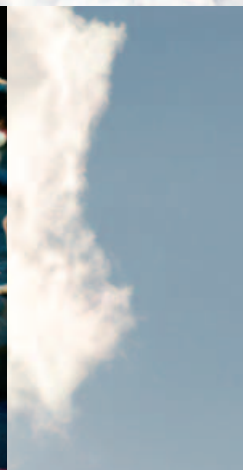


# REVIEW OF ARTS AND CULTURE IN HELSINKI



City of Helsinki  
Urban Facts  
Statistics 2008:30



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Helsingin kaupungin kuvapankki: Mika Lappalainen, Paul Williams, 777 – a love  
story at the Helsinki City Theatre © Tapio Vanhatalo

# INTRODUCTION

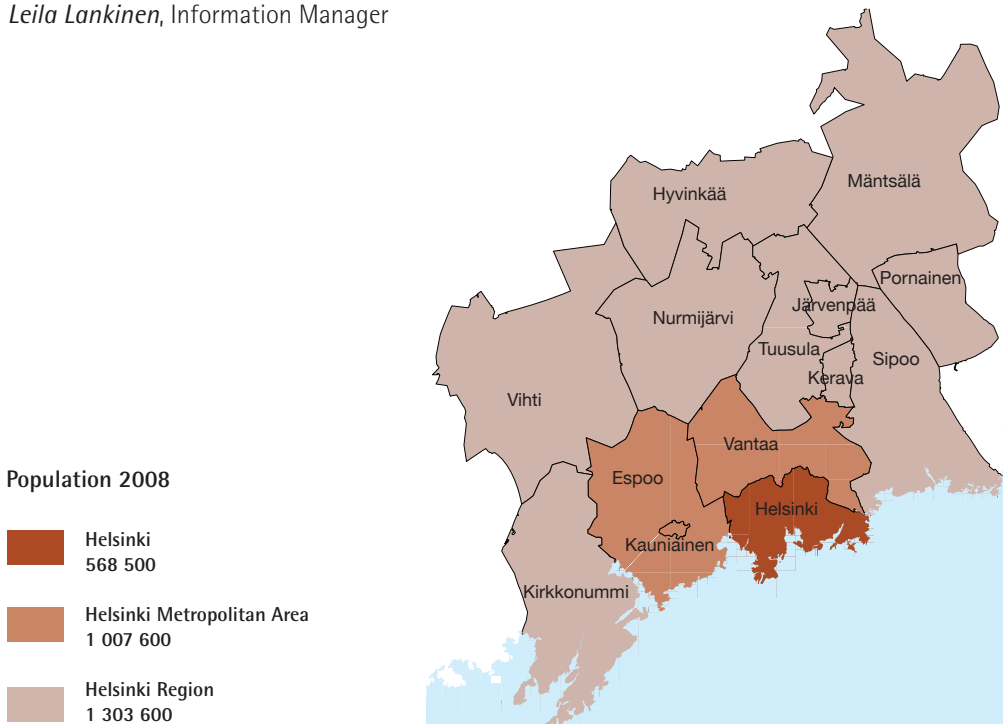
The City of Helsinki is an active and versatile promoter of arts and culture. Besides managing a large cultural sector of its own, the city subsidises cultural activities produced by other actors. Furthermore, by maintaining an extensive network of public libraries, cultural centres and adult education centres, the City ensures that the services are easily accessible.

The importance of the arts and culture to Helsinki cannot be overstated. Its wide provision of activities offers considerable choice to residents, and many opportunities for cooperation to actors in the various areas of the cultural sector. Many schools leading students on to a career and adult education centres for leisure-time studies together attract human capital to the city, at the same time also adding to the cultural fabric of day-to-day life. Moreover, Helsinki's promotion of its thriving cultural sector stimulates local tourism, which in turn benefits the urban economy.

The City's Office of Urban Facts has previously (1995, 1999, 2004) published comprehensive statistics on arts and culture in Helsinki, which included some international comparisons. In contrast to the three earlier publications, however, the Review of Arts and Culture in Helsinki emphasises topicality. Moreover, its focus is primarily on the cultural services provided or funded by the City of Helsinki.

Helsinki, 9 September 2008

*Leila Lankinen*, Information Manager



# 1 THE CITY OF HELSINKI: PROMOTING CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The City of Helsinki both provides a range of cultural services and subsidises various activities. The promotion of arts and culture in Helsinki is chiefly the responsibility of the City's cultural authorities (Cultural Office, City Library, Philharmonic Orchestra, City Art Museum, City Museum) but these are complemented by other departments.

In the City's budget for 2007, funding for arts and culture amounted to €193 per capita in Helsinki, and the cultural sector accounted for three per cent of the City's budgeted expenses. The City employs over 1 000 people in the cultural sector, this making up three per cent of the City's entire workforce. Large new projects include Helsinki Music Centre, currently under construction – in cooperation with the state and the Finnish Broadcasting Company (YLE) – and the proposed new central municipal library.

The expenditure of the Helsinki City Cultural Office includes allocations to professional theatres and other cultural institutions, other annual allocations and discretionary allocations. In all, the City of Helsinki granted (included €3 million to the Finnish National Opera) €23.1 million in subsidies to arts and culture that same year. Besides financing the national cultural institutions located in the capital, the state allocates another €30 million annually to other actors in the sector.

The vision for the Helsinki Metropolitan Area highlights the importance of science, arts and culture. Helsinki's current strategy for business development focuses on knowledge-intensive business services, creative industries, tourism and a commitment to developing the economic environment of these industries. The strategy underscores that a dynamic atmosphere and a stimulating milieu are crucial to attracting key professionals.

In 2006, the largest branches of the arts and culture sector in Helsinki were advertising, radio and television, and publishing and printing. In all, the turnover of the cultural sector in the capital amounted to €5.6 billion, with 4 918

establishments employing 23 993 staff. Nationally, in the arts and culture sector, Helsinki accounted for 41 per cent of turnover, 38 per cent of employees and 29 per cent of establishments.

In terms of national employment (commercial and non-profit), Helsinki dominates the cultural industries, with 35 per cent of these jobs in Finland being concentrated in the city. Also, nearly half of all Finnish artists live in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area. The most centralised cultural industries in terms of jobs are partly the same as those in terms of turnover. In smaller branches, i.e. those of the core arts fields such as artistic creation, libraries and archives, there is clear concentration of jobs in Helsinki, too.

Helsinki residents are satisfied with their cultural amenities, according to a perception survey on the quality of life in their city. This survey was conducted in 75 major European cities for the European Commission. Of the 500 Helsinki respondents 94 per cent were very or quite content with the concert halls, theatres, museums and libraries in

**Table 1. Budgeted allocations for arts and culture in Helsinki in 2007**

	€ 1 000	
	State	City
Prof. theatres, with state grants	18 155	10 911
Prof. theatres, without state grants	640	400
Dance arts	140	62
Music establishments	6 647	3 067
Other music activities	809	615
Museums	2 317	990
Visual arts	790	841
Festivals	428	1 542
Other education and culture	171	272
Discretionary grants from Culture and Library Board	-	1 286
<b>Total</b>	<b>30 097</b>	<b>19 986</b>

Source: Memoranda of the City Board 4/2007.



Eva Löfdahl (b. 1953): Yrittäjäpatsas (Entrepreneur statue), 2006. Aluminium, concrete and illumination, height approx. 6 metres. Setting: Narinkkatori square. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Yehia Eweis.

**Table 2.** Helsinki City's budget for arts and culture 2008

Institution	Expenditure, € 1 000			Staff 31/12/2007
	Total	Rents	%	
Finnish Adult Education Centre	12 548	2 763	22,0	113
Swedish Adult Education Centre	2 660	460	17,3	28
City Library	32 021	5 583	17,4	536
City Art Museum	5 899	1 091	18,5	68
Cultural Authority, of which	38 954	4 025		119
*Cultural Office, the Savoy unit	13 223	4 025	30,4	
*Allowances	25 731			
City Museum	6 926	2 533	36,6	75
Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra	10 856	815	7,5	109
<b>Total</b>	<b>109 864</b>	<b>17 270</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1 048</b>
Per inhabitant	193,2			

Sources: Helsinki City Budget for 2008, Data on Helsinki City staff 1/2008.



Thomas Nyqvist (b. 1955): Shadowlines, 2006. Oil on canvas, 200x300 cm. Nyqvist's works transform urban landscapes into anonymous spaces. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Yehia Eweis.

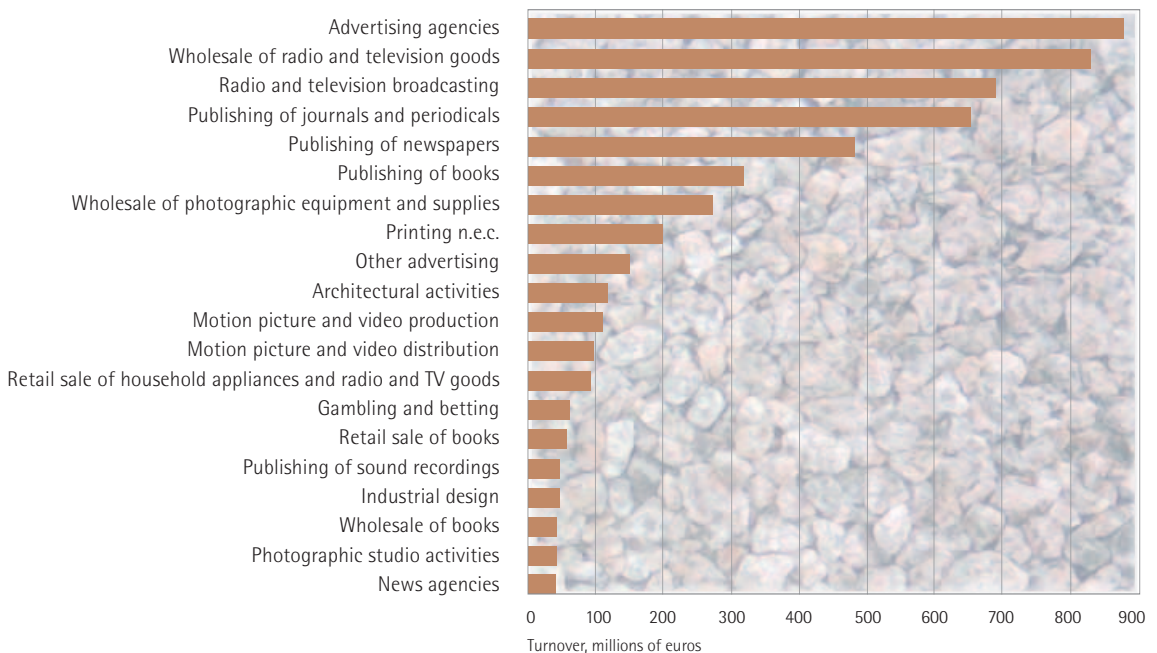
the city. This figure placed Helsinki among the top scorers in terms of resident satisfaction in 2007.

Statistics show that the majority of the consumers of Helsinki's cultural offerings come from the 1.3 million inhabitants of the Helsinki Region. But it should be noted

that visitors from other parts of Finland, and overseas, too, significantly contribute to these figures.

