

About

Born 1977 in Vancouver, Canada; living in Helsinki since 2002, I'm a queer and transgender stand-up comedian, performance artist, and writer. I also make some of my living from public speaking and teaching in art, larp, and queer topics (particularly transgender). On Twitter and elsewhere @happeningfish.



Education

M.A. Theatre and Drama (Live Art and Performance Studies). University of the Arts Helsinki, 2018.

B.A. English literature, Theatre Arts; Biology. University of Toronto, Canada, 1996-2002.

Stand-up Comedy 2011-present

- Performing weekly in Finland. Performed also in Sweden, Germany, Denmark, Norway, Canada, and Singapore, and at various festivals including Brighton Fringe, Helsinki Comedy Festival, Kuopio Komediafestivaali, Helsinki Pride, Arctic Laughs, Kallio Komediafestivaali, Malmö Pride, Arctic Pride, Turku Pride and Pirkaanmaa Pride
- Currently running Comedy Idiot (monthly night in English), Feminist Comedy Night (with Mira Eskelinen), and Punch Up! (with Juuso Kekkonen and Mira Eskelinen)
- Awarded Vuoden Koomikko (Comedian of the Year) by Kallio Komediabolaget 2016

Selected performance and Live Art

- *Oops! Festival*, performance on trans embodiment, Roskilde, Denmark 2018
- *Prototypes* – film installation project, Berlin, collab. with Doireann O'Malley
- *Gender Euphoria* – solo stand-up special, Helsinki and Brighton, UK 2017
- Asiatopia conference (Bangkok) – performance and talk 2016
- *Level Five Berlin*, installation, dir. Brody Condon (US)
- *Transformations – Rewriting masculinity*, dir. Teemu Mäki
- *The Body as Conflict Zone*. BDSM art performance with M. Dillon
- XX POIKAFAG – Installation, Hasan & Partners
- *Inside Hamlet*, theatre/larp event, as Hamlet, in Elsinore, Denmark 2015
- *The Desired Body*. BDSM mask performance for Masque, with M. Dillon
- *Identlos*. Identity larp with Petri Leinonen at MadHouse Helsinki 2014
- *Mother's Tongue* performance festival, Suomenlinna. Wilhelmus & Szrama
- *Uprooted*. Fake Finn Festival, Suomenlinna. Wilhelmus & Szrama 2013

- *Experience Park 2013*. Performance in Oulu festival, Kadonnut Kaupunki Oy.
- *The Lovers' Matchmaking Agency*: fake dating agency in Oslo, Copenhagen, Helsinki, and Tromsø, run over several years 2012
- *Punch up*. Interactive boxing performance, Frankfurt (residency) 2011
- *Just a Little Lovin' World AIDS Day* performance, Oslo
- *The Artists/The Spiral*. Transmedia TV/online/live art installation, as performer
- *KAPO*. Participatory installation/game, as a player, Copenhagen
- *Double-sided record*. Sound installation, for Performanssi, Turku
- *Trans-national socialist*. Fake Finn Festival, Suomenlinna.
- *How to Make a Living in Finnish*. Live User's Manual with Kristina Junttila, Teatteri N&H
- *Peliillat*. Facilitator and sometimes game creator, 7 games at Teatteri N&H. 2010
- *Tower Room*. Installation/performance/game/ritual. Teatterikorkeakoulu.
- *Badly Translated Standup*, ANTI Festival, Kuopio
- *Hermiitti*. Installation game with Aarni Korpela, Teatteri N&H
- *The Dark*, Installation game with Aarni Korpela, Imatra & Stockholm
- *12 Etudes on Everlasting Life*, collaboration with Tuomas Laitinen

Selected Theatre

- With Teatteri Metamorfoosi, Helsinki: *Kalevala dell'Arte, Lost Persons Area* 2005-2012
- With Teatteri Naamio & Höyhen: *Praxis ja Teoria, Vietti, Walkabout, Suuri Koneisto, Byaku-Mu, Alice ad Infinitum, Here Speaks Electra, Hana to Shi, Rahan Seurakunta, Ofeliakone*
- Training in Suzuki, Meyerhold's Biomechanics, Commedia dell'Arte, Viewpoints, Butoh, and various physical theatre and dance methods

Teaching

- Various lectures on queer and trans art in Helsinki and abroad 2014-
- Art Larp at Stockholms Academy of Dramatic Arts, courses 2015 to 2017, co-ordinator Christopher Sandberg
- Workshops in stand-up comedy, Meyerhold's biomechanics, and other theatrical training methods

Grants received

2018

Kone Säätiö grant for working group, *Normal Cake*, with Janne Saarakkala

2017

Arts Promotion Centre Finland grant for working group, *You Can't Be Serious*

Nordic Culture Point mobility grant for Transformations: Rewriting Masculinity in Copenhagen

2012

Näyttämötaidoimikunta, for Power of Suggestion, working group

Nordic Culture Fund, for The Lovers' Matchmaking Agency international tour

Wihuri, Praxis ja Teoria, as part of working group

City of Helsinki, Praxis ja Teoria, as part of working group

2011

Näyttämötaidoimikunta, for How to Make a Living in Finnish

City of Helsinki, for How to Make a Living in Finnish

2010

Suomalais-ruotsalaisen kulttuurirahasto, travel subsidy for The Dark (Walkabout)

City of Helsinki, for Hermiitti working group

2008

City of Helsinki Cultural Office, for Suuri Koneisto II working group

Arts Council of Finland, Theatre, for Suuri Koneisto II working group

Arts Council of Finland, Theatre, for Alice ad in infinitum working group

2007

City of Helsinki Cultural Office, for Alice ad infinitum working group

2005

City of Helsinki Cultural Office, for Rahan seurakunta group

Arts Council of Finland, travel for Ofeliakone working group

City of Helsinki Cultural Office, for Opheliemachine working group