



# THE FIVE RINGS 地 水 火 風 空 WIND

24–26 August 2022



Symposium Programme

Sibelius Museum

Piispankatu 17 / Biskopsgatan 17

Turku/Åbo, Finland

## Wednesday, 24 August 2022

- 10:30–11:15** Registration
- 11:15–12:00** **OPENING CEREMONY**
- Opening Remarks
- Concert: *Wind* by E-Musikgruppe Lux Ohr feat. Jaakko Penttinen
- 12:00–13:00** **AGORA** Andrew Coates: Winds in Our Solar System ▶||
- 13:00–14:30** Lunch break
- 14:30–16:00** **PERFORMATIVE SESSION I** "Breath is Life"  
– The Internal Wind in Yoga, Spirituality and Science
- 16:00–16:15** Break
- 16:15–17:15** **AGORA** Joan Sullivan: The Wisdom of Janus: Energy Transitions as Liminal Spaces ▶||
- 17:15–18:00** Coffee & snack
- 18:00–19:30** **PERFORMATIVE SESSION II** Carnival of the Animals: Fossils

## Thursday, 25 August 2022

- 10:15–11:45** **AGORA** Hanna Johansson: The Real and Imaginary Breeze. Air in The Visual Arts
- 11:45–13:15** Lunch break
- 13:15–14:45** **PERFORMATIVE SESSION III** Turbulent Times
- 14:45–15:15** Coffee & snack
- 20:00–21:00** **PERFORMATIVE SESSION IV** Många Röster – Many Voices (Arken, Tehtaankatu 2)

## Friday, 26 August 2022

- 13:15–14:15** **PERFORMATIVE SESSION V** Smog, Aurora, Telecommunication – Situating Atmospheric Care
- 14:15–14:45** Coffee & snack
- 15:00–16:15** Charter bus to ArtTeatro, Kustavi
- 16:30–19:00** **CIRCUS ART SHOW** *Air* (Salminiituntie 37, Kustavi)
- Show by ArtTeatro
- Closing Remarks
- 19:00–20:00** Charter bus to Turku



Joan Sullivan



Street Theatre VIR

▶|| Pre-recorded talk + Live Q&A

Location: Sibelius Museum, Piispankatu 17 / Biskopsgatan 17, Turku/Åbo (unless otherwise stated in parentheses).

Changes in the programme are possible. We reserve the right to changes. Please follow [www.aboagora.fi](http://www.aboagora.fi).

## What is ABOAGORA?

**THE AIM OF ABOAGORA** is to question and deconstruct the juxtapositions between the arts and sciences, to establish new kinds of dialogical connections and to develop experimental models for academic and artistic expression. ABOAGORA promotes dialogue between the arts, humanities and sciences by bringing scholarly debates together with the arts and also by combining artistic expression with scholarly events.

The name 'Aboagora' refers to both Turku (in Latin, *Aboa*) and a meeting place or marketplace (in Greek, *agora*). The idea of ABOAGORA is to create an open forum for thinking and debate and to challenge and break boundaries between the arts and the scholarly world. ABOAGORA aims at encouraging new research and new art as well as new kinds of encounters between the two.

ABOAGORA is a marketplace of open codes: it provides a common forum for academics, artists and the public. This forum is based on openness and open-minded crossing over of different levels.



Photos: Pekko Vasanta

## Why ABOAGORA?

**THE GAP BETWEEN THE ARTS AND SCIENCES** is a product of history, not an inherent given. In the early modern period scientific and artistic activities were not quarantined from each other, but during the past two centuries, the separation between the two has been very stark.

Today it is especially important to also rethink the role of research in terms of artistic expression and, at the same time, to consider cross-disciplinary approaches to artistic activities. Contemporary research often emphasises the need for current social challenges to involve cooperation between academic fields. The idea of ABOAGORA is based on a conviction that comprehensive problem-solving requires not only interdisciplinary elaboration but also acknowledgment of artistic approaches in more concrete and imaginative ways.

Significant innovations often arise at the interface of disciplines. New ideas emerge from unexpected encounters: for this reason, scientific or artistic innovations cannot easily be predicted. The purpose of ABOAGORA is to encourage these kinds of encounters and to promote scholarly dialogue which also takes into account artistic forms of expression.

The Symposium is organised by the University of Turku, Åbo Akademi University, the Arts Academy of Turku University of Applied Sciences and the Donner Institute for Research in Religious and Cultural History, which is attached to the Åbo Akademi University Foundation.

## ABOAGORA 2019–2023

### The Five Rings

**IN 2019**, ABOAGORA launched a five-year thematic plan under the title *The Five Rings*. The title refers to the book *The Book of Five Rings*, written by Miyamoto Musashi (宮本 武蔵, c. 1584–1645) in 1645. Musashi was a Japanese swordsman, philosopher, writer, and rōnin – a samurai without a master. He became renowned through stories of his masterful double-bladed swordsmanship and undefeated record of his 61 duels. Many consider him the greatest swordsman that ever lived. Near the end of his life, Musashi retreated to live as a hermit in a cave, where he meditated and wrote a manual of kenjutsu, Japanese swordsmanship, and martial arts. This practical book extends towards a philosophy of life, aiming at simplicity and no-nonsense. Throughout the years, it has also been read by people rethinking ways to lead or do business.