Helsinki is a bilingual city and therefore also provides and funds cultural services in Swedish. Moreover, the demand for services in foreign languages is rising along with a growing

**Figure 1. Top twenty cultural industries in terms of turnover in Helsinki 2006**



Sources: Statistics Finland and City of Helsinki Urban Facts



© Helsingin kaupungin kuvapankki/Paul Williams

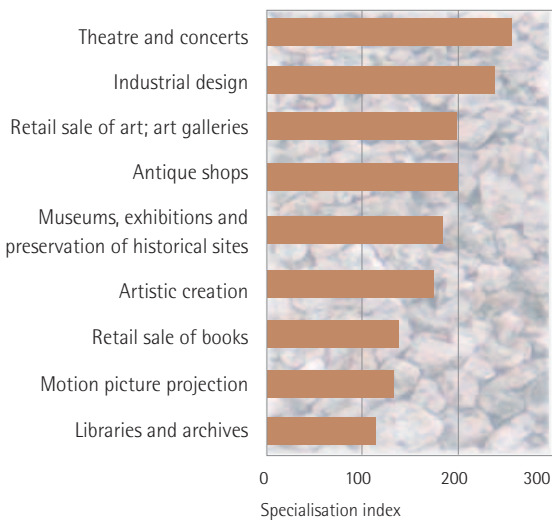


immigrant population. The share of residents having a mother tongue other than Finnish or Swedish has reached eight per cent, the largest group being Russians.

Sources:

*The City of Helsinki. Strategic Themes and Strategies Innovation Strategy. Helsinki Metropolitan Area (2005).*  
*The City of Helsinki Budget and Economic Plan 2008.*  
 Äikäs, Timo: *Jobs and premises in the cultural sector in Helsinki. In: Helsinki Quarterly 2/08. City of Helsinki Urban Facts.*

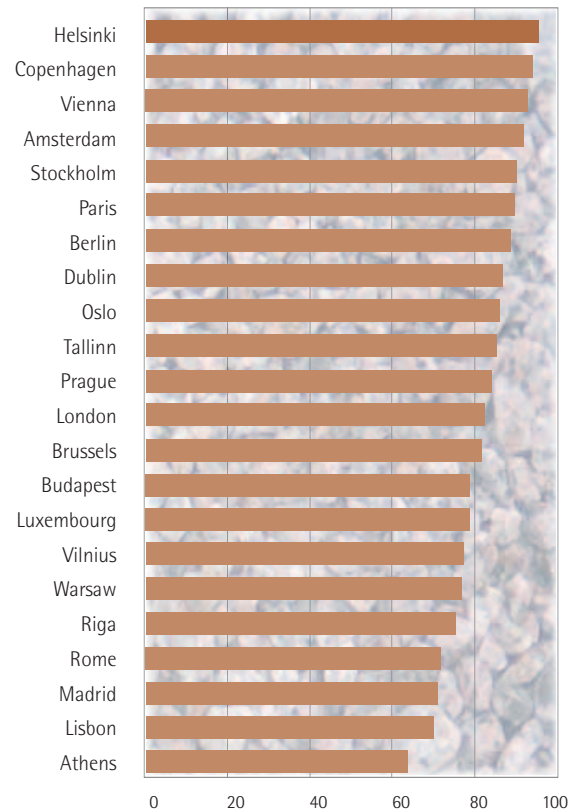
**Figure 2. Specialisation indexes of some culture sector jobs in Helsinki in 2004 (Finland=100)**



Source: City of Helsinki Urban Facts, Timo Äikäs

**Figure 3. Urban Audit Perception variables, 2007.**

How satisfied are you with the city's cultural institutions such as concert halls, theatres, museums and libraries? Percentage of satisfied respondents



Source: Urban Audit Perception variables 2007, Oslo kommunes publikumsundersøkelse 2007

# 2

## A CALENDAR OF FESTIVALS



Spencer Tunick (b. 1967, USA): Finland 3, 2002. Photograph, 122x152 cm. Tunick is known for his photographs depicting groups of naked people in urban settings. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Yehia Eweis.

Festivals complement the rich provision of arts and culture in Helsinki. They challenge the traditional arts institutions and highlight the contributions of fringe forms. The most common types of festivals in Helsinki are music, dance and film festivals.

Festivals animate the urban space. However, it is well established that festivals also raise a city's profile, and spotlight its economic potential. Thus, festivals stimulate the local economy and promote tourism. The City of Helsinki's policy for arts and culture highlights festivals and similar urban events.



Table 1. Festivals in Helsinki in 2007

■ music ■ dance ■ film

Name	Type	Established	Duration (days)
<b>WINTER</b>			
■ DocPoint documentary film festival	documentary film	2002	5
■ Flamenco in Helsinki	flamenco	1997	20
■ Side Step Festival	modern dance	1996	11
■ 5th Helsinki Klezmer Festival	music	2000	5
■ Helsinki Tap Festival	tap dance	1988	4
Forces of Light	art of light	1995	16
<b>SPRING</b>			
Asia in Helsinki	Asian art	1997	3
Bravo! International children's theatre festival	children's theatre	2003	7
Cirko contemporary circus festival 2007	circus arts	2006	8
■ European Student Film Festival Illumenation	film	2003	5
■ Funky Elephant Festival	rhythmic music	1994	3
■ Kirkko soikoon	church music	1995	9
■ KynnysKINO6 film festival for the disabled	film	1997	4
■ Lens Política Festival	film	2006	4
World Village Festival 2007	multiculture	1995	2
■ Musica Nova	contemporary music	1981	8
PixelACHE	media arts	2002	4
■ Ruutia! Dance Festival for Children and Young Audiences	children's dance	1997	4
■ Tusovkarock	Russian rock	2000	2
Via Crucis - the way of the cross	urban culture, religion	1995	1
View -07 festivals	media arts	2005	33
<b>SUMMER</b>			
5. Les Lumières - Age of Enlightenment festival	history	2003	4
■ Etno-Espa 2007	ethnic music	2005	19
■ Flow 07	music	1995	3
■ Helsinki Organ	organ music	1999	88
■ Kaktus festival for contemporary dance	dance	2007	7
■ Kamarikesä 2007	music	2006	8
■ KontuFestari neighbourhood festival	music	2003	1
Runokuu	poetry	2005	7
■ Tuska Open Air Metal Festival	heavy music	1998	3
URB 07	urban culture	2000	12
■ Viapori Jazz	jazz	2001	4
■ XVII Helsinki Samba Carnaval	dance	1991	2
■ Yalla! international dance festival	oriental dance	1996	4
Helsinki Festival	urban festival	1951	17
<b>AUTUMN</b>			
■ The Kettupäivät - Finnish Short and Documentary Film Festival	film	1981	4
5-3-1 Helsinki New Juggling Festival	circus arts	1999	2
■ Animatricks	animation film	2000	5
■ Artisokka Helsinki Woman Film Festival	film	1999	3
Avanto Helsinki Media Art Festival	media art	2000	3
Baltic Circle	theatre	2002	9
■ Cinemaissi Film Festival	film	2005	5
■ Etno soi! world music festival	world music	1988	5
Helsinki Comics	comics	1979	2
■ Helsinki Early Music	music	2005	5
Helsinki Design Week	design	2005	10
■ Helsinki International Film Festival - Love and Anarchy	film	1988	11
Lava palaa	stage arts	2007	1
■ Moving in November	modern dance	1985	9
MasQue Festival	masque theatre	2007	4
Russian Seasons	theatre	2000	7
SANATON festival for performing arts	stage arts	2007	5
■ UMO Jazz Fest	jazz	2003	4
■ Kino Lokakuu II of Russian film	film	2006	7

Source: City of Helsinki Cultural Office





© Matias Kukkonen, Helsingin kaupungin kuvapankki: Paul Williams, Matti Tirri

And the city has also arranged its own thematic and urban cultural productions, such as events to complement the 2007 Eurovision Song Contest, and the Chinese New Year.

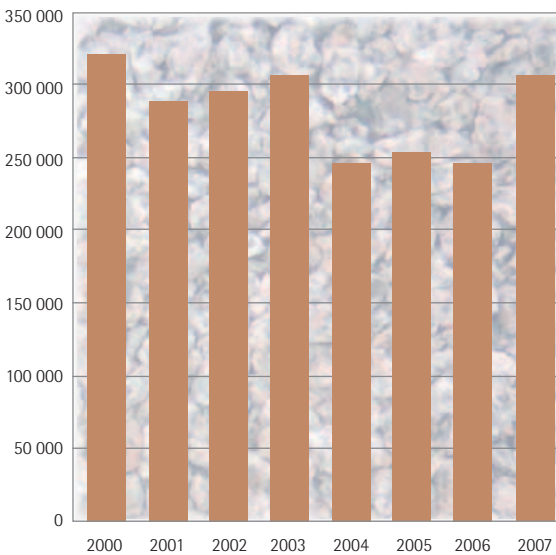
**In figures**

Every year, Helsinki is the setting for events ranging from small, one-off fringe and experimental events to major festivals for

large audiences. Festivals are held all year round, but most of all in summer and autumn. Typically, they last for a few days. Most events are set up by staff employed for a fixed term, and by volunteers. The largest festival is the annual Helsinki Festival, which attracted 307 357 visitors in 2007.

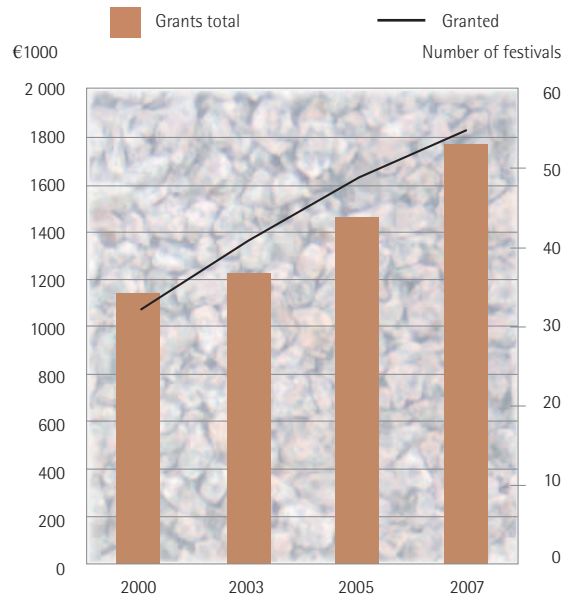
Public funding is important to festivals. Public subsidies cover 30-50 per cent of the average festival costs. Both the

**Figure 1. Visitors to the Helsinki Festival**



Source: Statistics Finland, Cultural Statistics and Finland Festivals

**Figure 2. Grants for festivals made by the Helsinki City Culture and Library Board**



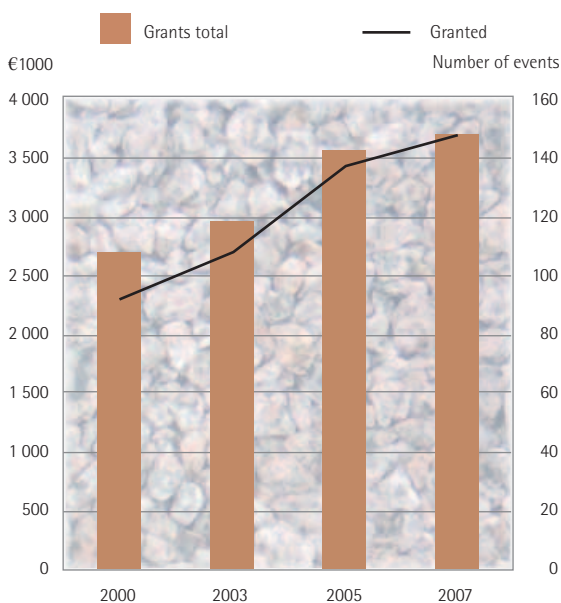
Source: City of Helsinki Cultural Office



Helsinki City Culture and Library Board and the Ministry of Education give grants. Additional funding is received from a number of arts and culture institutes, foundations, and the EU. Corporate funding is as yet relatively modest. Half of the festivals held in Helsinki in 2006 received no private sponsoring at all.

