

ARTSCAPE

Contemporary Art Luxembourg

MIIKKA HEINONEN

Finnish born photographer and visual artist,
lives and works in Luxembourg since 1996

After studying at Aberystwyth University Arts Centre and St. David's College at University of Wales, Miikka Heinonen graduated in 1996 in Fine Arts and Art History at the University of Turku, Finland.

ARTIST STATEMENT:

A sense of 'not belonging' has followed me throughout my life and has always been one of the defining inspirations of my work. In the "Noir" series, the sense of alienation is expressed by accentuating a minimalistic, yet dramatic aesthetic: the extreme black, separating the people from the white void, but at the same time swallowing them into undefinable surroundings. Our transient existence and our identity reduced to shapes - passing through time.



WORKS IN PUBLIC COLLECTIONS:

Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art,
Luxembourg

Museum am Dom, Trier, Germany
Lëtzebuerg City Museum

Ministère des Affaires étrangères,
Luxembourg

Ministère de la Culture, Luxembourg

From 1859, when the photographer Nadar depicted Painting taking Photography by the hand and offering it a place in the fine arts, photography has been taken up by many significant artists, and developed into one of the most varied forms of artistic expression today. Heinonen is one of those visual artists who started as a painter and whose art has become increasingly photographic since 1998, making the most of its wide creative and critical possibilities.

In his new series *Shadows in the Void*, Heinonen uses the newest image-making technologies to create enduring images of our Being-in-the-world, and of our capacity of making sense of things. By focusing on one subject – a man leans against a parapet, a man and a woman hold hands, a man sits below a palm tree – he simplifies the image without stereotyping it, instead creating an openness in which the viewers can bring their own hopes and fears, their emotions and experiences.

Heinonen paints with light; it is the quintessential ingredient of his works. Reducing colour to the stark contrast of white and black while playing with the subtle nuances in between, his carefully framed compositions depict mythical scenes that seem only exist in our imagination. Heinonen conceptualizes the place of the individual in natural and city spaces that are always at least partly familiar to the viewer and imply an ever-strong connection between the local and the global, providing a cultural melting pot for the formation of public and private histories.

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RECENT EXHIBITIONS (selection):

2016 Luxembourg Art Week, salon du CAL, Luxembourg

2016 Art2Cure, Galerie l'Indépendance - Banque Internationale à Luxembourg

2015 Luxembourg Art Week, salon du CAL, Luxembourg

2015 Art2Cure, Kulturfabrik, Esch-Alzette

2015 Die Entzauberung Der Welt (with Sali Muller), 21 Artstreet, Kehlen

2014 Shape Dynamics (with Wouter van der Vlugt), 21 Artstreet, Kehlen

2014 Recall 2.0, Kjub, Luxembourg

2014 Constructed Realities, Galerie Bettina von Arnim, Paris

2013 Recall - Kjub, Luxembourg

2013 Salon du CAL, CarréRotondes, Luxembourg

2013 Playlife - Kjub, Luxembourg

2013 Les Lauréats du Prix Grand-Duc Adolphe, Abbaye Neumunster, Luxembourg

2012 euroscript International S.A., Luxembourg

2011 Salon du CAL, Luxembourg

2011 Open Season, BGL BNP-Paribas, Luxembourg (with Thierry Besseling and Wennig&Daubach)

2011 Motional Issues, Fondation de l'Architecture, Luxembourg

2011 CAL Photo, Abbaye Neumunster, Luxembourg

2011 Angezogen 'n AKT! TUFA Trier, Germany

2010 Textures In Time - Sixthfloor, Koerich, Luxembourg (with Wouter van der Vlugt)



DISTINCTIONS:

2014 the Finnish Dance Photo of the Year

2007 Prix Grand-Duc Adolphe

2003 Prix de la Critique, Biennale Internationale des Jeunes Artistes, Esch-Alzette, Luxembourg

2002 Prix d'Encouragement du Ministère de la Culture, Concours d'Art Limes