*The Book of Five Rings* (五輪書, Go Rin no Sho) is divided into five books, each examining a different element of battle, just as there are different physical elements in life in Eastern religions. The five ABOAGORA symposia in 2019–2023 will delve into these elements: earth, water, fire, wind and void. In 2022, the theme of ABOAGORA is “Wind”.



Photo: Pekko Vasantola

## The Five Rings

### Wind

**AIR IS THE FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENT** for life and breathing, but it is also a source of pleasure and joy. It has been a playground for artists experimenting with lightness and transparency from acrobatics to visual arts. With climate change, air and temperature have become key questions of survival. Pure air has become almost a luxury commodity as pollution and urbanization have led to a situation where urban air is increasingly manufactured, and clean air is not available for everyone. Yet air is not a stable element: it is constantly changing and flowing, and thus it also carries the possibility for change.

ABOAGORA 2022 will approach wind and air both literally and metaphorically. The talks and performances will examine air as a basic element of life and ecology, but will also address the complex ties between nature, technology and human experience. The symposium will bring together the humanities, natural sciences, psychology, photography and visual and performance arts to address the various winds around us and within us – ecological and societal, material and metaphorical – and their interconnections.



Photos: Pekko Vasantola



WEDNESDAY 24 AUGUST, 12:00–13:00

## Winds in Our Solar System

Andrew Coates

**SPACE BEYOND EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE** is not empty. The Sun emits the 'solar wind', a million tonne per second supersonic stream of charged particles which interacts with planets and comets. This produces spectacular visible effects like the aurora and comet plasma tails. The solar wind is deflected and heated at bow shock waves upstream of the objects. We will listen to some of the sounds of plasma interactions at planets including Earth, Jupiter and Saturn. Within planetary atmospheres, space missions have captured sounds of winds on Mars, Titan and comets. We will listen to sounds from these alien worlds.

**Prof. Andrew Coates** gained a BSc in Physics from UMIST, and MSc and D.Phil. in Plasma Physics from Oxford University. He is Deputy Director (solar system) at UCL-MSSL. His space mission involvements include the Rosalind Franklin (ExoMars) rover, where he leads the PanCam team, Perseverance, Cassini-Huygens, Venus Express, Mars Express and Giotto. His scientific interests include how plasma interacts with planets and comets, planetary surfaces and atmospheres, and space instrumentation. He is a member of STFC Science Board, is active in space and science outreach, and is currently President of the Society for Popular Astronomy.

Photo: M. de la Nougerede, UCL-MSSL



The image shows Andrew holding the Engineering Model of the Rosalind Franklin PanCam instrument, which we hope will look for past life on Mars later in the 2020s.

WEDNESDAY 24 AUGUST, 16:15–17:15

## The Wisdom of Janus: Energy Transitions as Liminal Spaces

Joan Sullivan

**NAVIGATING THE TRANSITION** to a future fueled by non-fuels (wind, water, sun) will be easier if we have the wisdom to learn from the past. In this keynote, energy transition photographer and writer **Joan Sullivan** turns to Janus – the two-headed Roman god of transitions – to help us better understand the liminal nature of all energy transitions, past and present. By keeping an eye simultaneously on the past and the future, Janus reminds us that energy transitions throughout history have one thing in common: they are inherently disorienting yet transformative; their outcome is unknown yet full of choice where none seemed to exist before. Viewed through the lens of liminality, energy transitions reveal themselves as potent thresholds through which humanity has radically expanded its definition of what is possible by breaking out of entrenched patterns of thought.



For nearly two decades, the Canadian photographer Joan Sullivan has focused her cameras exclusively on climate change. Self-taught, she first concentrated on the energy transition. But since 2019, her photographic gaze has shifted from documentary to abstraction in response to an overwhelming sense of ecoanxiety about the climate crisis. Her current project, *Becoming River*, explores embodiment as a visceral language to create images inspired more by intuition than by scientific facts. Joan writes a monthly column on the cultural dimensions of energy transitions for the international blog *Artists and Climate Change*. In her spare time, she runs a small organic farm with her husband in eastern Québec.

THURSDAY 25 AUGUST, 10:15–11:45

## The Real and Imaginary Breeze. Air in The Visual Arts

Hanna Johansson

**“... AIR NEVER TAKES PLACE** in the mode of an ‘entry into presence’ – except in wind?” (Luce Irigaray)

My presentation approaches the ways and means of the visual arts to present and represent the element of air. I focus my attention on wind or breeze and ask how the almost invisible air can be brought into the scope of visibility and sensuality, and in addition what kind of tasks wind and breeze have in the history of visual art, and how these relate to the urgent reflections on the airy phenomena.

