

**Bodies, Borders, Crossings****Hall, Wing****27 September 2013 – 19 January 2014****Media preview:** Thursday, 26 September 2013, at 11.00 am**Statements by artists and curators:** Friday, 27 September 2013, at 12.00 noon**Opening:** Friday, 27 September 2013, at 6.00 pm**Featured artists:** Jaakko Heikkilä, Raakel Kuukka, Riikka Kuoppala, Elena Näsänen, Marja Piriä, Minna Rainio and Mark Roberts, Hannele Rantala, Catarina Ryöppy, and Minna Suoniemi.**Curators:** Leena-Maija Rossi and Kari Soinio

***Bodies, Borders, Crossings*** is an exploration of the meaning of borders in a globalised world. It both illuminates and challenges borders, whether geographic, national or bodily. Working with photography and video, the featured artists reassess apparently self-evident norms and examine the mechanisms of social control that dominate the individual.

*Bodies, Borders, Crossings* examines cultural similarities and revealing differences through borders and the body. Jaakko Heikkilä, Catarina Ryöppy, Minna Rainio and Mark Roberts explore borders and crossings from the perspective of time and place: immigration and emigration, the “voluntariness” or optionality as well as forced crossings – as well as the issues of bodily integration and the boundary between life and death. The work of Marja Piriä, Hannele Rantala and Raakel Kuukka focus on the boundaries and crossings of identities, while Riikka Kuoppala, Minna Suoniemi and Elena Näsänen challenge or even upset the assumptions associated with bodily boundaries and gender.

Leena-Maija Rossi is Director of the Finnish Cultural Institute in New York. She has previously worked as researcher and teacher in the University of Helsinki, as a cultural critic and freelance curator. Kari Soinio is a photographic artist who has exhibited his work in numerous solo and group shows in both Finland and internationally. He lives and works in New York.

*Bodies, Borders, Crossings* continues a series of exhibitions on ethnicity, identity, multiculturalism, human rights and globalisation at the Pori Art Museum. It was presented initially at Governors Island in New York in summer 2011. It was also shown at Preus Museum, the national museum of photography in Norway, in spring 2013.

The exhibition is produced by the Finnish Cultural Institute in New York. It is supported by the Alfred Kordelin Foundation, the Kone Foundation, the Finnish Cultural Foundation, the David and Nancy Speer Professorship in Finnish Studies, the University of Minnesota, Frame, the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture, and the Finnish-Norwegian Institute.

**More info and press images:**

Pori Art Museum / Anni Venäläinen, [anni.venalainen@pori.fi](mailto:anni.venalainen@pori.fi) / +358 (0)44 701 7601.  
Pori Art Museum, Eteläranta, 28100 Pori, tel. +358 (0)2 621 1080/1081 [www.poriartmuseum.fi](http://www.poriartmuseum.fi)