

NOA Nordic Outsider Art

INTRODUCING PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

Kettuki is Finland's nationwide network for people with learning disabilities and actors working with them. Kettuki acts in several ways to reach its goals for equal opportunities to make art. Kettuki can be seen as a culture political policy maker, network maintainer, actor in the field of art and as an international partner.

Kettuki was founded in May 2006 and it is managed by the Kettuki Support Association for Disabled Artists. Since 2008 Kettuki Art Centre has been receiving a grant from Ministry of Education and Culture. Kettuki is a widely known and recognized player in the sector of art by learning disabled artists.

Nationally Kettuki has created a network for Finnish organizations and individuals working in the field of art by disabled people. Kettuki is maintaining a national network, providing expertise and serving as an interest group as well as information on projects and activities in the field.

www.kettuki.fi

GAIA Museum Outsider Art Denmark

GAIA is a unique museum focusing on Outsider Art. The museum exhibits art created by people who live outside the realms of social normality and create their art outside the mainstream and established art world. GAIA is also a cultural enterprise and art school staffed by professionals and people with special needs.

As part of an educational program for people with learning disabilities from 18 to 25 years in Denmark, GAIA Museum has started a 3 year long education in visual arts. Through specially arranged programs managed by professional artists from different fields, the education is meant to give the students an opportunity to learn about various artistic disciplines and explore new ways of expressing themselves. Furthermore the education aims at helping the participants into further employment, either in the form of independent studios or collective art workshops for people with special needs.

For the development of GAIA Museum, international cooperation has always been of great importance. The museum is the secretariat of The European Outsider Art Association and involved in several European cooperation projects, among others the project "Count me in too" which is funded by EU Erasmus+ Program.

NOA's long term impact on cultural field is important to GAIA Museum Outsider Art, because it collects exhibits and communicates art made by people on the fringe of normality. At GAIA Museum we endeavour to make the stories of the artist visible through their works of art and present them in a way where the unique qualities of this field are conveyed.

www.gaiamuseum.dk

Kaarisilta Finland

Kaarisilta Association is a national association founded in 1986. The association maintains the Art and Activity center for physically and/or mentally disabled people, which focuses on art, culture and sports. The center is located in Villähde, Lahti, Finland, approximately 10 km from Lahti City center. Since 2003 Kaarisilta offers vocational cultural education. Art Kaarisilta Gallery exists in Helsinki, the Capital city of Finland.

Kaarisilta maintains the Art and Activity center for young adults in need of special support. Its guiding purpose is based on strong ethical and aesthetic values, respect for life and each person's individuality. Visual arts, crafts, music, drama, sports and holistic education are at the core of its activities. Teaching is mainly organized in small groups, always taking into account the preferences and eventual limitations of each individual involved in the activities. The teachers are professional artists. In 2003 vocational cultural education became as a part of the Kaarisilta activities. Our three years long study program has two main choices of emphasis: music and visual arts.

The Kaarisilta Association organizes seminars and cultural events: art exhibitions, concerts and dramatics. The art exhibitions and concerts have brought us to international fields of culture in Italy, Germany, Austria, Japan, Belgium and France. The Kaarisilta Association organizes 10-15 regional, national or international art exhibitions yearly and every second year The International Kaarisilta Biennale. The exhibitions gain about 12 000 to 18 000 visits yearly.

Art Kaarisilta started its activity in Helsinki in February 2009. The gallery also wants to create a dialogue between the people making art and the audience and start a conversation about the hierarchies of the art world. The gallery arranges exhibitions as well as meetings with the artists and occasions for conversation.

www.kaarisilta.fi

Inuti Sweden

The Foundation Inuti runs a daily activity center according to LSS, the law of support and service for some disabled persons. We work with artistically talented individuals with intellectual disabilities and individuals within the autism spectrum.

Inuti has three studios in the center of Stockholm; Inuti Lilla Essingen, Inuti Södermalm and Inuti Västerbroplan.

Inuti also has an art collection, Inuti Collection, containing more than 400 pieces of art and they have recently opened the Inuti Gallery. Inuti is part of national and international networks.

Inuti runs an outreaching activity, with exhibitions, projects and workshops. We often work together with professional artists and artisans, art institutions and museums. We aim to interact in society and cultural life through art events, arranged by us or others.

www.inuti.se

Art without borders Iceland

Art without borders is an Icelandic art festival with an emphasis on the diversity of the human existence.

At the festival artists work together at creating a diverse range of art pieces with multiple outcomes. With the aim of creating a more diversely rich society and promoting understanding between groups of people, fostering creative initiatives and staying on top of current societal trends. The festival is not an institution but a grass root movement and is held all across the country the whole year. The events are around 60 every year and the number of participants are around the six hundreds.

www.listin.is