In 2007, the City of Helsinki provided financial support to 55 festivals, attended by a total of 600 000 visitors. Since 1995, the number of festivals receiving city funding has tripled. Yet the aggregate sum of such support has risen only by 30 per cent. In 2007, the city's Culture and Library Board allocated €2.3 million to festivals, of which the Helsinki Festival received €1.5 million. Besides monetary assistance, the City provides premises, certain backup services and helps with marketing.

**Figure 3.** State grants for cultural events in Finland



Source: Ministry of Education

### Factors affecting success

Common to all festivals is the organisers' passion for their own art and events. An uncompromising attitude coupled with consistency, originality, timing and place, a strong brand, topicality and versatility will combine to ensure success. These also translate into successful marketing tools and raise media visibility. The life-span of a festival depends on the general evolution of the art form, the public's interest, the enthusiasm of the people involved and the resources.

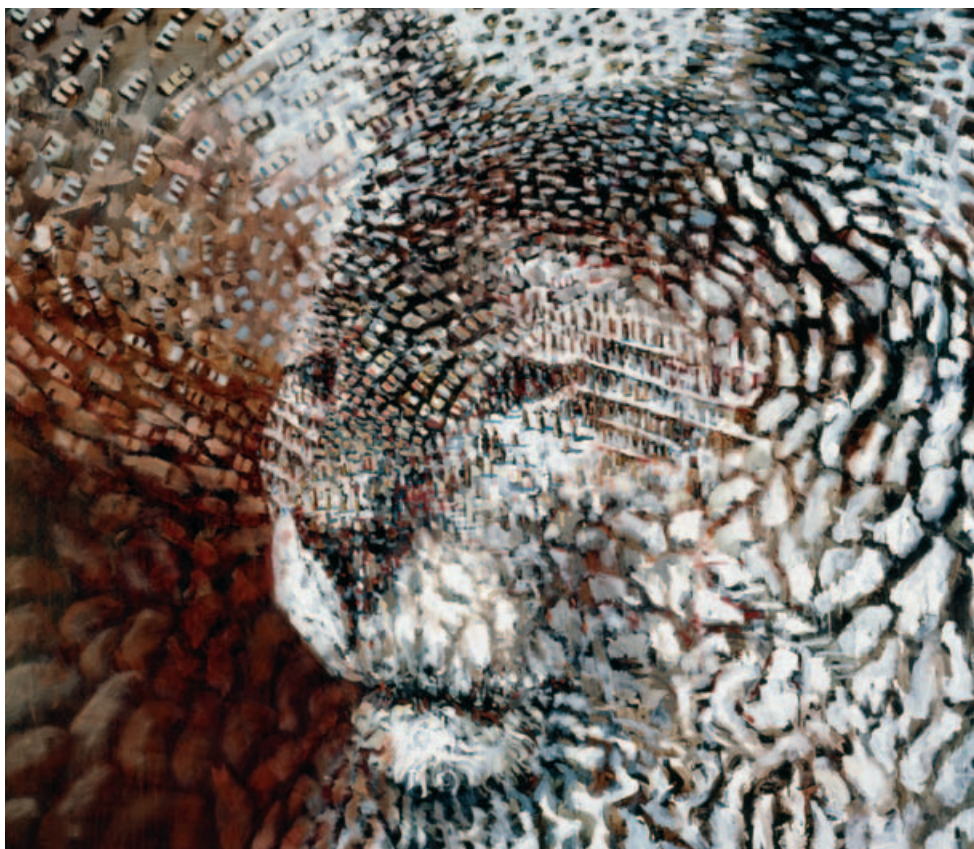
The activities of festivals in Helsinki have ramified into international networks, which can bring artists and branches of art that would not otherwise come into the city, because they lie outside the interests of the traditional arts institutions. One example is the Pixel Ache festival of media arts, which started in Helsinki in 2002 and has subsequently also been held in Stockholm, Bergen and Paris.

Source:

*Silvanto, Satu (ed.) 2007. Helsinki – a Festival City. The development, actors and audiences of urban festival culture. City of Helsinki Urban Facts and the City of Helsinki Cultural Office.*

# 3

## CULTURAL CENTRES FOR ALL



Samuli Heimonen (b. 1975): *Dynamo*, 2006. Acrylic and oil on canvas, 175x200 cm. "Young Artist of the Year" in 2008. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Hanna Kukorelli.

The City of Helsinki Cultural Office runs eight cultural centres in partial partnership with other city offices. Typically, these cultural centres have one or two auditoria for performances, an art gallery, a library, premises for arts education, which are shared with adult education centres, conference rooms, a box office for ticket sales and a café. Each cultural centre has a speciality of its own, such as contemporary dance at Stoa, music in Kanneltalo and film in Malmi House. In central Helsinki, there are the International Cultural Centre Caisa, which specialises in multicultural activities, the guest stage at the Savoy Theatre, and Annantalo Arts Centre, specialising in arts for children and teenagers. The cultural centres provide facilities for many festivals and newly evolving branches of art.

### Multi-thematic culture

The cornerstones of the cultural centres are versatility, openness and accessibility. The cultural centres produce a range of events by itself or together with other actors, helps others to produce arts and culture, and rents out premises. A further important task of the cultural centres is to counterbalance a concentration of arts and culture in the centre of Helsinki, which is done by ensuring a spread of cultural provision across the city. The programmes of the centres include not only established, but also experimental arts.

Professional artists, amateur artists and visual arts schools hold exhibitions in the galleries of the city's cultural centres. Thus, the Stoa Gallery has been cooperating with Galleria

**Table 1. Cultural venues of Cultural office**

The City of Helsinki's cultural centres	Founded in	Part of town	Office in charge	Other actors	Specialisation
Stoa, Cultural centre of eastern Helsinki	1984	Eastern Helsinki	Cultural Office	City Library, Youth Department, Finnish & Swedish Ad.Ed.Cntre, ticket sales	Contemporary dance, child culture
Annantalo Arts Centre	1987	Central Helsinki	Cultural Office	Annantalo café	Childrens' culture
Savoy Theatre and the Espo stage	1987	Central Helsinki	Cultural Office	Restaurant, ticket sales	Visiting theatre, world music
Kanneltalo, Cultural centre of western Helsinki	1992	Western Helsinki	Cultural Office	City Library, Youth Dept., Finnish Ad.Ed.Cntre, Cultural café Voilà, ticket sales	Rhythmic and classical music
Malmi House	1994	Northern Helsinki	Cultural Office	City Library, North Hel. Music College, North Hel. Visual Arts School, Helsinki Dance College, Helsky Handicraft School, Finnish Ad.Ed.Cntre, ticket sales	Local identity, rhythmic music, films
International Cultural Centre Caisa	1996	Central Helsinki	Cultural Office	Café Caisa	Multi-culturalism
Nordsjö-Rastis	1997	Eastern Helsinki	Education Department	Education Department, Youth Dept.	Activities in Swedish, multi-culturalism
Vuosaari House	2001	Eastern Helsinki	City Library	City Library, Youth Dept., Education Dept., Finnish Ad.Ed.Cntre, Café Pokkari, ticket sales	Children's culture, films, multi-culturalism, local identity

Source: City of Helsinki Cultural Office

**Map 1. Cultural centres in Helsinki 2008**

1. Stoa, cultural centre of eastern Helsinki
2. Annantalo Arts Centre
3. Savoy Theatre and the Espo Stage
4. Kanneltalo, cultural centre of western Helsinki
5. Malmi House, cultural centre of north and northeast Helsinki
6. International Cultural Centre Caisa
7. Nordsjö-Rastis (Swedish language)
8. Vuosaari House
9. Sandels Cultural Centre (Swedish language)
10. The Cable Factory
11. Suvilahti
12. Lasipalatsi Film and Media Centre
13. Korjaamo Culture Factory

Source: City of Helsinki Urban Facts  
Data: City of Helsinki Cultural Office



OLO Group: OLO No: 22, 2000. Steel. "Environmental Work of Art of the Year" in 2000. Setting: around the Hietalahti harbour basin. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Hanna Rikkonen.



© Helsingin kaupungin kuvapankki/Mika Lappalainen, Tero Pajukallio, Jaakko Ahonen, Saara Kyyrö, Martta Louekari

Krista Mikkola in 2008. Elsewhere, the Malmi House gallery has been working with Helsinki's Artists' Guild for years, and the Vuosaari House gallery cooperates with Vuosaari Artists' House. With 30 000 - 40 000 visitors a year, these local galleries compare well with many a gallery and art museum in central Helsinki.

In downtown Helsinki, the International Cultural Centre Caisa organises concerts, food festivals, exhibitions, seminars, courses and clubs and the Ourvision Song Contest for immigrants. Caisa also features the Info Bank web service ([www.infopankki.fi](http://www.infopankki.fi)), which provides information on Finnish society and public services in fifteen languages. The Cultural Office is a member of several international networks.

The Savoy Theatre, originally a cinema and variety theatre built in the 1930s, today offers a stage for different events. It provides both technically high-standard premises and a staff for running music and other performances. One of its focuses is on world music.

The Cultural Office provides Swedish-language cultural services in various districts for the Swedish-speaking minority. Cooperation partners include the other city offices and departments, together with arts institutions, cultural associations and foundations. Beyond that, the Veranda cultural arena organises events, club evenings and theme days; the Sandels Cultural Centre hosts an arts school and a youth centre; and at Nordsjö-Rastis, in eastern Helsinki, various events are organised, especially for children.

The Cultural Office initiates smaller, targeted projects to boost the socio-economic well-being of residents. For example, the Culture Track project (Kulttuuriraide), which embraces the districts along eastern stretches of the city metro line, is a network highlighting current cultural services and projects. The goal is to increase cooperation between residents, local businesses and public authorities.