In contemporary art the works that deal with air are often drawing viewers’ attention to the invisible actors and actants that are in connection to the life-supporting atmosphere. On the other hand, contemporary works consider the obscure relation between art, life and artificiality. However, air and wind are not only current subjects in the arts but have been an important element in painting already in the early Renaissance, although it had not been seen before Aby Warburg (1866–1929) made it an art historical subject.

**Hanna Johansson** is an art historian, who currently works as Dean of the Academy of Fine Arts, University of the Arts. She is also Professor of Contemporary Art Research at the Academy of Fine Arts and an adjunct professor at the University of Helsinki. Contemporary art and its ecological dimensions as well as conceptual art are her core areas of expertise. Recently she has written mostly on the representation of air as well as about the representation of weather in the visual arts. She has published widely on contemporary art and artists in Finland and beyond. Johansson has had several positions of trust, for example on the grant board of the Finnish Art Association, at the board of HIAP, the advisory board of IHME Helsinki and as a member of the board of FRAME Finland.



Photo: Eeva Anundi



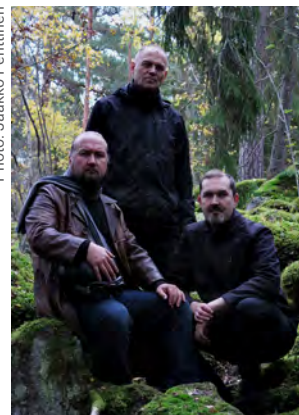


WEDNESDAY 24 AUGUST, 11:15–12:00

## Wind

E-Musikgruppe Lux Ohr (Pertti Grönholm, Kimi Kärki, Ismo Virta) & Jaakko Penttinen

Photo: Jaakko Penttinen



E-Musikgruppe Lux Ohr: Kimi Kärki (left), Ismo Virta and Pertti Grönholm.

**E-MUSIKGRUPPE LUX OHR** is a kosmische Musik group from Turku, Finland. Their music is a mixture of 'Berlin School' style of sequenced space travels, electro-acoustic improvisations and krautrock with melancholic and psychedelic moods. Their third studio album *Non plus ultra* (Svart Records, LP + digital) was released in 2020. In addition, E-Musikgruppe Lux Ohr has released three live albums, a split album and a mini album. The current line-up is: **Pertti Grönholm** (synthesizers, samplers, sequencers and percussion), **Kimi Kärki** (E-guitar, Ebow and effects) and **Ismo Virta** (Memotron, E-guitar and effects).

For each Five Rings of ABOAGORA, E-Musikgruppe Lux Ohr produces and performs a composition exploring the theme of the year. Each work will feature a guest musician or musicians. At ABOAGORA 2022 they will perform the fourth of five thematic annual compositions, *Wind*, with Jaakko Penttinen.



his current line-up called Dubsetters, along with Jamaican musicians.

**Jaakko Penttinen** is a Turku-based electronic music producer who was previously known as a member of E-Musikgruppe Lux Ohr. In addition to his main instrument, a modular synthesizer, he has revived the electric bass, the instrument of his youth. He has studied the bass techniques characteristic of Jamaican dub music and their application in experimental electronic music. He is currently producing the first release of

WEDNESDAY 24 AUGUST, 14:30–16:00

## “Breath is Life” – The Internal Wind in Yoga, Spirituality and Science

Måns Broo, Venerable Thich Hanh Bao, Janne Kontala, Viveka Lyberg Åhlander, Markku Penttonen

**BREATH, THE INTERNAL WIND** or internal air can of course be theorised and operationalised in many different ways. This explorative session brings together a number of exciting perspectives from science and spirituality, theory and practice. After an introductory blessing from venerable Thich Hanh Bao, abbot of the Liên Tâm Buddhist Monastery in Turku, Dr. Måns Broo from Åbo Akademi University will say a few words on how this topic has been understood in Indian systems of thought. Dr. Janne Kontala, also from Åbo Akademi University, will then lead us in a practical exploration of our breath, after which professor Viveka Lyberg Åhlander, also of Åbo Akademi University, will enlighten us to the interface of breath and speech. Dr. Markku Penttonen, University of Jyväskylä, will then help us understand how breathing improves learning and regulates the interaction of neural circuits in the brain during sleep. Finally, venerable Thich Hanh Bao will guide us through a breath-centred meditation, closing the session.



**Dr. Måns Broo** is a lecturer at the Department of the Study of Religions at Åbo Akademi University and a research fellow at the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies. His research interests focus on Hinduism both in history and in the contemporary world. At present, he is engaged in compiling a text-critical edition and annotated translation of a 16th century Sanskrit ritual text called the Hari-bhakti-vilāsa. He lives in Åbo, Finland, with his wife, daughter and dog.

