

Press release  
 Exhibitions

## THE COLLECTOR'S EYE

The Hall, 8 September 2006 through 7 January 2007

Press conference on Friday, 8 September at 12.noon

Exhibition opening on Friday, 8 September at 6 p.m. Welcome!

*"Collecting is saving objects from the ravages of time and oblivion. Collecting is a way to pass on information and knowledge."* Juhani Lipsanen

**The autumn theme at the Pori Art Museum is the relationship between art and people. Art records and reflects, builds and describes both itself and the life force of the society in which it is born. When art collectors expand their collections, they build an image not only of art and its development but also of themselves. Like the artist, the collector is both an actor and the object of the action, both the messenger and the recipient. The collector is free to look for new ways of understanding and interaction, but is also bound by a strong tradition, by existing and established forms of interpretation and thinking. Through three collections, the exhibition THE COLLECTOR'S EYE displays three subjective, partly overlapping views of contemporary Finnish and international art.**

*'We view art the way we've been taught to do by museums, which makes it hard for us to understand that the museum has not always and forever been art's natural habitat,'* wrote the French short-story writer, adventurer and art historian André Malraux (1901–1976) in *Voices of Silence* (Princeton, 1978). The view of art that is presented by art historians and museums has attempted to sever all ties and references to the individual and individual taste in art. Despite this, all the major art museums in Finland have been created from the collections of private individuals. One could even argue that collections in the art museums of today are collections of collections. Research into the background of any collection almost inevitably reveals a private individual, a dedicated collector.

The Pori Art Museum is naturally known for *Maire Gullichsen* and her collection, but the museum also holds 11 other collections of depositions. The best known of these is the *Katariina and Juhani Lipsanen Collection*, which bears the name of the depositors. In total, the depositions at the Pori Art Museum comprise some 1,000 Finnish and international works of art. In 1996, ten years ago, the Pori Art Museum named Juhani Lipsanen a Benefactor of the museum.

Juhani Lipsanen will be present at the exhibition press conference on Friday, 8 September, beginning at 12 noon. As part of the Pori Art Museum Lectures, Mr. Lipsanen will also give a talk on Wednesday, 4 October 2006, at 6.30 p.m. He will speak under the heading *THE COLLECTOR'S EYE - Katariina and Juhani Lipsanen's Art Collection*.

**For more information about the exhibition, contact:** researcher Laura Selin, phone 02-621 1089, e-mail: laura.selin@pori.fi; or Museum Director Esko Nummelin, phone 02-621 1085, e-mail: esko.nummelin@pori.fi.

**For more information about the Collection, go to:** <http://www.lipsanengroup.com/gallery/collector.html>

**For photographs, go to:** [www.poriartmuseum.fi](http://www.poriartmuseum.fi) > tiedotusvälineet > lue lisää näyttelystä > lehdistökuvia