The latest survey (2008) on residents' awareness of their local cultural centres showed that 90 per cent knew of their

**Table 2.** Visitors to cultural centres in 2007, share %

Type of event	Cultural center				
	Vuosaari House	Malmi House	Kanneltalo	Stoa	Nordsjö-Rastis
For children and teenagers	24	27	26	15	61
Theatre	9	7	13	20	9
Circus	1	4	1	2	-
Dance	1	8	14	34	-
Film	25	13	8	1	10
Classical	8	5	10	1	3
Multi-cultural	17	1	-	6	11
For senior citizen	6	4	3	-	-
Light music	4	17	-	-	-
Seminars, celebrations, meetings, lectures	5	14	2	8	1
Rhythmic, folk and jazz music	-	-	23	13	5
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Source: City of Helsinki Cultural Office



nearest centre. Respondents had a favourable perception of what these centres provided; moreover, they considered the centres were within easy reach, gave good service and offered a varied programme. About 20 per cent of visitors to cultural centres took part in shows for children and teenagers.

### Provision of studio space for artists

There are currently several artists' residential houses, of which the newest, dating from 2003, is located in Vuosaari, in eastern Helsinki. Also, the City leases ateliers on the little island of Harakka, just offshore from central Helsinki. The City has financially supported the Atelier Foundation of the Artists' Association of Finland. The City is, moreover, a co-financier of HIAP (Helsinki International Artist-in-residence Programme), the focus of which is chiefly on visual and contemporary arts.

### Joint ventures

The Tennispalatsi, the Cable Factory, Suvilahti and the Lasipalatsi Film and Media Centre are joint-stock property companies run by the City. The Cable Factory houses artist

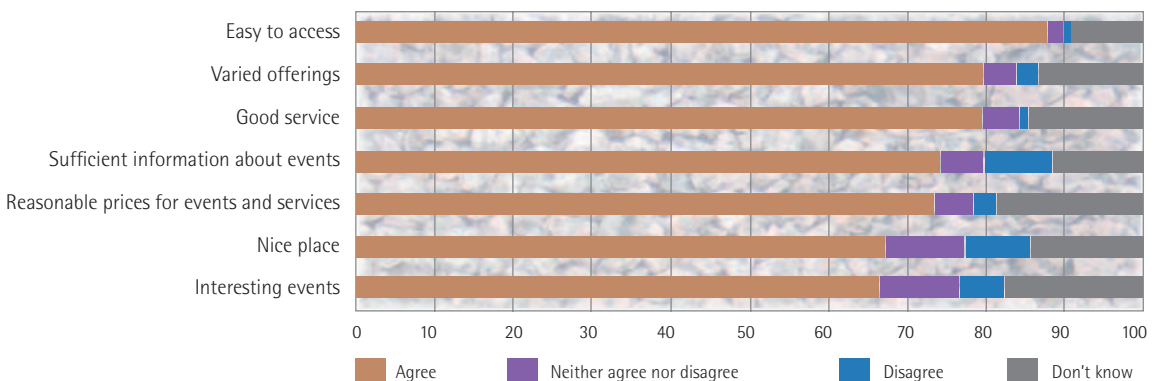
ateliers, a restaurant, art schools, museums and a regional dance centre. Also, in the nine buildings and two gas storage tanks of the former energy plant in Suvilahti, working space, ateliers and performance facilities are being built for artists and associations, and other producers of arts and culture. Meanwhile, in the heart of the city, the Lasipalatsi Film and Media Centre acts a showcase for the information society, as it develops new concepts of IT service and provides free access to the Internet, web services and information about culture and society. The Tennispalatsi is a culture and leisure time premises hosting two museums, a multiplex movie theatre, shops and restaurants.

In a public-private joint venture, the City Museum, the Cultural Office and private company Korjaamo Culture Factory have made an agreement to enlarge and repair the premises of the Tram Museum with the purpose of setting up a cultural centre.

Sources:

City of Helsinki Cultural Office:  
<http://www.hel.fi/wps/portal/Kulttuuriasiakeskus>.

Figure 1. Local opinions of the cultural centres in 2007, %



Source: City of Helsinki Cultural Office

# 4

## ART MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES: A WEALTH OF EXHIBITIONS



Hans-Christian Berg (b. 1971): Visual Vortex / Separate Reality, 2004. Acrylic and plastic, 100x116 cm. "Young Artist of the Year" in 2007. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Yehia Eweis.



Saara Ekström (b. 1965): Taste Me, 2004. Media art and installation, 2x37x48 cm. Ekström has often used organic materials. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Yehia Eweis.

The Helsinki City Art Museum manages and develops the art collections of the city. The collections include all the city's arts purchases from the 19th century onwards. The City Art Museum's premises comprise the Tennispalatsi Art Museum and the Kluuvi Gallery, both in central Helsinki, and the Meilahti Art Museum, in western Helsinki. Many of the public statues also belong to the City Art Museum. Furthermore, some of the works in the collections are on display in the offices and departments of the city. The City Art Museum also plays an important role in the field of museum pedagogy and audience development. The educational programme includes workshops and other short term pedagogy projects for children and families. Free entry on Fridays has increased visitor numbers.

Tennispalatsi Art Museum annually organises both domestic and international exhibitions. The exhibition of Greek Orthodox treasures, titled Athos - Monastic Life on the Holy Mountain, attracted a visitor record of 94 000 people. Early 2008 saw the exhibition PIXAR - 20 years of animation.

Exhibitions at the Art Museum Meilahti are typically drawn from its own extensive collections and are usually thematic. However, in spring 2008, nearly one hundred landscape paintings were borrowed from the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow for the Magical Landscape exhibition. In contrast to this traditional art, the Kluuvi Gallery specialises in experimental and non-commercial works by young Finnish artists.

The Finnish National Gallery's three main collections - Finnish art, contemporary art and foreign art - and its Central Art Archive are all in Helsinki. The national collection of Finnish art, housed in the Ateneum Art Museum, is the nation's largest, with its Finnish works spanning some 200 years (1750s-1960s), and its Western art dating from the latter part of the 19th century to the 1950s. The Ateneum celebrates its 120th anniversary in 2008, and the jubilee exhibition features works by Pekka Halonen (1865-1933), an artist of the golden era of Finnish painting and national romanticism.

Kiasma, the Museum of Contemporary Art, takes the forms of art beyond the limits of a traditional art museum. Its





Tiina Mielonen (b. 1974): Alanko, 2006. Oil on plexiglass, 68x76 cm. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Yehia Eweis.

**Table 1.** Visits to art museums in Helsinki

Number of visits to art museums	2000	2005	2006
<b>The Helsinki City Art Museum</b>			
Tennispalatsi	147 236	81 549	102 850
Meilahti	39 457	19 703	23 063
Kluuvi Art Gallery	7 367	9 996	10 845
<b>Finnish National Gallery</b>			
Ateneum Art Museum	249 967	207 011	142 382
Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma	263 008	176 709	234 213
Sinebrychoff Art Museum	29 037	23 185	26 192
<b>National Board of Antiquities' museum</b>			
The Cygnaeus Gallery	2 584	3 282	1 298
<b>Others</b>			
Amos Anderson Art Museum	52 420	42 799	72 747
Didrichsen Art Museum	13 719	28 453	41 186
Museum of Photographic Art	21 137	13 681	18 060
Kunsthalle Helsinki	74 000	30 987	29 977
Villa Gyllenberg	2 371	2 718	6 840

Source: The National Board of Antiquities and Museums



Heli Vehkaperä (b. 1976): How Colours Can Be, 2007. Textile, 111x88 cm. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Yehia Eweis.



© Elina Vismanen, Saara Kyyrö, Helsingin kaupungin kuvapankki/Comma Image Oy

collections include Finnish and international contemporary art from the 1960s onwards. Kiasma celebrates its tenth anniversary in 2008, and is displaying exhibitions of works by Julian Schnabel, Nan Goldin and art from the United States. Kiasma was the most popular museum in the country in 2007.

The Sinebrychoff Art Museum, Finland's only museum specialising in old European art, has works from the 14th century to the mid 19th century. The Cygnaeus Gallery, owned by the National Board of Antiquities, is Finland's oldest art museum.

Many museums are run by private organisations or foundations in Helsinki, most of which enjoy financial support from the City and the state. The Amos Anderson Art Museum

is Finland's largest private art museum, specialising mainly in Finnish 20th century art, older works from Anderson's private collection, and furnishings from his home. Since 1928, Kunsthalle Helsinki has been a venue for changing exhibitions. Elsewhere, on the island of Kuusisaari, in western Helsinki, are the Villa Gyllenberg Art Museum and the Didrichsen Art Museum. Both are in former private homes. The Cable Factory houses several museums and galleries, too, for instance the Finnish Museum of Photography.

Each of the other municipalities of the Helsinki Metropolitan Area runs museums of their own. The EMMA Museum of Modern Art is sited in a former printing house in Espoo. It is now Finland's largest art museum in terms of exhibition space, and in 2007 was second in terms of visitors.

**Table 2.** The most popular exhibitions of Helsinki City Art Museum in the 2000s

	Year	Exhibition	Museum	Number of visitors
1.	2006-2007	Athos - Monastic Life on the Holy Mountain	Tennispalatsi	94 297
2.	2001-2002	The Art of Star Wars	Tennispalatsi	81 881
3.	2007	OUR LAND! - Photographs from Finland	Tennispalatsi	68 848
4.	2000	Diego Rivera	Meilahti	54 071
5.	2000	Viktorian aika (The Era of Queen Victoria)	Meilahti	45 586

Source: Helsinki City Art Museum



The Vantaa Art Museum displays domestic and international contemporary art.

Of the adult population of the Helsinki Metropolitan Area in the first years of the 2000s, 17 per cent actively pursued some kind of visual arts-related hobby independently, while two per cent did it under the guidance of a teacher. Slightly more than half of all adults visited arts exhibitions, and around one-third engaged in photography as a hobby.

### Art galleries

Art galleries usually exhibit works that are on show to the public for the first time and most first sales occur at galleries. Over the last five years, the number and types

of art galleries in Helsinki has grown, despite almost ten galleries closing down during the same period. Some of the new galleries are owned by artists' co-operatives or by individual artists. Their premises are often associated with a private business, or an atelier. In all, either art galleries or equivalent kinds of exhibition are found in around 150 separate locations, mostly in central Helsinki, but elsewhere in the city, too.

*Sources:*

*Culture in Finland – a Regional Statistical Overview. Statistics Finland. Helsinki 2007.*  
 Finnish Museums Association: <http://www.museot.fi/>.  
 Finnish National Gallery: <http://www.fng.fi/>.  
 Helsinki City Art Museum: <http://www.taidemuseo.fi/>.  
 Helsinki City Art Museum. Annual report 2006 (only in Finnish).

**Table 3.** Art galleries in Helsinki in spring 2008

Maintained by	Number
Private owner	48
Trade union, artist, artists' association, foundation etc.	23
Helsinki City or other public authority	11
Arts school	6
Total	88

Source: Unpublished data from Helsinki City Urban Facts Office and Statistics Finland, spring 2008



© Jaakko Ahonen



© Elina Vismanen

The City of Helsinki Cultural Office and various film festivals offer not only a complement but also an alternative to mainstream commercial cinema in Helsinki, for example Kino Helios, in Malmi House. The ongoing popular arts education courses provided by the Cultural Office for 13–18 year olds include movies and media. In 2007, the DOKKINO events for children and teenagers at Annantalo Arts Centre attracted around 5 000 film-goers. That year, the Cultural Office organised a total of 354 movies, which pulled in audiences of 24 574 altogether.