**Viveka Lyberg Åhlander** is a certified speech therapist. She is Professor of Logopedics at Åbo Akademi University.



Lyberg Åhlander has extensive experience of clinical work with patients with voice disorders. Lyberg Åhlander's research focuses on voice and voice problems, and on how the speaker's voice quality and communication affect the listener's understanding of the message. Air is the medium that carries the sound signal all the way from the vocal folds into the listener's ear. Breath and air are the keys to our possibility to communicate orally in our interactions. The individual's experience of breath giving a functioning voice in speech and singing is a corner stone in wellbeing.

### Venerable Thich Hanh Bao,

a 42nd generation master of the Lâm Tế Zen School, is the abbot of Liên Tâm Buddhist Monastery in Turku, Finland. He received full ordination as a monk in 1994 at Phap Hoa Pagoda, Marseille, France. He has been teaching Buddha Dharma for nearly 30 years. Since 2002, he has been an elected member of the executive committee of The World Buddhist Sangha Council (WBSC). In addition, he served as the abbot of Van Hanh Pagoda, Denmark, for 10 years, and besides Liên Tâm Monastery, he is also the abbot of the Vien Y Pagoda in Italy.



With background from both traditional and contemporary studies in yoga, **Janne Kontala** holds the highest teacher certification granted by Yoga Alliance (E-RYT® 500, YACEP®). His PhD is in the study of religions from Åbo Akademi University, where he worked between 2011–2020 in two research projects financed by the Academy of Finland. He



trains yoga-teachers in Scandinavia, Belgium and Malaysia, and has authored two books on yoga.

In this session, Kontala will discuss “Stilling the mind by pranayama”. He examines the interconnectedness of mind and prana as theorised in two well-known yoga texts. Yoga-sutra and its commentarial tradition (from ca 400 CE) discuss the means by which breathing in a particular way leads to the ability to concentrate. Hatha-yoga Pradipika develops this idea comparing the connection between mind and prana with the mixture of milk and water. The two are simultaneously either in a state of movement or stillness. Kontala argues these insights are indirectly utilised in modern yoga, despite the relatively minor importance given to pranayama.



**Markku Penttonen** is a senior researcher and an adjunct professor of Cognitive Neuroscience at the University of Jyväskylä, Department of Psychology. He has studied brain in health (brain circuits at Rutgers University) and disease (ischemia and epilepsy at the University of Kuopio). His current research focuses on the role of rhythmic activity of the body and brain in learning and human interaction. He is especially interested in

how the different phases of breathing and heartbeat affect learning and memory. Another current research focus is embodiment in psychological therapy, more specifically, how bodily functions including movements, breathing, heartbeat and electrodermal activity contribute to the therapeutic processes of an individual and a couple.

Our recent studies show that the memory trace of the almost simultaneous occurrence of two events is better when we experience them during the expiration phase of breathing than during the inspiration phase. Furthermore, the diastolic phase of heartbeat is more favorable for memory formation than the systolic phase. Together, learning is more efficient when the events to be linked together as a memory occur during the resting state of the lungs and heart than during the working phase. Furthermore, the neuronal response of the cerebral cortex is larger to the first event when it occurs during expiration of breathing and diastole of heartbeat. Thus, at the behavioural and neuronal level the phase of respiratory and cardio-

vascular system activation importantly contributes to learning. To further highlight the importance of breathing for memory formation, other studies show that during sleep breathing controls the brain neuronal activations important for the formation of permanent memories.

WEDNESDAY 24 AUGUST, 18:00–19:30

## Carnival of the Animals: Fossils

### Every house has a door

Lin Hixson (director), Matthew Goulish (dramaturg and performer), Essi Kausalainen (costumes and textiles), Ahti Leppänen (performer), Julia Rima (clarinetist), Villa Ruscica (performer), Bryan Saner (performer), Sarah Skaggs (producer)

**ENGAGING THE CONFERENCE THEME WIND, Every house has a door and Essi Kausalainen** present *Fossils*, a chapter of the project *Carnival of the Animals*, which takes performance as a form of transit from science to dream and back again. *Fossils* considers resurrection, joining three sources: first, the verses of the prophet Ezekiel in the Valley of the Dry Bones, when dead bones rise up out of the sand and rejoin into living entities—a *rattling of the bones came together, bone to its bone*. Yet they lack life until God infuses them with breath, “*Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain that they may live.*” Second we combine the inventive formal-

ities of Saint-Saëns’s *Fossils* movement, including a central *Danse macabre/dancing skeleton* theme for xylophone, encircled by familiar musical quotations (fossilized classics) such as the nursery rhyme melody *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star* inverted, or played upside-down. Third we include the concerns of our *Carnival* series with extinct or endangered species, and the

Photo: Elise Cowin



*Cuckoo*. Essi Kausalainen, Matthew Goulish, Lin Hixson & Sarah Skaggs

sobering prospect of DNA cloning undoing the brute fact of extinction. In this triangulation, what form of resurrection, what winds of reversal, might performance actualize?

