

Curriculum vitae

## MERJA KESKINEN

Master of Arts, Textile Artist TEXO  
Helsinki, Finland



### EDUCATION

1982-88 University of Art and Design Helsinki, Master of Arts 1988  
1980-82 Turku University

### SOLO AND JOINT EXHIBITIONS

2018 "Crossroads", Gallery Pirkko-Liisa Topelius, Helsinki  
2017 Together Merja Keskinen and Kirsi Kivivirta, Vellikello, Järvenpää  
2016 Gallerygallery, Kyoto, Japan  
2014-15 Pop up Merja Keskinen, DesignDesk, Helsinki  
2014 "Ruudukko / Kesisim" (Bijlenga, Jokinen, Keskinen, Steihaug), Mügsf Ana Galeri, Marmara Universitesi, Istanbul, Turkey  
2013-14 EFG Toimistokalusteet Showroom, Helsinki  
2013 "Tosivärejä – True Colors", Gallery Johan S, Helsinki  
2012-17 Selected works in Ornamo office, Helsinki  
2011 "Vain muutaman värin tähden – For a Few Colors More", Gallery Johan S, Helsinki  
2008 Colmio gallery, Oulu  
2007 "Värikirjo" (The Color Spectrum), Punavuori Design Studio Gallery, Helsinki  
2007 Housing fair, Hämeenlinna  
1988 The University of Art and Design, Helsinki  
1986 Finlayson Exhibition Villa, Forssa  
1985 Gallery Atski, the University of Art and Design Helsinki

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2018 Pistot, CraftCorner, Helsinki  
2017 Art goes Kapakka TSIGAA, Helsinki  
2017 Ledtråd – Narrative Thread, Rydals Museum, Sweden  
2016 Yhes – Together, Lokal, Helsinki  
2016-17 Johtolanka, 10th Finnish Textile Triennial, Vapriikki Museum Centre, Tampere  
2016 15th International Triennial of Tapestry, Lodz, Poland  
2015-16 Miniature Textiles, Verkaranta, Tampere and the Craft Museum of Finland, Jyväskylä  
2012 Ornamentti, Exhibition of Miniature Textiles, Gallery Lasipalatsi, Helsinki and the Craft Museum of Finland, Jyväskylä  
2011-12 Preesens art-craft-design, Ornamo 100 years, The Craft Museum of Finland, Jyväskylä, The Northern Ostrobothnia Museum, Oulu and The North Karelian Museum, Joensuu  
2011 ArtHelsinki, O-gallery, Helsinki  
2010 Harkko Museum, Raisio  
2009 Tekstiiliteid nyt! 8. Finnish Textile Triennial, Designmuseum, Helsinki  
2006 Metrin juhlaa - uudet kuviot kankaalla, The Craft Museum of Finland, Jyväskylä and Textile Museum Tyyki, Forssa  
2002 Findesignnow02, Fiskars

1996-97 Lönström Art Museum, Rauma  
1996 4th Finnish Textile Triennial, Texo 40 years Vanha kirkkokuisto, Helsinki  
1989 2th Finnish Textile Triennial, Näyttelytila Otso, Espoo

#### GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS

2017 The Swedish Cultural Foundation in Finland / Svenska kulturfonden  
2016 Arts Promotion Centre Finland / Taiteen edistämiskeskus, a 3-year state grant (2016-2018)  
2016 Finnish Cultural Foundation / Suomen Kulttuurirahasto, working group Favén, Keskinen  
2015 The Ornamo Foundation / Ornamo säätiö, working group Nisonen, Keskinen, Syvänoja  
2015 Arts Promotion Centre Finland / Taiteen edistämiskeskus  
2014 Arts Promotion Centre Finland / Taiteen edistämiskeskus  
2014 Finnish Cultural Foundation / Suomen Kulttuurirahasto  
2014 The Swedish Cultural Foundation in Finland / Svenska kulturfonden  
2013 Greta and William Lehtinen Foundation  
2010 Arts Council of Finland / Taiteen keskustoimikunta  
1991 Finnish Cultural Foundation / Suomen Kulttuurirahasto

#### CUSTOM ARTWORKS

2011-12 "Kind of Blue", Work of Textile Art, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, Finland's Embassy in Paris  
1986-87 City of Helsinki / Taivallahden leikkipuisto: Installation, First Prize in Competition together with University of Art and Design Helsinki and City of Helsinki, work group Keskinen, Niinimäki, Seppä

#### MEMBERSHIPS

Ornamo ry, Ornamo Art and Design Finland  
Tekstiilitaiteilijat TEXO ry, the Finnish Association of Textile Artists  
Nordic Textile Art NTA  
Helsingin Taiteilijaseura / Helsinki Artists Association HTS  
Kuvasto ry,

#### CONTACT

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#### ARTIST STATEMENT:

*My artistic work is inspired by colors.*

*In my art, I have studied changes in color and delicate nuances. Color and differences between various shades, interaction of colors and the feel of the material in a woven fabric are my passion. In my artworks I express the coalescence of colors and the creation of new colors. I use thin cotton and linen threads to give expression to the minute differences in shades of color.*

*I do my artworks by myself with my own weaving technique. The technique imitates woven fabric but the elements are, however, made by entwining and sewing together threads of different shades.*

*While I am making my artworks, I work close up, combining thin threads of different colors. The tiniest changes in the components affect the new shade that is created. When the artwork is viewed from farther away as a whole, the color of each individual thread loses significance and the color effect is created by the mixture.*