The Finnish Audiovisual Archive (KAVA) supports cinematic heritage by restoring old films and showing them in its 216-seat cinema Orion. In recent years, annual audiences totalling 44 000 have seen over 800 screenings yearly. KAVA also conducts research and issues publications.

Finland's largest film festival, the Love & Anarchy – Helsinki International Film Festival, presents leading productions of the main international film festivals, and many Finnish premieres. In the neighbouring city of Espoo, Espoo Ciné shows the best of European films. The DocPoint Helsinki Documentary Film Festival is the largest of its kind in the Nordic region.

Almost all new commercially distributed films in Finland are premiered in the capital, where most tickets are sold. Moreover, Helsinki is home to the majority of film production

companies and the associated cinematic institutions and organisations. Seventy-eight per cent of Finnish film artists live in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area. In 2006, there were 53 cinema screens in Helsinki, but after considerable restructuring of the industry, that number fell to 38 a year later.

The typical life span of a movie in cinemas is nowadays a few weeks following its premiere. Movies are increasingly watched on DVD at home, and in now DVD distribution has surpassed cinemas in its annual business turnover, as well. In 2007, 12.4 million DVD films were sold or rented in Finland, i.e. 12.9 per cent more than a year earlier.

Of all film-goers aged 15 years or over, in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area, over a half have been to the cinema during the last six months. In the country as a whole, the figure is 35 per cent. Among the most frequent film-goers, i.e. the 15–24 olds, 70 per cent have been to the movies during the last six months. In 2006, households in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area spent €31 on average on movies, compared with €18 in the country as a whole.

Sources:

City of Helsinki Cultural Office  
*Culture in Finland – a Regional Statistical Overview. Statistics Finland. Helsinki 2007.*

*Film statistics, 2007. Finnish Film Foundation.*

*Finnish Film Foundation. Festivals: <http://www.ses.fi/>.*

*Statistics Finland: Consumption survey, 2006.*



Jukka Tuominen (b. 1958): Silmä (Eye), 2006. Steel. Setting: Kasarmitori square, Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Yehia Eweis.



© Elina Vismanen

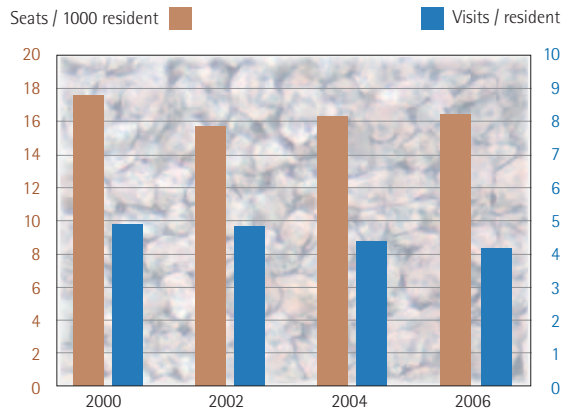
**Table 1.** Screenings and audiences at the Orion Cinema, Helsinki

Year	Screenings	Audience	Titles
<sup>1)</sup> 2001	576	35 439	329
2003	857	49 345	509
2005	860	49 517	486
2007	802	41 082	475

<sup>1)</sup>The Orion cinema was closed for renovations from April 30 to 27 August 2001.

Source: National Audiovisual Archive and Statistics Finland

**Figure 1.** Cinema seats and visits per resident



Source: Finnish Film Foundation and Finnish Chamber of Films

**Table 2.** Top films and the most popular domestic film in Nordic countries 2006

Country		Original titel	Country of origin	Director	Audiences
Denmark	1.	Casino Royale	GB inc/US/DE/CZ	Martin Campbell	703 946
	2.	The Da Vinci Code	US/GB inc	Ron Howard	623 989
	5.	Drømmen	DK/GB	Niels Arden Oplev	404 703
Finland	1.	Matti	FI	Aleksi Mäkelä	461 665
	2.	Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest	US	Gore Verbinski	458 655
	7.	Kummelin jackpot	FI	Pekka Karjalainen	229 385
Norway	1.	Ice Age: The Meltdown	US	Carlos Saldanha	889 168
	2.	Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest	US	Gore Verbinski	664 816
	9.	Lange flate ballær	NO	Bjørn Fast Nagell	258 407
Sweden	1.	Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest	US	Gore Verbinski	1 134 745
	2.	The Da Vinci Code	US/GB inc	Ron Howard	654 437
	7.	Heartbreak Hotel	SE/GB	Colin Nutley	462 820

Source: Focus 2007, World Film Market Trends

# 6

## MUSIC IN THE CITY



© Matias Kukkonen

Musical life in Helsinki covers a wide range including classical and popular music. The City's financial support is mainly channelled into music schools, orchestras and festivals. Helsinki is home to three symphony orchestras and three other professional orchestras. In the whole of the Helsinki Metropolitan Area, there are altogether eight large professional orchestras, attracting a total audience of 400 000 a year in Finland.

The Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra is the oldest professional symphony orchestra in Scandinavia. It is resident at Finlandia Hall, designed by Alvar Aalto, but makes several tours abroad, too. The orchestra frequently releases recordings, and is well known for its premiere performances of works by Jean Sibelius, and other Finnish composers. The City of Helsinki both funds and runs the orchestra, which plays to a variety of audiences, its performances including symphony concerts, chamber music, light music, and, also, concerts to children. In 2007, the orchestra put on 87 concerts, 45 of which were symphony concerts held in Helsinki. The average

ticket take-up at concerts was 81 per cent, with 14 concerts being sold out that year.

The Finnish National Opera is Finland's only professional opera and ballet house. Its mission is to perform classics, and also new Finnish and foreign works. Yearly, one Finnish opera is premiered at the National Opera theatre. In 2006, the Opera company staged 286 performances, most at its own premises; the average audience was 774. Of the adult population of the Helsinki Metropolitan Area 17 per cent had been to the opera at least once during the previous 12 months.

An important element in the repertoire of the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra is new or recently composed Finnish music. It gives world premieres of many works commissioned by the Finnish Broadcasting Company (YLE). The Sixth Floor Orchestra specialises in Baroque music and frequently performs both in Helsinki and elsewhere in Finland. The Helsinki Metropolitan Area is home to several professional chamber music ensembles. The Umo Jazz Orchestra promotes and performs, above all, Finnish music. Its main sponsors are



Päivi Takala (b. 1970): Selin (Back Turned), 2005. Oil on canvas, 145x125 cm. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Yehia Eweis.

**Table 1.** Symphony orchestra concerts in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area, 2007

	Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra	Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra	National Opera Orchestra	Sixth Floor Orchestra	Avanti!
Musicians	98	99	114	39	71
<b>Total concerts</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>29</b>
Symphony concerts etc.	45	29	4	2	1
Masses, oratorios etc.	-	1	1	1	-
Chamber music concerts	9	3	8	1	4
Light music concerts	6	-	2	-	1
Children's concerts and school concerts	6	2	-	-	1
Outdoor and free concerts, and concerts held in institutions and workplaces	-	8	-	-	5
Other concerts	4	5	1	-	4
Opera	-	-	84	3	-
Ballet	-	-	53	-	-
Concerts given on tour	1	5	-	-	13
<b>Total audience</b>	<b>80 417</b>	<b>47 864</b>	<b>166 387</b>	<b>3 382</b>	<b>11 485</b>
Symphony concerts etc.	58 363	37 415	4 914	855	270
Masses, oratorios etc.	-	1 540	1 217	1 340	-
Chamber music concerts	1 229	423	1 589	200	1 310
Light music concerts	8 989	-	1 526	-	250
Children's concerts and school concerts	6 537	1 241	-	-	548
Outdoor and free concerts, and concerts held in institutions and workplaces	-	580	-	-	1000
Other concerts	4 859	4 080	1 200	-	2103
Opera	-	-	91 556	987	-
Ballet	-	-	64 385	-	-
Concerts given on tour	440	2 585	-	-	6004

Source: Association of Finnish Symphony Orchestras



Angelica Kult © KirstiAnna Urpa, © Matias Kukkonen, Elina Vismanen



the City of Helsinki and the Ministry of Education. There are four jazz clubs in Helsinki.

The City of Helsinki organises music events for the stages of, among others, Gloria Cultural Arena, the Savoy Theatre and the Espia stage. The city rents out premises to bands needing places both to practise and perform. Nosturi is an inner city live music venue run by the Live Music Association (ELMU ry), while the legendary Tavastia Club welcomes top names in rock music and newcomers alike. International superstars usually perform at Helsinki's three large venues, i.e. Hartwall Arena, the Ice Stadium or the Olympic Stadium. Together, these had a total audience of 556 000 in 2007.

Helsinki has an active music festival sector. The annual Helsinki Festival is the largest, with its genres embracing classical music and jazz, rock and world music. Other annual festivals include e.g. the Flow Festival of music, the Tuska Open Air Metal Festival, and the Funky Elephant, specialising in black rhythmic music.

There are over a hundred amateur choirs and thousands of singers in Helsinki. The Sulazol Finnish Amateur Musicians' Association alone has 54 member choirs and 5 member orchestras in Helsinki, with a total of 2 300 members. The Swedish-language music and song organisation Helsingfors sång- och musikförbund comprises 15 choirs and a string orchestra.

**Table 2.** Concerts given abroad 2007 by the orchestras of the Helsinki Metropolitan Area

Orchestra	Concerts	Audience	Audience/ concert
Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra	16	19 705	1 232
Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra	13	21 900	1 685
Umo Jazz Orchestra	6	2 150	358
Avanti! Chamber Orchestra	2	500	250
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>44 255</b>	<b>1 196</b>

Source: Association of Finnish Symphony Orchestras



The Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra © Heikki Tuuli





### Music events at a spring weekend

Since 2004, City of Helsinki Urban Facts has been taken an annual "snapshot" of the number and quality of musical events held during one typical spring weekend in Helsinki. However, in 2007, the survey covered three weekends, because the City wanted to study the effects of the Eurovision Song Contest. The weekend music events surveyed ranged from solo guitar gigs to full-house mega-star rock concerts or opera.

The survey found that over a hundred musical events were held on one weekend. But the record number – 140 events – took place on the Eurovision Song Contest weekend: 11–13 May 2007. Music festivals coinciding with these three survey weekends also contributed to the greater number of events.

In spring 2004, the largest number of events were on Friday nights. Saturday had slightly fewer offerings, but clubs had more shows on Saturday evenings. By 2008, the pattern had changed a little: Friday and Saturday offered live music events and clubs equally – either with live music or a DJ. About half of the music performances on the Sundays of the springs studied were held in churches or parish halls.