**Lin Hixson**, director, and **Matthew Goulish**, dramaturg, formed Every house has a door in Chicago in 2008 to convene diverse, inter-generational project-specific teams of specialists, including emerging as well as internationally recognized artists. Drawn to historically or critically neglected subjects, Every house creates performance works and performance-related projects in many media. Helsinki-based artist and performer Essi Kausalainen first collaborated with Every house with the 2018 performance *Scarecrow*. Their performance project *Carnival of the Animals*, overseen by producer **Sarah Skaggs**, devises a response to each of the 14 movements of the 1886 musical suite for children of the same title by French Romantic composer Camille Saint-Saëns, engaging the titles in sequence and approaching them with endangered or extinct species in mind. This chapter, *Fossils*, features long-time Chicago-based performer and collaborator **Bryan Saner**, Helsinki-based youth performers **Ahti Leppänen** and **Villa Ruscica** who appeared in *Scarecrow* in 2018, and Helsinki-based musician **Julia Rima**.



*Aquarium.* Bryan Saner

Photo: Yoni Goldstein & Hadley Austin



*Stream.* Ahti Leppänen & Villa Ruscica

Photo: Laura Cemin

THURSDAY 25 AUGUST, 13:15–14:45

## Turbulent Times

Taru Elfving, Aleksandra Dobrego, Mia Jaatsi, Shruti Jain, Jamie Jenkins, Zahra Jahanshah Rad, Zoë Robertson, Kenneth Siren, Heini Uusisilta-Immonen

**ABOAGORA HOSTED** a Pre-symposium research retreat for Doctoral Candidates in the arts, humanities and sciences and MA Arts Students at the Archipelago Centre Korpoström in the Turku archipelago on 21–23 August. The participants, led by curator and researcher Taru Elfving, were invited to reflect together on what is in the air in these turbulent times. Through the prism offered by the Archipelago Sea Biosphere area, a plurality of perspectives and multisensory approaches, they discussed a range of questions related to air and the wind, such as: What do the changes in air currents in the present tell us about the past and the future, or about the interdependencies between specific places and planetary circulations? How are the languages and knowledges of all things airy changing together with the winds and weather patterns?

In this joint panel session, the Pre-symposium participants will discuss their own academic and artistic work, as well as the myriad winds of change that are carrying us – ecological and societal, material and metaphorical – and their interconnections.

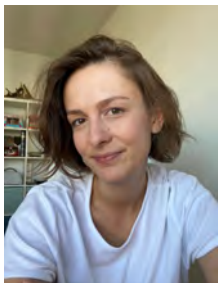
Photo: Pekko Vasantola



### Taru Elfving

I am a curator and researcher of contemporary art, focused on nurturing undisciplined and site-sensitive enquiries at the intersections of ecological, feminist and decolonial practices. As Director of CAA Contemporary Art Archipelago, I have examined ecological transformations in the Turku Archipelago region for over a decade and currently lead the research platform Spectres in Change on the island of Seili in collaboration with the Archipelago Research Institute of the University of Turku. I have a PhD

from Visual Cultures, Goldsmiths University of London (2009), and I supervise doctoral students at the University of the Arts Helsinki.



### Aleksandra Dobrego

I am a doctoral researcher at the Department of Languages, University of Helsinki. I study how humans make sense of continuous speech, particularly how intonation influences speech perception. My research interests have always lain in the field of spoken language, production and perception of sounds, and the differences between scripted speech (when we read out loud) and spontaneous speech which we encounter every day. I also love public engagement with research, because I believe that communicating a scientific discovery is as important as science per se.

Photo: Suvi Harviala



### Mia Jaatsi

I am a doctoral researcher in Human Geography at the University of Turku. My research examines the uses and contestations of public space in the city. I employ ethnographic research methods, including volunteer work, to explore how we live, experience and practice everyday urban space, and how these spaces enable but also restrict possibilities to participate in the public sphere. As a geographer, I connect the theme 'Wind' to space, which I see not only as a physical construction but as a social and cultural one, in which various power relations subsist.

### Shruti Jain

I'm Shruti, from India, doing my doctoral studies at the University of Turku. My doctoral research focuses on establishing effective screening and detection technologies for diseases. This involves the use of highly fluorescent protein-linked nanoparticles to detect altered sugars in blood for early detection of cancer. This concept enables the design of simple, fast and affordable tests and can be explored for other diseases as well. I've won the Three Minute Thesis (3MT) contest in 2020 and came 2nd in the 2021 Millennium Pitching Contest, based on this doctoral project. I believe more effective and affordable screening strategies in place along with innovative early detection systems should be the next winds of change in healthcare.



### Jamie Jenkins

Currently, I am a doctoral researcher at the University of Helsinki. I was raised in Australia and moved to Finland in 2018 to pursue my master's degree in environmental economics. My doctoral research focuses on the development of renewable energy technology, specifically offshore wind. I utilise scenario modelling to explore possible futures of renewable industry development and use these models to identify policies that could boost the development and innovation of renewable technology. My goal is to provide practical policy recommendations that are applicable and relevant to developing clean energy sources, improve energy security and aid in the clean energy transition.



