

# ANTI - Contemporary Art Festival 2015

August 5, 2015 | 2:23 pm | 53 KB

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PRESS RELEASE



## ANTI - Contemporary Art Festival | Kuopio - Finland

### ANTI - Contemporary Art Festival 1.- 6.9.2015

This year, ANTI – Contemporary Art Festival will run between 1st and 6th September alongside the **Kuopio Marathon**.

This surprising partner is part of the festival's new artistic concept: over the next few years, ANTI will no longer be an event which simply takes place once a year and in the same format, but will be organised with different partners to coincide with non-artistic events.

The 2015 ANTI, inspired by the Kuopio Marathon, features themes of endurance, well-being and running.



- ANTI Festival 2015 is truly in touch with the marathon theme! Our artistic directors **Johanna Tuukkanen** and **Gregg Whelan** have invited to Kuopio artworks in which the artists test the limits of their body and inspire the audience to move, and with their body they ask challenging questions about our social reality, **says ANTI Festival Manager Elisa Itkonen**.

- To fully enjoy both the ANTI Festival and Kuopio Marathon, I encourage everyone to also participate in the Kuopio Marathon! If you're not up for the whole marathon, you can run the half or 10km. It'll be a great way into experiencing the theme of the festival and it's a nice way to experience Kuopio too, **continues Johanna Tuukkanen**.



# 1.-6.9.2015

**ANTI - Contemporary Art Festival  
Kuopio - Finland**

## **ANTI – Contemporary Art Festival 2015 presents**

**Heather Cassils (CA/US): The Powers That Be (210 Kilometers)** Kuopio, Finland is located 210 kilometers from the Russian border. Cassils' new performance addresses the proximity of a country where there are no civil rights for LGBTQ people. *Winner of ANTI Festival International Prize for Live Art in 2014!*

**Jarkko Partanen (FI): Fields of Glory Kuopio** Traditionally, sports arenas have been stages for perfect physiques and world-class performances. In Kuopio, a group of ordinary citizens will march to the Väinölänniemi stadium to take part in an alternative opening ceremony.

**All the Queens Men (AU): Fun Run** A running event - with a twist - an endurance performance spectacle - at Kuopio Market Square. Tristan Meecham will test the limits of the human body by running a holy marathon on a treadmill. The cheering crowds around him will consist of local performers, an Emcee, plus the audience!

**Sandra Hall (UK): Coming Back** Video piece about Kuopio runners returning to the limits they temporarily transcend when running a marathon.

**Joel Cahen (UK): Wet Sounds** An underwater deep listening experience in Kuopio Swimming Pool.

**Johanna Väisänen(FI): HEAT** Video installation on how a horse experiences the thrill of speed.

**Kai Syng Tan & Alan Latham (UK): ANTI-ADULT RUN! RUN! RUN! MASTERCLASS #antiadultrun** Performance that teaches you to run like a child! Instructions by local, world-class running experts, 7-9 year-old kids.

**vickiweitz (UK): Running Beyond Language** Artist vickiweitz will run for 26.2 hours along a pedestrian street in Kuopio. Starting at the same time with Kuopio Marathon!

### **Heather Cassils Video Events**

**Art of Endurance Seminar** (see below)

PechaKucha Nights

Announcing the winner of **ANTI Festival International Prize for Live Art** (see below)

**Go to our website for completed festival programme!**

Join us also **on Facebook!**

**ANTIZINE** magazine vol. 3 / Summer 2015 available online **here!**



## ANTI Seminar: Art of Endurance

*Participation, endurance, drama, entertainment, wellbeing, spectatorship;  
what is the shared ground between sport and art?*

ANTI Festival of Arts presents an international seminar focused on the shared concerns of sport and art. The seminar will take place in Kuopio on **Thursday 3rd September 2015 at 1 - 6 pm.**

The French writer Roland Barthes describes sport as effort made 'in order to speak the human contract', aligning the various aesthetic, political and social dynamics of sport with that of its cultural cousin. As ANTI Festival collaborates with Kuopio Marathon to produce a unique programme of live events, leading artists, writers and academics meet to discuss how contemporary arts and sport might speak to one and other.

### With presentations and discussions from:

**Matti Tainio** (FI): artist and researcher in visual arts with PhD study "Parallel Worlds. Art and Sport in Contemporary Culture" (2015).

**Pia Houni** (FI): PhD in theatre and drama, writer and researcher specialized in e.g. artists' professional wellbeing.

**Penny Andrews** (UK): para-athlete (T36 sprinter) and visual/text/sonic artist.

**Heather Cassils** (CA/US): visual and performance artist and queer activist with a background in bodybuilding, boxing and film stunts. The Powers That Be (210 Kilometers) in the festival programme.

**Vicki Weitz** (UK): performance artist whose extraordinary endeavours are a critical investigation into the social role of motivation, support and achievement. Running Beyond Language in the festival programme.

**Kai Syng Tan & Alan Latham** (UK): artist and researcher who run the RUN! RUN! RUN! International Body for Research, which investigates and promotes running as a creative and critical technology that can enable us to re-imagine the way we engage with the world. ANTI-ADULT RUN! RUN! RUN! MASTERCLASS #antiadultrun in the festival programme.

The detailed seminar programme will be published in August. **Register now / by 16th August!**

Working language: English

## Sign up via **online registration!**

Participation fee: 40/25 € / person

Fee includes refreshments in the afternoon.

More information: Elisa Itkonen, [info@antifestival.com](mailto:info@antifestival.com), +358 50 305 2005

### International Art Professional

Are you planning to visit ANTI Festival 2015?

We are collecting a list of artists, curators, festival programmers and other art professionals to make our interaction easier during the festival.

Let us know about your visit by emailing to **[production@antifestival.com](mailto:production@antifestival.com)**!

Welcome to Kuopio, Finland!

### ANTI International Prize for Live Art

**The International Prize for Live Art** will be awarded for the second time during ANTI Festival in September 2015. The six nominees for the award are Marilyn Arsem (US), Saara Hannula (FI), Myriam Lefkowitz (FR), Bob & Roberta Smith (UK), Voina Collective (RU) and Willoh S.Weiland (AU).

The winner of ANTI Festival International Prize for Live Art 2015 will be announced **on Friday 4th September at 6 pm.** at the **Kuopio Music Centre.**

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