Sources:

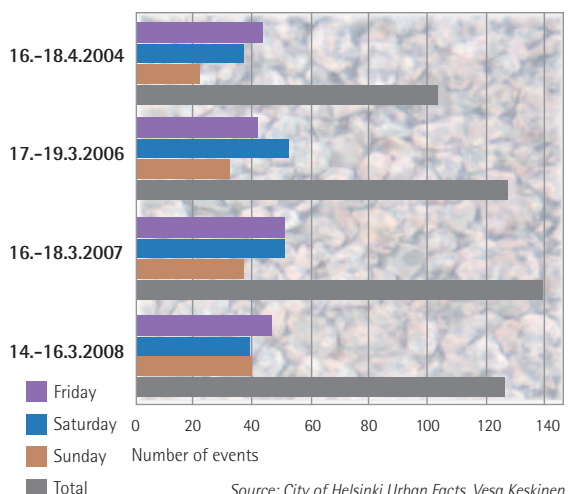
Association of Finnish Symphony Orchestras. Annual report 2007 (only in Finnish).  
 Finnish National Opera: <http://www.operafin.fi/>.  
 Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra's annual report 2007 (only in Finnish).  
 Keskinen, Vesa (2008): The Impact of the ESC on other music events on spring weekends. In: Keskinen, Vesa (ed.) Twelve Points. Eurovision Song Contest in Helsinki 2007. City of Helsinki Urban Facts.  
 Statistics Finland: Cultural statistics, 2007. (Preliminary information)

**Table 3.** Concerts at the Hartwall Arena, Helsinki Ice Stadium and the Olympic Stadium

	2000	2004	2007
<b>Hartwall Arena, 12 000 seats</b>			
Concerts	32	11	52
Visitors	227 901	84 739	328 338
Visitors/concert	7 122	7 704	6 314
<b>Helsinki Ice Stadium, 8009 seats</b>			
Concerts	4	12	25
Visitors	20 480	60 825	110 588
Visitors/concert	5 120	5 069	4 424
<b>Olympic Stadium, 39 752 seats</b>			
Concerts	3	2	3
Visitors	75 000	78 150	117 000
Visitors/concert	25 000	39 075	39 000

Sources: Statistics Finland

**Figure 1.** Music events in Helsinki on a spring weekend 2004–2008



Source: City of Helsinki Urban Facts, Vesa Keskinen

# 7

## CONTEMPORARY DANCE AND NEW CIRCUS



Kiba Lumberg (b. 1956): Tanssi joutsenen kanssa (Dance with a Swan), 1999. Gouache, 47x62 cm. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Hanna Rikkonen.

Helsinki hosts four dance theatres that receive statutory grants, and several dance groups that receive discretionary subsidies. Dance culture has gradually spread from its province of somewhat limited appeal to the broad popular culture, with its additions of ethnic and urban dance. Several dance festivals are held every year, including the Side Step, the Samba Carnival, and Moving in November.

The Helsinki Dance Company is Finland's largest ensemble for contemporary dance, and the only one working as part of a professional theatre. Company members perform in or work with the choreography of City Theatre productions; and

not only on their home stage, also on tours in Finland and abroad.

Founded in 1922, the Finnish National Ballet is the nation's only professional classical ballet company. Its repertoire includes classical full-length ballets, productions by international contemporary choreographers, and Finnish world premieres. The company comprises 85 dancers, and the number of performances is around 100 annually. The Ballet school of the Finnish National Opera has close ties with the National Ballet.



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**Table 1.** Performances of dance theatres and dance groups 2007, and audiences

	First premieres	Performances	Tickets sold	Guest performances	Audience altogether	Audience/performance
<b>Large theatres, total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>67 838</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>75 182</b>	<b>874</b>
Helsinki Dance Company	7	22	3 938	-	3 961	180
<sup>1</sup> The Finnish National Ballet	8	64	63 900	3	71 221	1 113
<b>Dance theatres qualifying for subsidies, total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>73 851</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>83 160</b>	<b>199</b>
Dance Theatre Hurjaruuth	2	127	33 172	42	36 481	287
Dance Theatre Rollo	1	100	10 851	49	14 046	141
<sup>2</sup> Zodiak - Center for New Dance	17	156	9 766	24	12 171	78
Tero Saarinen Company	-	34	20 062	-	20 462	602
<b>Independent dance groups, total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>72 857</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>76 237</b>	<b>241</b>
<sup>3</sup> Performances by individual choreographers, total	68	321	17 597	-	26 096	81

<sup>1</sup> No performances on the main stage of the Finnish National Opera 1.5-30.9.2007 due to repairs.

<sup>2</sup> The figures for Zodiak include co-productions and guest performances with independent dance groups.

<sup>3</sup> Nationally.



© Mustaleijona at Circo Aereo © Heli Sorjonen, Strange Fruit: The Field © D.R. the Helsinki Festival image database

The Zodiac Centre for New Dance has been a regional centre for dance in Helsinki since 2004. Its organisation provides a forum and stage for freelance dancers. Its activities include the performance of about 20 new dance productions a year, dance training, and openings for international artists' exchanges.

The Tero Saarinen Company is among the leading Finnish cultural exports. Its activities include an international tuition programme, and the choreographic licensing of Saarinen's works to other dance groups. The Tero Saarinen Company annually employs around 80 people, and around 80 per cent of its revenue comes from abroad.

Dance Theatre Hurjaruuth cooperates closely with other fields of art. It gives around 150 performances a year, both in Finland and abroad. Dance Theatre Rollo is a touring

professional theatre specialising mainly in shows for children and teenagers. Its productions combine a range of theatrical expressions, in which audience participation is an essential part of the show.

Sixty-five per cent of Finnish dance artists and a great proportion of freelance choreographers live in the Helsinki Region. Of the 26 free dance groups that are statistically recorded in Finland, 18 resided in Helsinki and two elsewhere in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area in 2007.

An increasingly varied provision of dance has its increased audiences. These mainly come from the metropolitan region and are typically female, often middle-aged and highly educated; but dance is popular among young adults, too. Similar audience structures have been found in surveys conducted in the UK and Sweden. In the Helsinki Metropolitan

**Table 2.** <sup>1</sup>Adult population going to dance performances during the past 12 months, percentages

	Folk dance	Class. ballet	Modern/ jazz	Other
Helsinki Metropolitan Area	10	18	12	8
Finland	11	7	5	7

<sup>1</sup>Population aged 15 or over.

Source: Statistics Finland. Leisure Survey 2002



Pilvi Ojala (b. 1973): Visio (Vision), 2004. Watercolour, 80x114 cm. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Yehia Eweis.



© 777 – a love story at the Helsinki City Theatre © Tapio Vanhatalo

Area, as many as one-third of adults practise some kind of dance in their leisure time. Those participating in ballet, modern dance or folk dance are below ten per cent.

### New circus

In recent years, circus has become more popular, with growing numbers of shows and new groups being started. In 2006, the City Cultural Office identified new circus as a special target area, and funding was increased for circus schools. New circus groups in Helsinki include, among others, Circo Aereo and the Association WHS. The Cirko Centre for New Circus is a production community for contemporary circus art. There are three circus schools in Helsinki.

In 2007, Circo Aereo and Cirko, both of which receive a state grant, together attracted a collective audience of 33

555 at a total of 237 performances. Other new circuses in Helsinki had a combined total of 17 552 that year. The number of performances of these new circuses was 294, which is 42 per cent more than the previous year. The average audience per performance was 174, which includes the shows put on overseas. Indeed, three-quarters of performances were held while on tours abroad, in a total of 21 countries in 2007.

#### Sources:

*Cantell, Timo: The Audience of Contemporary Dance in Finland. Arts Council of Finland. Helsinki 2003.*

*Culture in Finland – a Regional Statistical Overview. Statistics Finland. Helsinki 2007.*

*Dance Arena: <http://www.tanssiareena.fi/>.*

*Tanka –database: <http://english.danceinfo.fi/tanka/>*

*Finnish Circus Information Centre: <http://www.sirkusinfo.fi/>.*

*Finnish Theatre Statistics 1999–2006. Finnish Theatre Information Centre. Helsinki 2007.*

**Table 3.** The Finnish National Ballet and Helsinki Dance Company, number of performances and audiences

The Finnish National Ballet				Helsinki Dance Company,			
Year	Number of performances	Audience	Audience/performance	Year	Number of performances	Audience	Audience/performance
2003	91	85 470	939	2003	44	8 109	184
2004	73	72 353	991	2004	40	5 829	146
2005	101	91 448	905	2005	38	6 477	170
2006	99	82 479	833	2006	32	5 131	160
1/2007	64	71 221	1 113	2007	22	3 961	180

<sup>1</sup>No performances at the main stage of the Finnish National Opera 1.5–30.9.2007 due to repairs.

Source: Dance Info Finland

# 8

## THEATRE SCENE

Helsinki City Theatre has become Finland's largest theatre in terms of staff, repertoire, number of performances, audiences, and budget. It has several stages, each with a repertoire profile of its own. This theatre is run by the Helsinki Theatre Foundation, which is funded by the City and the state.

The Helsinki City Theatre is a bilingual multistage organisation. Of its parts Lilla Teatern puts on shows primarily in Swedish. The repertoire of Studio Pasila focuses on urban and experimental drama. The Family Theatre shows plays for families and organises drama education projects for children. These projects target kindergartens and primary schools, but the aim is to extend them to other age groups as well.

The basic repertoire of the Helsinki City Theatre encompasses both Finnish and foreign classics, and newer drama. Musical theatre and children's theatre are also part of



© Elina Vismanen



Missä kuljimme kerran at the Helsinki City Theatre © Tapio Vanhatalo

its traditions, and in recent years also particularly musicals, have been very popular. Productions with a Helsinki theme have been highlighted.

Helsinki hosts the Finnish National Theatre and the Svenska Teatern (Swedish-language theatre). Eight other professional theatres in the city receive statutory state grants. The combined annual audience for Helsinki theatres usually exceeds one million. In addition to that figure, in 2006 the three professional summer theatres in Helsinki attracted totally 83 300 visitors to 152 shows. Of all tickets sold in theatres receiving state grants, typically almost half are sold in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area.

Besides those theatres receiving state support, Helsinki has a vibrant freelance theatre sector representing specialities such as music theatre, café theatre and improvisation. Altogether 30 theatre groups received a total of €345 000 of municipal funding in 2006. On average, these theatres put on 55 shows to an audience of 184 people per performance. By supporting these groups, the authorities want to extend the variation in the theatre sector and in turn the viability.



Nina Roos (b. 1956): *Maalaus* (Painting), 1994. Oil on acrylic plate, 296x185 cm. Roos is a winner of the Carnegie Art Award, first prize (2004) and of the Pro Finlandia Medal (2007). Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Hanna Rikkonen.

**Table 1.** Tickets sold per performance

	2000	2002	2004	2006
Helsinki City Theatre	451	362	373	352
Komediateatteri Arena	408	465	373	210
KOM-teatteri	262	262	290	367
Lilla Teatern	146	59	141	-
Nukketeatteri Sampo	142	97	108	108
Nukketeatteri Vihreä Omena	120	98	104	-
Q-teatteri	84	105	199	84
Ryhmäteatteri	212	308	248	275
Finnish National Theatre	241	211	222	197
Svenska Teatern	159	165	189	165
Teatteri Jurkka	51	53	71	64
Pieni Suomi	129	-	-	-
Unga Teatern, based in Espoo	86	125	100	78
Viirus	130	82	119	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>218</b>
<b>Theatre groups receiving discretionary subsidies, total</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>130</b>
Altogether	192	200	187	189
<b>Total audience</b>	<b>947 216</b>	<b>944 121</b>	<b>923 650</b>	<b>1 029 910</b>

Source: Finnish Theatre Statistics 2006

Almost every second resident of the Helsinki Metropolitan Area goes to the theatre at least once a year, as against one-third in other parts of Finland. Households in the metropolitan area spend twice as much on theatre-going as households nationally do.

