

LEEA PIENIMÄKI-AMOUSSOU

Born 1963 in Helsinki, Finland

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EDUCATION:

- 2001-06** University of Art and Design Helsinki, School of Design, Department of Textile Design, post graduate doctoral studies (38 credits)
- 2001** University of Helsinki, Department of Continuing Education, website design course
- 2000** University of Art and Design Helsinki, Department of Continuing Education, computer aided textile design course (3 months full time)
- 1990-96** University of Art and Design Helsinki, Department of Textile Art and Design, Master of Arts degree
- 1994-95** Royal College of Art, London England, Department of Printed Textiles, Erasmus-exchange program (6 months)
- 1990** Free Art School, Helsinki, introduction course to painting
- 1988** Free Art School, Helsinki, introduction course to the color theory by Josef Albers
- 1983-85** Vihti School of Arts and Crafts, diploma and major in hand-weaving, minor in sewing

SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

- 2009** Values of Joy, Wellington B. Gray Gallery African Art Room, Greenville NC, USA
- 1999** Decision, Gallery Klobben, Helsinki
- 1998** Details, Gallery Bagarstugan, Mariehamn, Åland Island
- 1997** Malmitalo Culture Center, Helsinki
- 1996** Cover Decoration Memory Message, MA Degree Show, Gallery MUU, Helsinki

GROUP EXHIBITIONS WITH VICTOR AMOUSSOU:

- 2013** Riddles, Lasipalatsi Gallery, Helsinki
- 2013** Gifts of the King, Gallery Rööperin Taidesalonki, Helsinki
- 2012** Silta - Bridge - Passerelle IV, Talk of the Sun, Gallery Rööperin Taidesalonki, Helsinki
- 2011** Silta - Bridge - Passerelle III, Gallery ARX, Hämeenlinna
- 2011** Silta - Bridge - Passerelle II, Gallery Rööperin Taidesalonki, Helsinki
- 2011** Fish Who Wanted Wings -workshop documentation, Ateneum Art Museum, Helsinki
- 2010** Silta - Bridge - Passerelle, Gallery Rööperin Taidesalonki, Helsinki
- 2009** Wax Batik Works, Tilastokeskus, Helsinki
- 2008** Wax Batik Works, Culture Café Hertta, Tampere, ARX Arts Center Hämeenlinna and Tilastokeskus Helsinki
- 2008** Peintures et Tissus de Lumière, Gallery BE19, Helsinki

OTHER GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

- 2013** Home for Christmas, Gallery Rööperin Taidesalonki, Helsinki, also in 2010-12
- 2010** Good Morning Africa! Villa Karo Artist Residence 10-Year Jubilee Exhibition, Kunsthalle, Helsinki
- 2010** ORNAMO Annual Sales Exhibition, Cable Factory, Helsinki – also in 2000-04 ja 07-08
- 2007** Light and Rhythm - 5 artists of Villa Karo, Gallery Norsu, Helsinki
- 2006** Les moments forts, with Jaana Houessou, Lissa Gbassa, Villa Karo Exhibition Hall Benin, West Africa
- 2005** Chiasma – Combining Art and Design Practices with Research, Gallery Atski, Helsinki
- 2004** 11th International Triennial of Tapestry, Central Museum of Textiles, Lodz, Poland (Invited Participant)
- 2003** Ardent Images II - Kankaanpää Church, also Ardent Images I in 2002
- 2002-03** 6th Finnish Textile Triennial N-O-W, South-Carelia Art Museum, Oulu Art Museum, and Central Museum of Textiles, Lodz, Poland
- 2001** 230V - "Skin&Soul" Design for Architecture -symposium related Ornamo's exhibition on streets of Jyväskylä
- 1999** Timezone - Finnish Textile Art at the turn of the New Millennium, Kerava Art Museum
- 1999** Secret Garden Gallery, Ocracoke, North Carolina, USA

- 1996** Raportti - "Repeat", textile design at Finland's Arts and Crafts Museum, Jyväskylä
- 1994** Texpori - Textile students at Pori Raatihuone
- 1993-94** Three Wishes - collection of hand-printed fabrics with Maiju Ahlgrén and Marja Blomqvist; exhibition toured in Lappeenranta, Helsinki and Greifswald, Germany

ARTWORK IN COLLECTIONS:

State of Finland
 Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland
 Design Museum, Helsinki
 Espoo City Mental Health Clinic
 Private collections

GRANTS:

- 2013** Arts Promotion Center Finland, for exhibition with Victor Amoussou
- 2012** Arts Council of Finland, for Adobe Design Premium -computer program
- 2011** Arts Council of Finland, for art exhibition and children's art workshops promoting multicultural values
- 2011** Arts Council of Finland, for sewing machine and overlocker
- 2008** Finnish Critics Association, for laptop computer
- 2007** Metropolitan Region Arts Council, gallery expenses for a group show
- 2006** Metropolitan Region Arts Council, artistic work abroad
- 2006** UIAH, travel costs for working at artist residence Villa Karo, Benin
- 2004** Eva ja Maija Taimi Foundation, participation to an international textile triennial
- 2002** Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation, for dissertation work; also in 2001
- 2001** TEKES - National Technology Agency of Finland, research grant for preliminary study
- 1997** Alfred Kordelin Foundation, project grant for solo exhibition
- 1994** Arts Council of Finland, travel grant to Germany

ARTIST RESIDENCIES:

