

**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** (over 20 exhibitions after 2003, selection)

2023 "Our house has a black roof" gallery Ronga, Tampere, Finland

2023 "Alternative viewpont" gallery Virina, Virrat, Finland

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)

2023 "Contrast" Pispala Modern Art Center, Tampere, Finland

2022 "Estomania III", Haihatus, 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)

2023 "BLACK ROOF" gallery Ronga, Tampere, Finland

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)

"Tapani Hietalahti's art and traditional architecture" gallery Vikman, Mänttä, Finland

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**

2023 Finnish Culöatural Foundation's grant

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)

"Ektoplasma23", artist zine collaboration with Philip Luddite

"Runotuulessa" Katja Viireleid's poetry collection

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)

2024 Mänttä municipality, cultural supervisor, exhibition producer

2016–2018 Wiireleid 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