*Sources:*

*Culture in Finland – a Regional Statistical Overview. Statistics Finland. Helsinki 2007.*  
*Finnish National Theatre: <http://www.kansallisteatteri.fi/>.*  
*Finnish Theatre Statistics 1999–2006. Finnish Theatre Information Centre. Helsinki 2007.*  
*Helsinki City Theatre: <http://www.hkt.fi/>.*  
*Statistics Finland: Consumption survey, 2006.*

**Table 2.** Summer theatre performances in Helsinki 2006

Theatre	Performances	Audiences
KOM-teatteri, Suomenlinna	40	18 585
Teatteri Helsinki, Tervasaari	40	3 500
Uusi Illoinen Teatteri, Peacock	72	61 195
Summer theatre performances in Finland, total	795	387 439

Source: Finnish Theatre Statistics 2006

# 9

## MULTI-LEVEL ARTS EDUCATION



Maria Duncker (b. 1963): Liian painava vieras (Too Heavy a Guest), 2006. Stone, 180 cm. Setting: Front yard of Annantalo Arts Centre. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Hanna Kukorelli.

Helsinki City's cultural centres provide daytime education for children from schools and kindergartens; similarly, evening courses, too. The main venue of the City's arts education for children and youngsters is Annantalo Arts Centre. Located in central Helsinki, it is part of the national network of children's art centres. Annantalo coordinates also the Kultus web service announcing upcoming courses and events in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area.

The cultural centres provide "5 times 2 hours" of lessons of artistic creation to complement art classes in primary school. These "5 times 2" courses are held five weeks in a row, with around 5 000 children participating each year. The target is for every child in Helsinki to have this opportunity at least once.

Culture courses are tailored in cooperation with various arts and culture institutions for students at lower and upper secondary schools and at vocational institutions. The courses

approach current themes through a selection of artistic orientations. During the 2000s, the number of participants at these courses has quadrupled to a total of 1 320 pupils in 2007.

The City supports basic arts education. Thus, in Helsinki 44 private schools give basic arts education. In 2008, the City's financial support amounted to €4.4 million. In all, one-fifth of children and youngsters can expect to receive basic arts education in Helsinki. The most common subjects are music, dance and visual arts.

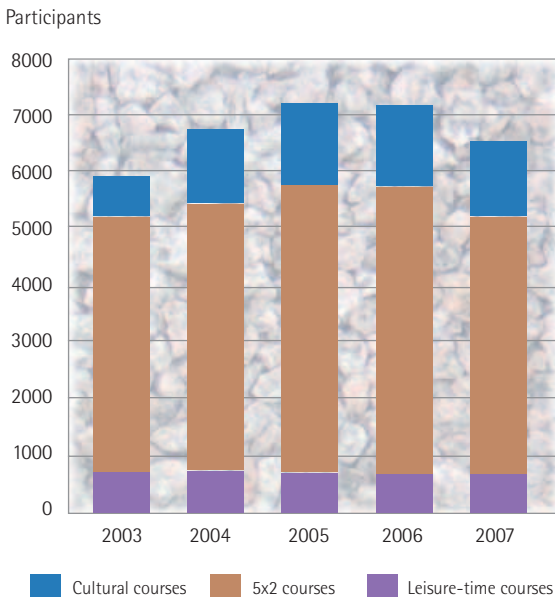
Parishes, private organisations, the Cultural Office and the Youth Office of the City provide opportunities for the young to pursue various kinds of art. In 2007, evening courses at the Annantalo have attracted around 700 participants. Around 400 youngsters participated in the theatre, dance, visual arts and music courses of the Youth Department.





Katja Tukiainen (b. 1969): Leikkikenttä (Playground), 2005. Oil on mdf board, 61x69 cm. Tukiainen is also a cartoon artist. Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Yehia Eweis.

**Figure 1.** Children and teenagers in artistic education at Annantalo Arts Centre



Source: Annantalo Arts Centre

**Table 1.** Arts and culture education in Helsinki 2007

	Schools/ sections	Supported by the city	Students
Music	37	22	10 811
Dance	14	<sup>2</sup> 1	6 173
Visual arts	6	4	1 283
Circus	2	2	460
Theatre	3	3	273
Handicraft	1	1	130
Architecture	1	1	121
Literary Art	1	1	<sup>3</sup> 20
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>19 251</b>

<sup>1</sup>Schools providing basic and goal-oriented artistic education for children and teenagers in Helsinki, including those receiving support from the City.

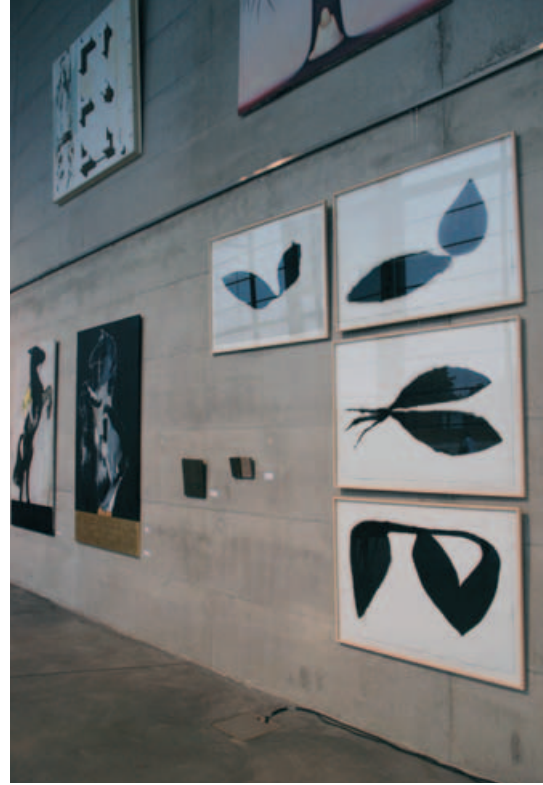
<sup>2</sup>Dance department at music college

<sup>3</sup>Estimated

Source: Helsinki City Cultural and Library Board



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**Table 2.** Students in arts and culture education at polytechnics 2005 and diplomas

Students	Helsinki	Metropolitan Area	Finland
<b>Arts and culture total</b>	<b>1 549</b>	<b>2 518</b>	<b>11 710</b>
% of all polytechnics students	8,0	8,5	8,9
- Crafts and design	96	356	3388
- Communication and visual arts	671	1170	4980
- Theatre and dance	178	178	559
- Music	604	604	2044
- Other arts and culture education	-	210	739
<b>Diplomas</b>	<b>Helsinki</b>	<b>Metropolitan Area</b>	<b>Finland</b>
<b>Arts and culture total</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>1 747</b>
% of all polytechnics diplomas	6,2	6,9	8,0

Source: Statistics Finland

## For adults

Both the Finnish and the Swedish Adult Education Centre provide opportunities for leisure time studies. These usually take the form of courses, but there are plenty of opportunities for longer-term pursuits as well. In 2007, together the adult education centres organised a total of 1 017 arts and culture courses. The number of students totalled 29 000. Tuition is given in almost 90 different places, located all over town. The Finnish Adult Education Centre also provides statutory basic education in handicraft, visual arts and music for adults.

Alongside the adult education centres, many other educational institutions provide voluntary adult education. Of all lessons held at these institutions, arts and culture subjects accounted for 29 per cent.

Audience development encouraged by arts institutions in Helsinki ranges from guided tours and meetings with artists to lectures, courses and workshops. An estimated 20 000 participated in the short lectures and guided tours at Helsinki's arts museums, the Finnish National Gallery and the National Opera in 2006. Around 15 000 participated in extended activities such as workshops.



### For a professional qualification

Helsinki is home to Finland's all arts universities, and also two polytechnics and four vocational institutions all of which focus on arts and culture. In addition, three Finnish-language and one Swedish-language general upper secondary schools specialise in arts.

In addition to the formal education, the City runs workshops for 17-24 year olds as a means of offering work experience. There are around 270 such apprentice places a year. These workshops may focus on the media and their various branches, textile designing, theatre wardrobes, for instance.

**Table 3.** Students in secondary level vocational training in arts and culture in 2005

Students	Helsinki	Metropolitan Area	Finland
<b>Arts and culture total</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>1 188</b>	<b>10 900</b>
% of all students	4,7	5,6	7,2
Crafts and design	-	311	5 635
Communication and visual arts	411	629	4 167
Theatre and dance	38	38	122
Music	191	210	976

Source: Statistics Finland

Sources:

Annantalo Arts Centre: <http://www.annantalo.fi/>.

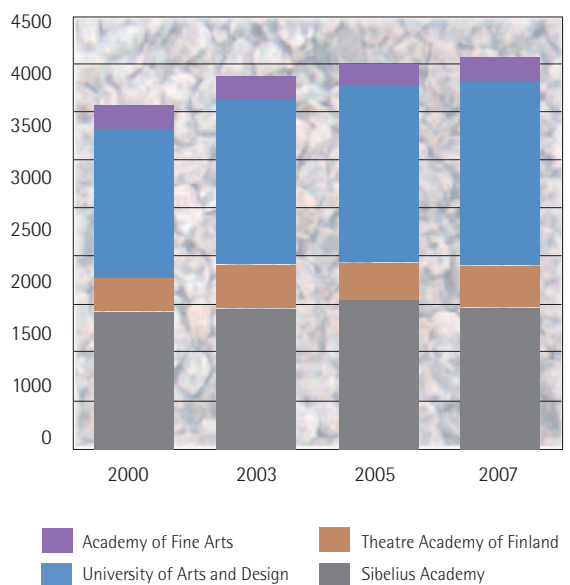
City of Helsinki: <http://www.hel.fi/>.

Helsinki City Finnish Adult Education Centre. Annual report 2006 (in Finnish only).

KOTA-database.

WERA-database.

