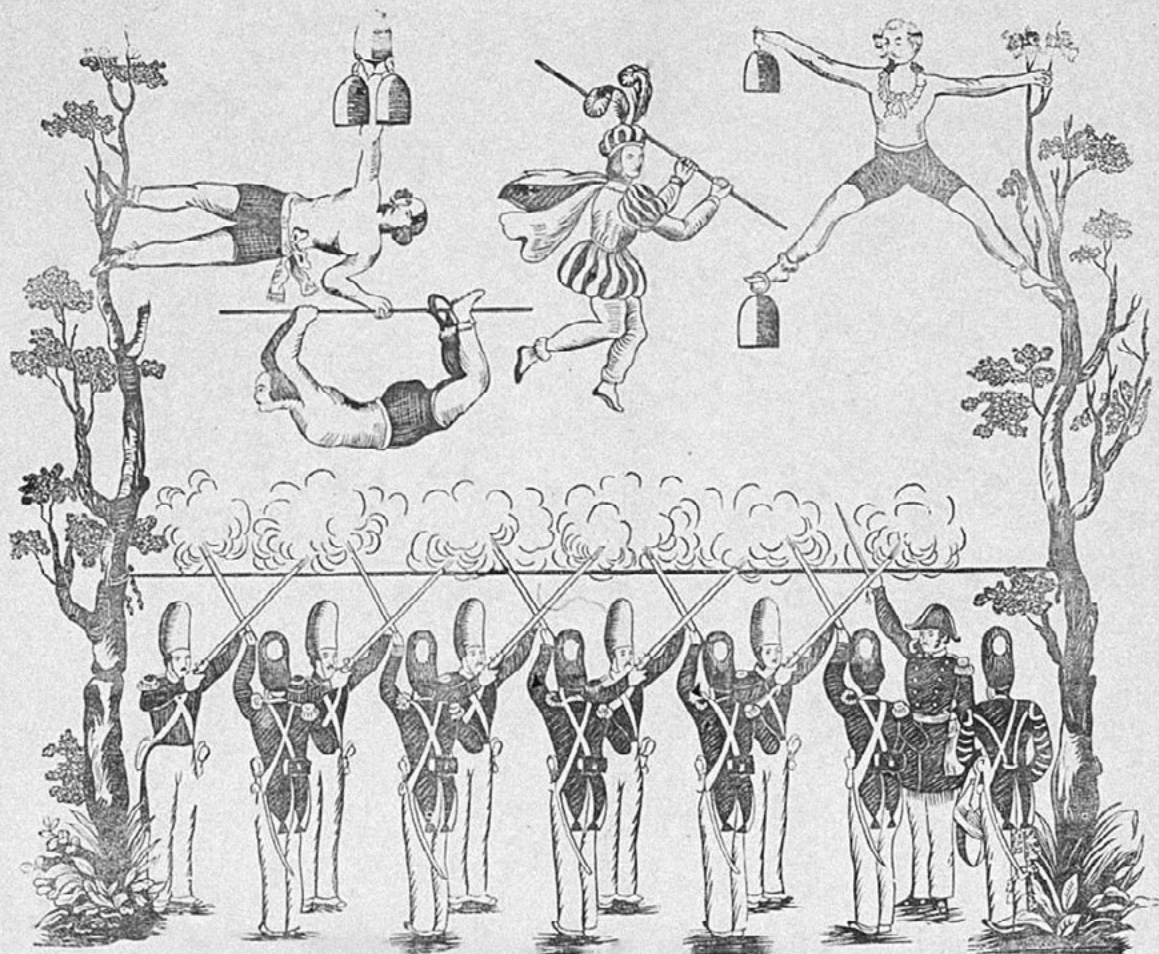


Louie Barletta\_FS\_Air. Mikko Sinervo, 2004.

**HAI JUMP** is a DIY skateboard magazine published by Pentti Järvelin. Ten issues are released between 2010 and 2016. Hai Jump is born out of dissatisfaction with existing skateboard magazines, and it offers a low-threshold platform for many writers, illustrators, photographers and other players active in the skateboard scene. Hai Jump reflects the profile of its makers – several dozen people – and it continues to attract more people as contributors.

**DO YOU HAVE TO BE MAKING THAT RACKET HERE?** Sooner or later, every skateboarder hears the questions: “Do you have to be making that racket here? Haven’t you got ramps for that?” Skateparks are a more recent phenomenon than skateboarding, though skating is not dependent on such purpose-built places. Ramps and other fixtures built for skaters reflect the nature of the sport, whereas skating itself adapts to all kinds of environments. Skateparks are based on the practices and history of skateboarding, while in the public space anyone can invent new ways to skate and discover endless new opportunities in environments that may initially seem ordinary and dull.





# WE MADE IT!

~ HELSINKI BITES ~

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