### Zahra (Elmira) Jahanshah Rad

I am a doctoral researcher in Materials Science at the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Turku. My PhD thesis is about improving the efficiency and working lifetime of electronic and photovoltaic devices, which are made of semiconductors – devices like solar cells, smart phones, laptops, etc. I am co-inventor in three patent families and co-author in 13 peer-reviewed articles. Besides physics, I am interested in philosophy, cognitive sciences, social sciences, and environmental issues. My best friend of 14 years is my dog Goopi, who has been with me since he was a puppy.



### Zoë Robertson

I am a Finnish and Canadian multidisciplinary creator. My art explores how identity, agency and memory are moderated by space and language. Currently, I am based in Helsinki, Finland while enrolled in the Contemporary Design Master's program at Aalto University.



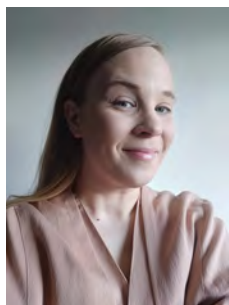




### Kenneth Siren

I'm a theatre artist and a doctoral researcher at the Performing Arts Research Centre (Tutke) of the Theatre Academy with a background in theatre pedagogy. My research incorporates pragmatist philosophy and collaborative practices that allow participants to identify and transform their habits. I write and recite poetry, and my performances often combine lyrical text, movement, and audience participation. My performances often take place

outside a typical theatre space, instead happening in public places, galleries, or on the audience members' skin. I have also lectured extensively on the topic of gender diversity, a theme that features in my artistic work and research.



### Heini Uusisilta-Immonen

I am a visual artist currently living and working in Finland. I graduated and got my bachelor's degree from Kankaanpää School of Fine Arts, Satakunta University of Applied Sciences in 2012 and I'm currently studying in the Master's Programme Visual Cultures, Curating and Contemporary Art at Aalto University. I work by using multiple mediums, such as installation art, sculpting and photographing.

Most recently I have been focusing more on art and science and site-specific projects. Topics or themes that are recurrent in my work are family, care, sensitivity and human relationship with the natural environment.



THURSDAY 25 AUGUST, 20:00–21:00

📍 ARKEN, TEHTAANKATU 2

## Många Röster – Many Voices

Composed by Frank Berger

Lyrics by Karin Boye (1942)

### Poetry declamation:

Nanuli Silagadze (Post-doctoral Researcher at Samforsk, The Social Science Research Institute, Åbo Akademi University)

### Music:

Lotta Ahlbeck (violin), Frank Berger (vocals, hurdy-gurdy), Marika Kivinen (vocals), Olli E. Liljeström (bass)

### Fire show and acrobatics:

Street Theatre VIR

**THE PERFORMANCE** was created with inspiration from a discussion between Nanuli Silagadze and Frank Berger. Silagadze's research on democratic processes has inspired Berger's artistic work that has resulted in a piece of music called *Många röster – Many voices*. The composition accentuates democracy and dictatorship. It contains improvisation and other elements that play important roles within a democratic system.

Photo: Kavilo Photography



### Frank Berger

I have many passions in life. I'm a vocal coach and a theologian, but I also work as a composer, actor and artist. The last few years I have become more and more appreciative of how folk music and its deep roots gives us and all our experiences space to breathe and exist.

Composing music myself, I'm drawn to strong melodies, brave jumps between styles, and deep, multifaceted foundations where the listener can find new ways of allowing the song to be sung within themselves.



### Nanuli Silagadze

I am a post-doctoral researcher at Samforsk, The Social Science Research Institute at Åbo Akademi University. I hold a PhD in Political Science. My main research interests include democratic innovations and political behaviour. Besides academic endeavors, I am a fitness devotee, meditator, salsa dancer and a dog lover.

Besides academic endeavors, I am a fitness devotee, meditator, salsa dancer and a dog lover.

### Street Theatre VIR

"Vir" is a community of people united by their interest in the carnival culture of their country, Belarus. They became not just amateurs, but turned into real artists who go out and perform for everyone. The theater's repertoire includes performances with a dramatic plot, which the audience calls "good fairy tales", and fun productions with stilt walkers, jugglers and fakirs.



FRIDAY 26 AUGUST, 13:15–14:15

## Smog, Aurora, Telecommunication: Situating Atmospheric Care

Hanna Husberg, Agáta Marzecová

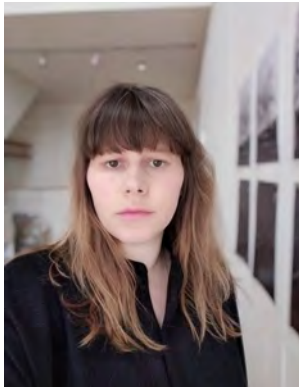
**EXPLORING BEIJING'S SMOG**, infrastructure for sensing Earth-Sun interactions and the information-carrying capacity of the electromagnetic spectrum, the interdisciplinary research project *Towards Atmospheric Care* asks: how can we care for what is inaccessible to direct experience, but still structures our daily lives? Calling attention to the overlapping boundaries between the aesthetic, science and politics of air and atmosphere, this situated approach highlights that atmospheric sensibilities are not naturally granted but emerge through non-neutral scientific, managerial and cultural practices that interweave different bodies, technologies and sociotechnical imaginaries. Bringing theory, criticism and scientific research together with feminist methodologies, art and poetics, this collaborative hopes to cultivate *atmospheric care* as a broadly interdisciplinary, political and collective concern.