**Figure 2.** Students at arts and culture universities



Source: KOTA database

# A LIBRARY FOR EVERYBODY

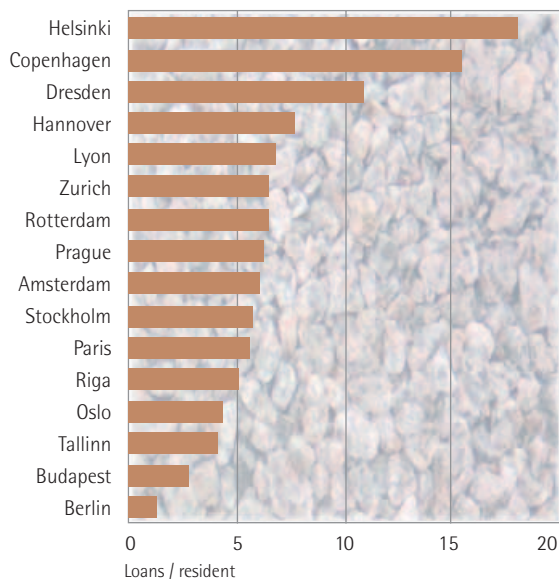
Finns are very keen readers, and public libraries are the most frequently used municipal cultural service. According to the most recent international library statistics, Helsinki is the world leader in book and media loans per resident. The same statistics place Helsinki near the top in terms of non-book material, such as CDs, DVDs and videos, as measured by items per 1 000 inhabitants

41 per cent of Helsinki residents have a library card for the City Library. In 2007, almost 13 million visits were paid to the city's libraries and each resident visited the City Library 11.2 times on average. In 2007, almost 10 million loans were recorded, of which nine per cent in foreign languages.

Those residents aged 20-29 make up the greatest proportion of library clients, followed by the 30-39 and 40-49 year olds. Children and youngsters make up almost one-fifth of library clients. In all age groups, women predominate, with a percentage of 63 in age groups overall.

Music recordings and DVDs in particular have extended their share of all library loans. Other items than books now

**Figure 1. Book and media loans per resident in certain European major cities 2005**



Source: IFLA Statistics 2005 and City of Helsinki Urban Facts

account for 30 per cent of loans, against only seven per cent in 1990. In 2007, almost three million items other than books were borrowed from the City Library and the website registered 6.4 million visits. The most frequently used services are the search for, and reservation and renewal of items borrowed.

The Helsinki City Library offers its clients a network of physical premises and various web services. The City Library has 36 district libraries, and in addition it runs 11 libraries at institutions (e.g in hospitals) and two library buses. It is also the national central library for all the public libraries and in

**Table 1. The most requested items in the Helmet library network, May 2008**

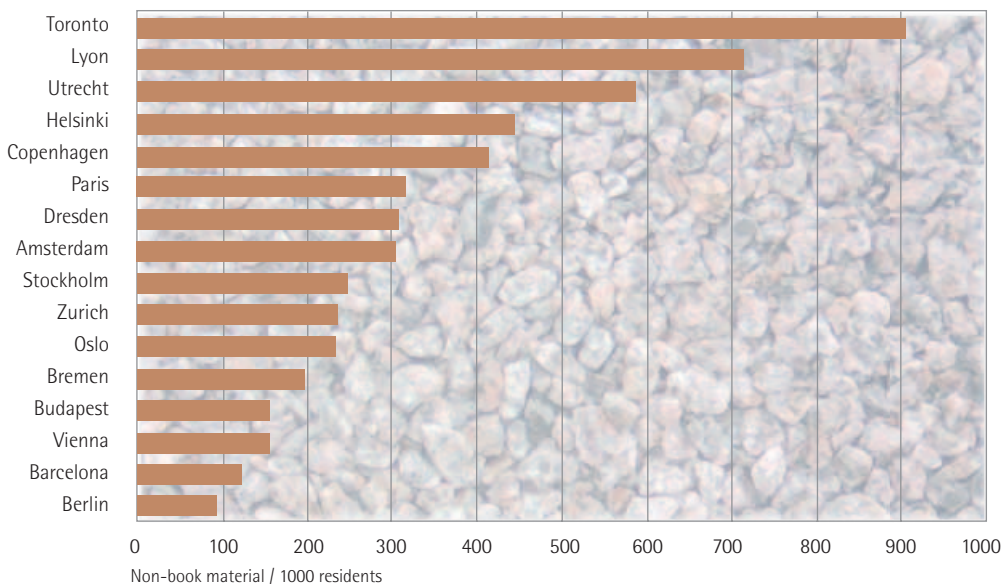
Fiction	Author	Title
1.	Khaled Hosseini	Tuhat loistavaa aurinkoa (A Thousand Splendid Suns)
2.	J. K. Rowling	Harry Potter ja kuoleman varjelukset (Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows)
3.	Arne Nevanlinna	Marie
4.	Juha Itkonen	Kohti
5.	Siri Hustvedt	Kaikki mitä rakastin (What I loved)
Nonfiction	Author	Title
1.	Katriina Järvinen	Luokkaretkellä hyvinvointiyhteiskunnassa
2.	Kyllikki Forssell	Suurella näyttämöllä
3.	Sauli Niinistö	Hiljaisten historia
4.	Torey Hayden	Häkki-poika (Murphy's Boy)
5.	Merete Mazzarella	När vi spelade Afrikas stjärna
Films		Title
1.		Musta jää (Black Ice)
2.		Ocean's Thirteen
3.		Death Proof
4.		Die Hard 4.0
5.		V2 : Jäätynyt enkeli (V2: Dead Angel)
Music	Performer	Title
1.	Vuokko Hovatta	Lempieläimiä
2.	Jenni Vartiainen	Ihmisten edessä
3.	Jippu	Kuka teki minusta tän naisen
4.	Herra Ylppö	Sata vuotta
5.	Chisu	Alkovi

Source: Helsinki City Library



Tiina Ketara (b. 1965): *Ihotta (Without Your Skin)*, 2005. Glass pearl and fishing line. Setting: North Haaga public library, Helsinki City Art Museum. Photo: Hanna Kukorelli.

**Figure 2.** Non-book material per 1000 residents in selected cities 2005



Source: IFLA Statistics 2005 and City of Helsinki Urban Facts



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**Table 2. Non-book loans from Helsinki City Library**

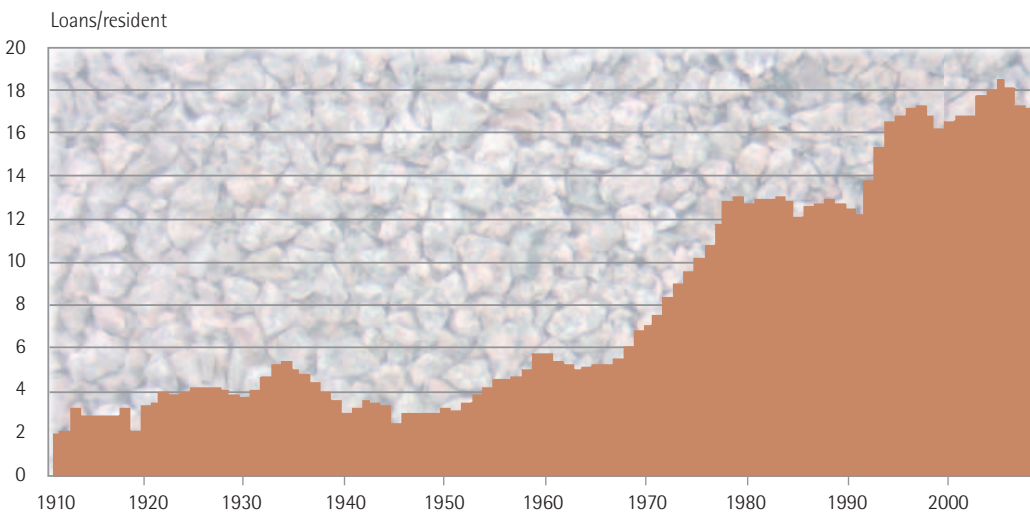
	2003	2005	2007
Non-book material loans	2 645 916	2 835 149	2 809 993
Share of loans, % :			
Music recordings	12,8	14,1	15,1
Talking books	2,1	1,9	2,0
Videos	6,0	4,0	1,8
CD-ROMs	0,6	0,5	0,4
DVDs	1,1	3,9	6,2
Other library medias	3,9	3,8	3,8
Non-book material total, %	26,5	28,1	29,3

Source: Finnish Public Libraries Statistics

this capacity runs the [www.libraries.fi](http://www.libraries.fi) portal and coordinates the cooperation between public and scientific libraries. In February 1995, the Ministry of Education assigned to Helsinki City Library the role of the central multilingual library for the whole country, for which it receives special state subsidy. The collection contains mainly books, in around 60 languages.

The inter-municipal library system HelMet (Helsinki Metropolitan Area Libraries) was launched in 2003. A recent survey shows HelMet was the second most popular web service in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area, second only

**Figure 3. Helsinki City Library. Yearly loans per resident 1910-2007**



Source: Helsinki City Library



to Google. HelMet's link to the Naxos Music Library offers opportunities to listen to music on one's own computer.

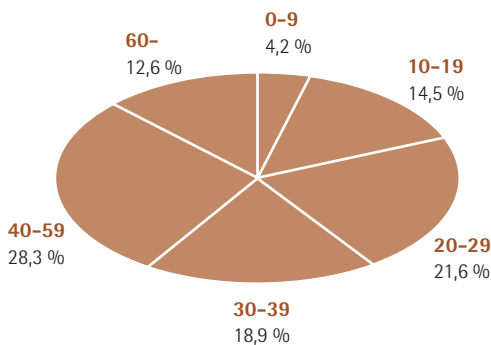
Library 10, sited in the very heart of Helsinki, provides computers, musical material and an opportunity to make one's own music. Only half of the clients at this library borrow material; the others listen to music, read or study. The largest client group comprises males under 35. Besides the Helsinki City Library, Helsinki has a large number of scientific and specialist public libraries. Moreover, all universities, polytechnics and schools have libraries of their own.

Library use has not decreased but rather found new forms. The library has increasingly become a living room for its visitors, a place to spend time, especially when a computer and wireless Internet are on hand.

Sources:

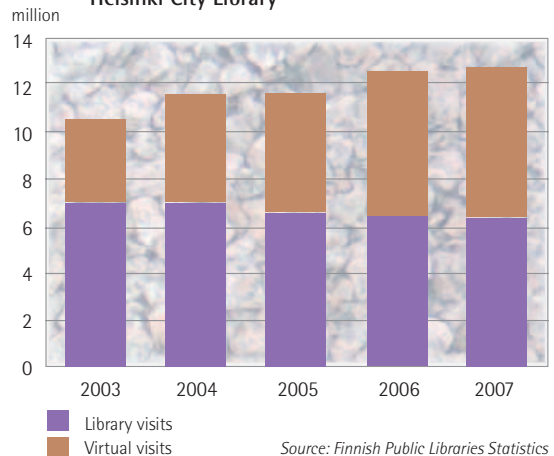
Helsinki City Library: <http://www.lib.hel.fi/>.  
 Metropolitan Libraries Section of IFLA. Statistics 2005.  
 Statistics of the Ministry of Education: <http://tilastot.kirjastot.fi/>.

**Figure 4.** Loans by age group from Helsinki City Library



Source: Helsinki City Library

**Figure 5.** Library visits and virtual visits to Helsinki City Library



Source: Finnish Public Libraries Statistics



Review of Arts and Culture in Helsinki describes the supply of and attendances at the cultural services and events in the City of Helsinki. Articles, statistics and pictures combine to illustrate the development of the different activities.

The Review of Arts and Culture in Helsinki emphasises topicality and focuses on the services provided or funded by the City.

The Review of Arts and Culture in Helsinki is available also on the home pages of the City of Helsinki Urban Facts: [www.hel.fi/tietokeskus](http://www.hel.fi/tietokeskus).

