

Ville-Karel Viirelaid (VILLE KAREL)

31.10.1981 Pärnu, Estonia

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STUDIES

2007–2011 Estonian Academy of Arts, Interdisciplinary Arts

2004–2005 Estonian Academy of Arts, Fine Arts BA

2002–2004 Academia Grata, Fine Arts

Exchange studies: 2003 Saimaa University of Applied Sciences, 2005 Bratislava Academy of Fine Arts

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (about 15 solo exhibitions after 2003, selection)

2022 "Artist of the Year" gallery Vikman, Mänttä

2022 "Great Reset" Hervanta library, Tampere

2021 "New Normal" Laikku, Tampere

2019 "Soy Boy Apocalypse" Sarvis Center for Psychiatry and Substance Abuse, Tampere

2018 "Soy Boy Apocalypse" gallery METROPOL, Tallinn, Estonia

2017 "Flowers and seeds" Onni gallery, Pukkila

2015 "Monologue with the unknown" Gallery Johanna, Hämeenlinna

2013 "Magical conceptualism" Pärnu City Gallery, Pärnu, Estonia

2013 "Abrakadabra, Mister Universe" Tartu artists' house, Monumental gallery Tartu, Estonia

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (over 60 group exhibitions after 2003, selection)

2022 "Estomania III", Haihatu, Joutsa

2021 "Wild" Tartu Art Museum, Estonia

2016 "Special features of Southwest Estonian anarchism" Batumi art space, Batumi, Georgia & National Center for Contemporary Art, Kaliningrad, Russia

2012 "Archaeology of the Estonian Art Field" KUMU Art Museum, Tallinn, Estonia

2012 "ISSUE – Open Demonstration Forum" Gallery Rajatila, Tampere

2010 "Artists of the 21st century from the collection of Tartu Art Museum" Tartu Art Museum, Tartu, Estonia

2007 "Open Space festival of free arts" Berlin, Germany

2005 "Freie Wille" Berlin Arena, Berlin, Germany

PERFORMANCE ART (over 120 performances after 2003, selection)

2022 "This is art, this is not art" Alitalo performance and art event, Livonsaari community village, Finland

2021 "Druthers" Store 2, Helsinki

2019 "Raadio" New World Spectacle Art Festival, Tampere

2017 "Estonian Terrorist" gallery Sorbus, Helsinki

2015 "OBEY!" Performance fiesta, Tampere

2014 "The truth about Non Grata" Survival Performance Art Festival, Berlin, Germany

2011 "Entertainment – IX" Korean Experimental Art Festival, Seoul, South Korea

2007 "New York Blood CnOPT" Grace Space, Brooklyn, New York, U.S.A.

2005 "Queers" Be Queer Festival, "Stubnitz", Dunkirk, France

CURATORIAL WORK (selection)

2019 "New World Spectacle" International festival of performance art, Hirvitalo, Tampere
2013 "Untouchables" Group exhibition, Gallery 3H+K, Pori
2008 "Global Container I–II" International live art festival, NG Art Container, Tallinn, Estonia
2007–2008 NG Art Container gallery, Tallinn, Estonia (gallerist & curator)
2007 Ville Karel Ghetto Space, Project Space, Pärnu, Estonia (gallerist & curator)
2005–2006 Galerii CnOPT, Tallinn, Estonia (gallerist & curator)
2004, 2007, 2001 Pärnu International Film and Video Festival, Pärnu, Estonia

MEMBERSHIPS

2020– Mänttä Art Society
2019– Tampere Artists' Association
2006–2013 CnOPT Artist group
2002–2012 Non Grata Artist Group
2006–2008 Art Container MTÜ, member of the association's board

PRIZES AND GRANTS

2022 TAIKE, Working grant
2019 City of Tampere, Operational grant
2007 Estonian State Art Award as a member of the Non Grata artist group
Since 2003 Nordic Culture Center, Mobility grants
Estonian Cultural Foundation, Project Grants
Estonian Ministry of Culture, Project grants

WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

ESTONIAN ART MUSEUM, countless private collections

PUBLICATIONS (selection)

NON GRATA Art of the Invisibles II – III – collaboration on artist group's catalogue
Hit Me I–II – self published poetry books
Kakaonu – translation and publication of Pauli Hirtolahti comic book
Lugubrious games – Collection of short stories

OTHER ART-FIELD RELATED WORK (selection)

2016–2018 Wiirelaid Works, entrepreneur, comprehensive graphic design services for small businesses
2013–2015 Andrus Joonas, Artist's assistant
2013–2014 Gutenbergipojad OÜ, Printing and binding work for a book publishing house
2013–2014 Pärnu Town Gallery, Exhibition Assistant
2012 Nyte Ry, Lecturer of the performance art course
2008 Estonian Academy of Arts, Performance Art elective course teacher