**Hanna Husberg** is a visual artist and Junior Lecturer at the Department for Research and Further Education in Architecture and Fine Art, Royal Institute of Art, Stockholm. She recently completed her Phd-in-Practice project *Troubled Atmosphere – On Noticing Air* (Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Wien, 2021), which through the lens of four different art projects looks at layered, inconsistent, muddled, unruly, contaminated gatherings of air, inquiring how air has been conceptualised and perceived, and how the construction of aerial imaginaries enables specific ways of engaging with the world and excludes others. With Agáta Marzecová she has developed the interdisciplinary research project *Towards Atmospheric Care*.



**Agáta Marzecová** has a dual background in environmental science and photography and new media. Her interdisciplinary practice is situated at





the intersection of research, pedagogy, art and ecology. She has contributed to articles in *Boreal Environment Research*, *Die Erde*, *Anthropocene Review*, *Environment and Planning C: Politics and Space*, and *The Baltic Atlas* as well as interdisciplinary and artistic projects, such as the *Baltic Pavilion* (15th International Architecture Venice Biennale, 2016), *The Baltic Material Assemblies* (Architectural Association & RIBA London 2018) and the research collaborative *Towards Atmospheric Care*.

FRIDAY 26 AUGUST, 16:30–18:30

📍 SALMINIITUNTIE 37, KUSTAVI

## Air

ArtTeatro

### “AIR” IS A CIRCUS ART SHOW

where Finnish and international stars perform to the accompaniment of **Corinne Kuzma**’s music. The show features balancing, hair hanging and incredible levitation. The renowned line-up includes **Pauliina Räsänen** (directing, magic), world champion and European champion **Slava Volkov**, 12-year-old superstar **Saaga Volkova** (tightrope walking, dance acrobatics), chanson singer and musician **Corinne Kuzma** (Paris/Ukraine), **Enni Kastari** (hair hanging), **Linnea Tuominen** (trapeze) and **Lauri Luukkonen** (balancing).





## ABOAGORA Curatorial Committee 2022

**Astrid Huopala**, Senior University Lecturer, Business Economics, Åbo Akademi University

**Ruth Illman**, Director, The Donner Institute for Research in Religion and Culture, Åbo Akademi University Foundation

**Pirita Juppi**, Principal Lecturer, Arts Academy, Turku University of Applied Sciences

**Kimi Kärki**, Lecturer, Cultural Study of Music, Sibelius Academy, Uniarts Helsinki

**Silja Laine**, University Teacher, Cultural History, University of Turku

**Liisa Lulu**, Doctoral Researcher, Cultural History, University of Turku

**Maarit Leskelä-Kärki**, Professor (fixed-term), Cultural History & Vice Director of SELMA (Centre for the Study of Storytelling, Experientiality and Memory), University of Turku

**Sofia Sjö**, Research Librarian, The Donner Institute for Research in Religion and Culture, Åbo Akademi University Foundation

**Anna Törnroos-Remes**, Assistant Professor (tenure-track), The Sea – Havet, Åbo Akademi University

Planning Officer/Coordinator

**Malla Lehtonen**

Cultural History, University of Turku  
aboagora@utu.fi  
+358 50 570 4017

Intern 2022

**Julia Autio** (University of Turku)

## ABOAGORA Advisory Board 2019–2023

**Martin Cloonan**, Director, Turku Institute for Advanced Studies (TIAS), University of Turku

**Emilie Gardberg**, Dean, Sibelius Academy, Uniarts Helsinki

**Leena Kela**, Performance Artist & Curator, Executive Director of the Saari Residence and Co-artistic Director of the International New Performance Turku Festival

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**Seppo Parkkinen**, Playwright and Dramatiser, Multiarts Group Kolmas tila – Tredje Rummet – Third Space

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## ABOAGORA 2022 has been supported by

City of Turku

Kone Foundation

Svenska kulturfonden

University of Turku

Visit Turku

Åbo Akademi University

Åbo Akademi University Foundation

WE THANK ALL OF THE STUDENT ASSISTANTS FOR THEIR  
INDISPENSABLE HELP THROUGHOUT THE EVENT!

