

Finnland. Cool. – Cultural Programme in the City

Around 120 Finnish Literary and Cultural Events shall be held during the Frankfurt Book Fair

Finland is this year's Guest of Honour at the Frankfurt Book Fair. Under the motto "Finnland. Cool." the Finns are launching their literature out into the world. But not only the exhibition grounds are the showground for the Finnish Guest of Honour presentation, but also there will be numerous opportunities in the city to closely experience Finnish literature or to take a deep dive into the cultural treasures of this Nordic country.

Meet Finnish Authors

Approximately 60 Finnish authors shall be guests in Frankfurt during the Frankfurt Book Fair and shall be reading from their works in many places throughout the city and discussing these with the public. They come to spontaneous readings in Frankfurt's living rooms and are heard in the scope of the Open Book reading festival. Therefore the people of Frankfurt and international guests to the city can for example experience Finnish best-selling author Katja Kettu, artist and writer Rax Rinnekangas, Finland's queen of crime Leena Lehtolainen or Moses Mentula in the scope of Open Books. Finnish students are also presented at the Frankfurt Literaturbahnhof incl. the famous Finnish-Swedish Kjell Westö, crime authors Taavi Soininvaara and Matti Rönkä or Finnish Weird author Pasi Ilmari Jääskeläinen. Ice cold crimes are also presented at the Frankfurt City Library with a Finnish crime evening (09/10.) or the bookstore "Die Wendeltreppe" with the crime reading with Pekka Hiltunen. One of the top events is certainly the reading by Finnish star author Sofi Oksanen on 8th October at the Schauspiel Frankfurt. She will be reading from her latest novel *When the Doves Disappeared* which is about occupation, resistance and collaboration in Estonia during and following the Second World War.

Kalevala, Tango and Sauna – Finland's Cultural Assets on Board

Kalevala, the national epic of the Finns has the largest influence on the national consciousness of the Finns and the development of the Finnish language. With the probably most important literary work of the Finns,

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the Klingspohr-Museum in Offenbach shall be exploring this with the exhibition "Schiffsholz für den Sänger: Das Kalevala-Projekt" (01.10.-23.11.2014). A theme evening with Frank Berscht at der Zentralbibliothek der Stadtbücherei Frankfurt (Via Finlandia, 6.10.2014, 7.30 p.m.) is also devoted to the Kalevala. There is also a Kalevala reading with Tilman Spreckelsen in the scope of Open Books at the Frankfurter Kunstverein. For over a century, tango has had a home in Finland and applies as the expression of the Finnish soul. There is an opportunity to participate in a Finnish crash course when the Tango-orkesteri Unto enriches the commencement of the Book Fair with traditional and current songs (6.10.2014, 7.30 p.m.). In Finland sweating in the sauna is an elementary part of Finnish culture. No wonder that the otherwise so cool Finns also do not wish to miss out on their daily "sweat cure" during the Frankfurt Book Fair and are sending young Finnish poets in a mobile sauna across Germany to Frankfurt. The Frankfurter Garten at Danziger Platz shall be transformed into the "Sweat and Poetry Garden" during the Book Fair, where spoken word poetry from Finland fires up body and soul with its strong gestures, rhythms and emotions. Who seeks peace and relaxation in the city's saunas during the Book Fair, may experience that instead of the sauna master, a Finnish author administers a poetic infusion.

A cross-section of Finnish art is show at art exhibitions and performances at museums and institutes in the city: a glimpse at contemporary Finnish art is presented at the exhibition **Matters of Time: Artists from Finland** at the Frankfurter Kunstverein (25/7-12/10/2014). The future of Finland as an architectural nation is the subject of the exhibition **Suomi Seven. Junge Architekten aus Finnland** at the Deutsche Architekturmuseum (6/9/2014-18/1/2015). Contemporary flows from picture book illustration and cartoon art from Finland can be discovered at the exhibition **BY – Das Dorf** at the Bibliothekszentrum Sachsenhausen of Stadtbücherei Frankfurt (23/9-11/10/2014). Exhibited are BY-house installations by Maija Hurme and Anna Härmälä. The BY-houses of all further participants shall be shown at the Guest of Honour pavilion in the Forum and in hall 3 at the Book Fair. In the photography exhibition **The Loveliest Girl in the World** Miina Savolainen sets the girls from an orphanage into scene (26/9-19/10/2014). A journey through the history of Finland is undertaken by the exhibition **Via Finlandia** at the Zentralbibliothek of Stadtbücherei Frankfurt. Three theme evenings on various historical events supplement the exhibition (29/9-5/11/2014). The Schirn Kunsthalle is devoted to a comprehensive solo exhibition on **Helene Schjerfbeck**, the most important artist of the 20th century. A special view on Finland will be presented by the **Finnland. Videobar.** at the Gallus-Zentrum. Finnish comic artist Petri Koikkalainen presents a

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colourful mixture of video tapes and allows the public to dive into the world of Finland. Cool. (2/10/2014). The **Potretti** exhibition at the Fotografieforum Frankfurt (4/10-23/11/2014) is devoted to a contemporary Finnish portrait photography forum. Under the title **Run Wild Stay Cool** (4-12/10/2014) the Mousonturm will be showing for ten days the most up to date and attention grabbing that the Finnish dance scene has to offer. New perspectives on the apparently well-known will be opened by artist and writer Rosa Liksom with her **BURKA** photography project at the Haus am Dom (6-26/10/2014, opening night with reading on 5/10.). Based on the famous Midnight Sun Film Festival, that is held each year shortly before midsummer 120 kilometres north of the polar circle in Lapland and puts the international world of film under its spell, the cinema Orfeo's Erben are presenting a series of films under the title **Midnight Sun Film Festival** in Frankfurt (9 to 11/10/2014). The cinema at the Deutsche Filmmuseum shall be devoting an extensive retrospective to **Aki Kaurismäki** (29/8-8/10/2014) and the film series **Carte Blanche** with seven Finnish filmed books and three own works (8-31/10/2014) curated by Peter van Bagh, who has recently passed away.

The full Finnland. Cool. programme for the Frankfurt Book Fair, both for the city and on the exhibition grounds can be found at www.buchmesse.de/kalender.

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