- 2006** Villa Karo, Finnish-African Cultural Center, Benin West-Africa (3 months)
- 2003** The Åland Archipelago Guest Artist Residence in Kökar, Åland Island (3 weeks)
- 2000** Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France (3 months)

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE:

At Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture in Helsinki (former University of Art and Design)

- 2013** Textile printing of special techniques for fashion design students, applied material studies for costume design students in performing arts
- 2013** Textile printing basics for fashion design students, also in 2011-12
- 2013** Basic Printing -course for foreign exchange students, also in 2012 and 2003-04
- 2012** Dyeing Workshop open to all students
- 2012** Introduction course to fiber materials and textile technology for costume design students in performing arts, also in 2004, 2008 and 2010
- 2010** Interim Textile Printing Studio Supervisor
- 2010** Textile printing basics and special techniques for textile design students, also in 2008
- 2002** Introduction course to woven textile design for textile design students
- 2002** p/t researcher; preliminary study report "Functional Materials in Future Work Environments", results published as a website (in Finnish only) at <http://www2.uiah.fi/mto/projects/materiaalikartoitus> – project included making of the website
- 2001** Interim teacher of textile printing

Other

- 2013** SuviDesign craft sales exhibition (by invitation), Art Center Purnu, Orivesi Finland, also in 2010-12
- 2012** Necklace Workshops at Ateneum Art Museum and Gallery Rööperin Taidesalonki, also in 2011
- 2012** Weaving Workshop for weaving tutors at the Autistic Institution in Helsinki
- 2011** Teaching of Children's Art Workshops during Hippalot -Art Festival for Children
- 2011** Teaching and documenting Children's Art Workshop "Fish Who Wanted Wings" in collaboration with Ateneum Art Museum of Finland in Benin, West Africa
- 2010** SEDU Adult Education, Weaving course: Interaction of Colors

- 2009** Designing and executing personal website at www.amoussou-art.com
- 2009** East Carolina University, School of Art and Design, Greenville NC, USA, textile survey and all levels of weaving classes, spring semester full time, in 1999 teaching of classes Design II, Textile Survey and Weaving I-VI (spring and fall semester full time)
- 2002** Ilmajoki School of Arts and Crafts, teaching of resist and discharge techniques in textile printing for surface design concentration students (full time)
- 1998** Ilmajoki School of Arts and Crafts, teaching of design methods and textile printing
- 1997-98** Espoo-Vantaa Polytechnic, teaching of introduction courses to textile technology, textile history and dyeing for textile conservator students
- 1993-94** Hämeenlinna City Children's Art School, teaching of textile workshops at summer camps
- 1990-94** Helsinki Arts and Crafts Association, p/t weaving instructor, hand-weaver, sales assistant
- 1987-88** The Friends of Finnish Handicraft, hand-weaver of interior textiles from yardage upholstery fabrics to unique wall hangings
- 1985-** Designer-maker of art, interior and wearable textiles and craft products, for example designing and making a collection of 10 unique rugs to a private residence in Helsinki in 2001-02

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS:

- 2012** Public presentation: Fish Who Wnated Wings - art education project with Ateneum at Villa Karo, Benin
- 2012** Two Benin related articles for Magazine of Literature Nuori Voima vol. 1/2012 (author)
- 2012** Presentation: Working as an Artist-Designer-Artisan on two continents, Ilmajoki School of Arts and Crafts
- 2010** Article: The Message of the Painter of the Horizon, Magazine of Literature Nuori Voima vol. 2-3/2010 (author)
- 2010** Presentation: Living and Working as an Artist in Benin, West-Africa at University of Art and Design Helsinki, School of Design and School of Art Education + other occasions
- 2009** Public presentation: Living and Working as an Artist in Benin, West-Africa at East Carolina University, School of Art and Design, Greenville NC, and Finland-School, Berkeley, CA
- 2007** Article: A Researching Artist as the Generator and Interpreter of Meanings. Published in Artist as Researcher, University of Art and Design Helsinki, Working Papers F 32
- 2005** Presentation: A Researching Artist as the Generator and Interpreter of Meanings, at Combining Art and Design Practices with Research -seminar at University of Art and Design in Helsinki, and Dimensions of Authorship -conference at University of Jyväskylä

OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

- 2001-** Freelance writings to several print and web-media: newspaper Ilkka, magazines Me Naiset and Visio (film reviews and interviews), Nuori Voima – Magazine of Literature (Benin related articles), Sonera Plaza web publication Matkalaukku (travel stories) among others.

MEMBERSHIPS:

- 2010-** Designers' Association MUTTA
- 2006-** Artists O - Ornamo Artists' Section
- 2004-** SARV - Finnish Critics' Association, film section
- 1997-** ORNAMO - Finnish Association of Designers and TEXO - Finnish Textile Artists Association

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- 2009** 5th Annual Youth Arts Festival, Greenville NC, USA; textile printing workshop for children
- 2005** Combining Art and Design Practices with Research -seminar & CHIASMA -exhibition, team of organizers, University of Art and Design Helsinki
- 2004** SARV - Finnish Critics' Association, film section, Board of Trustees
- 2002-03** 6th Finnish Textile Triennial N-O-W, team of organizers and coordinator of the touring exhibition in Poland
- 2002-03** TEXO – Finnish Textile Artists Association, Board of Trustees
- 2001-02** ORNAMO Annual Art Sales Exhibition, coordinator; also member of committee in 2000