Photos **Pekko Vasantola** (cover, pages 8, 12, 27)

Layout **Frida Backman**

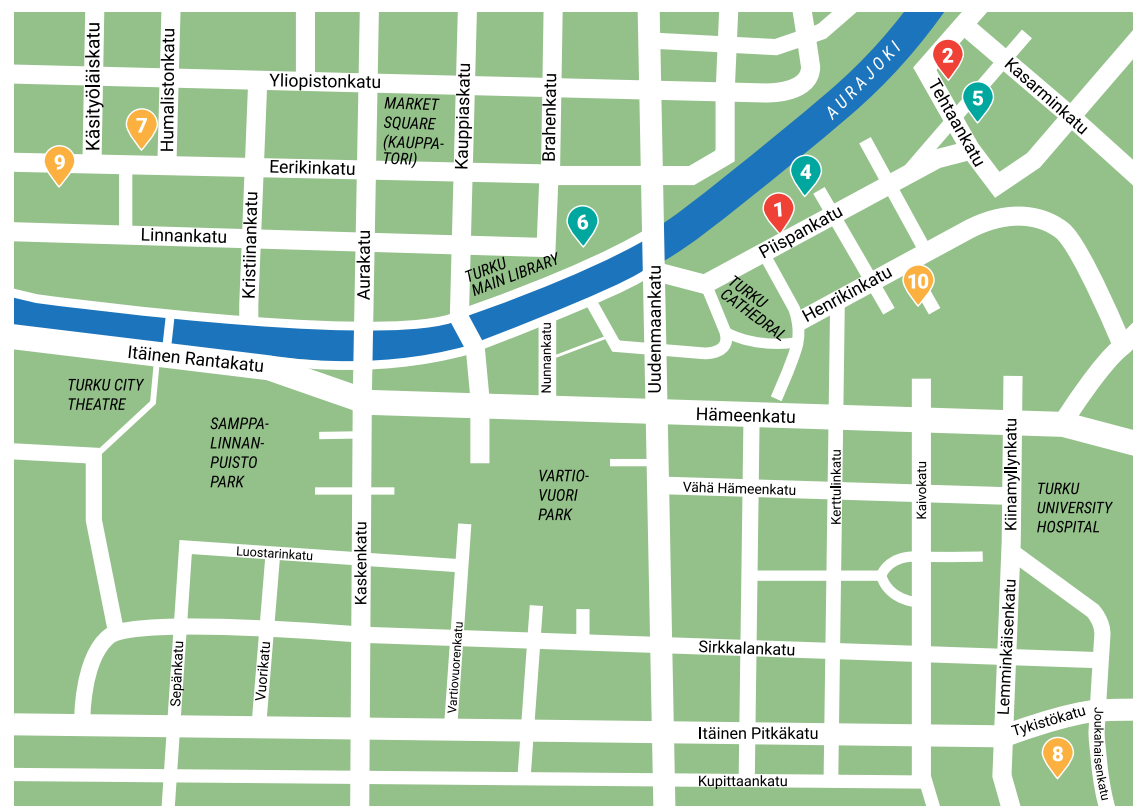
## Past events

- ABOAGORA 2021** The Five Rings: Fire
- ABOAGORA 2020** The Five Rings: Water
- ABOAGORA 2019** The Five Rings: Earth
- ABOAGORA 2018** Burden | Skuld
- ABOAGORA 2017** Becoming | Verðandi
- ABOAGORA 2016** Fate | Urðr
- ABOAGORA 2015** Precious Moments – Extreme Events
- ABOAGORA 2014** Chaos and Cosmos
- ABOAGORA 2013** The Human Machine
- ABOAGORA 2012** The Power of the Sacred and the Secular
- ABOAGORA 2011** Rethinking Enlightenment

*ABOAGORA was launched in 2011 as a joint effort between the Turku Music Festival, University of Turku, the Donner Institute, and Åbo Akademi University. In 2019 Aboagora began collaborating with the Arts Academy of Turku University of Applied Sciences.*



Photos: Pekko Vasantiola



### ABOAGORA venues

- 1.** Sibelius Museum (Piispankatu 17 / Biskopsgatan 17)
- 2.** Arken (Tehtaankatu 2 / Fabriksgatan 2)
- 3.** ArtTeatro (Salminiituntie 37, Kustavi) *Not pictured on the map*

### Suggested lunch restaurants

- 4.** Grädda (Piispankatu 15 / Biskopsgatan 15)
- 5.** Fabbes Café (Tehtaankatu 6 / Fabriksgatan 6)
- 6.** Hügge (Linnankatu 3 / Slottsgatan 3)

### Accommodation

- 7.** Solo Sokos Hotel Turun Seurahuone (Humalistonkatu 2 / Humlegårdsgatan 2)
- 8.** Original Sokos Hotel Kupittaa (Joukahaisenkatu 6 / Joukahainengatan 6)
- 9.** Scandic Atrium (Eerikinkatu 28–30 / Eriksgatan 28–30)
- 10.** Villa Hortus (Horttokuja 3 / Hortogränd 3)

ONLINE MAP: [aboagora.fi/programme/travel-and-accommodation](https://aboagora.fi/programme/travel-and-accommodation)



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[#aboagora2022](#)