

MARIANNE HUOTARI

b. 1986, Finland

Marianne Huotari crafts delicate ceramic wall rugs and glazed stoneware sculptures using a reimagined version of the traditional Finnish textile technique *ryijy*. Ryijy translates to thick cloth, and refers to a method of loom weaving tapestries, often depicting geometric shapes or florals, in colors traditionally sourced from plant dyes. Through a care intensive process of craftsmanship, Huotari sculpts hundreds of oblong ceramic beads and petals by hand, before sewing them onto a metal frame with wire. The beads layer and bubble at will, similar to the woven knots in ryijy. Her color palette mimics that of the original woolen fibers: creams and light greens alongside pinks and muted blues populate her tapestries and free-standing sculptures. The presence of nature and whimsy is a mainstay, whether referentially in titles such as *Garden Plot*, or representationally in the shape of small adorning flowers.

Huotari's slow and hands-on process allows her to pause the rapidity of daily life and find a meditative rhythm in the act of creating. Due to the laborious nature of each work, her stamina for a piece must carry on for weeks to months at a time. She approaches each item she creates with tenderness, whether it be a bead passing through her fingers, or a wall hanging requiring countless hours of stitching. Her final forms exude a warm consciousness and feeling of delight, much like the artist herself.

Marianne Huotari lives and works in Helsinki, where she is a member of the Arabia Art Department Society. Her work has been shown widely in Finland, as well as throughout Europe, Asia, and the United States. Her recent work, *Väre*, was made in collaboration with the Finnish National Museum. Huotari serves as the Creative Director for Helsinki-based design and rug company Finarte. In 2022, Huotari was shortlisted for the Loewe Craft Prize and her work was exhibited at the Seoul Museum of Craft Arts.



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EDUCATION

2014 Master of Arts, Aalto University, School of Arts, Design and Architecture, Finland
 2009 Bachelor of Design (BA), Savonia University of Applied Sciences, Kuopio Academy of Design, Finland
 2008 University of Huddersfield, Exchange Studies, UK
 2005 Mikkelin Lyseon Lukio, Matriculation Examination, Finland

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022	Hiljaiselo, Doinel, Tokyo, Japan
2021	Kukkatori, Doinel, Tokyo, Japan
2020	Kasvukausi, Konst & Form, Sipoo, Finland
2019	ORANGERIA: The Ceramic Garden of Infinite Summer, Mustakivi, Matsuyama, Japan
2018	Kotiseutu:The Spirit of Roots, Spiral, Tokyo, Japan

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- Clay Protagonists, Rvnhus, Kolding, Denmark
 Narrative Threads, Scandinavia House, New York, NY
 Northern Latitude 60.20890: Arabia Art Department Society's 20th anniversary exhibition,
 littala & Arabia Design Centre, Helsinki, Finland
 Atelier Life, Hvitträsk National Museum of Finland, Kirkkonummi, Finland
 Strange Friends, Make Hauser & Wirth, London, United Kingdom
 Recent Works by Veera Kulju, Marianne Huotari, Hanne G., HB381, New York, NY
 Loewe Foundation Craft Prize, Seoul Museum, Seoul, South Korea
 Next of Europe, Homo Faber, Michelangelo Foundation, Venice, Italy
- 2021 Saviseremonia, MUJI, Helsinki, Finland
 Here, There and Everywhere, Hiljaiselo, Doinel, Tokyo, Japan
 Seilunmaisema, Glasshouse, Helsinki, Finland
 Kantava maa Solid Ground, Aalto University, Espoo, Finland
 The International Ceramic Festival—MINO, Gifu, Japan
 Pinta, Purnu, Orivesi, Finland
 On the Edge Äärellä, Rovaniemi Art Museum, Finland

	Growth, OHO Galleria, Helsinki, Finland	
2020	Wall Art from Finland, Doinel, Tokyo, Japan	
	Sato: Savenkorjuun Aika, MUJI, Helsinki, Finland	
	HDW: Stadium Exhibition, Helsinki, Finland	
	Matkalla, Kulttuuihalli, Helsinki, Finland	
2019	Gifts from Finland, SPIRAL, Tokyo, Japan	
	Joulun Harsomaa, Himmelblau, Tampere, Finland	
	Vieno: Hiljainen Harmonia, Vellikello Gallery, Järvenpää, Finland	
	Paratiisin Salaisuus, Iittala & Arabia Design Center, Helsinki, Finland	
2018	What the Hel from Finland, Vancouver, Canada	
	Pistot, Craft Corner, Helsinki, Finland	
2017	Signals, Habitare, Helsinki, Finland	
	Cheongju International Craft Biennale, Cheongju, South Korea	
	Finland 100: Now and Then, Beirut, Lebanon	
	Käsityön äärellä – elävä käsityökulttuuri, Craft Corner, Helsinki, Finland	
2016	Yhes, Lokal, Helsinki, Finland	
	Pinnalla Touring Exhibition, Jyväskylä, Kokkola, Helsinki, and Punkaharju, Finland	
SELECTED COLLECTIONS		
EMMA Espoo Museum of Modern Art		
Finnish State Art Collection		
AWARDS AND GRANTS		

2022	Loewe Foundation Craft Prize, Finalist, Spain
202 I	Officine Saffi Award 4, Residence Prize, Italy
2015	Ryijypalvelu Oy Textile Tapestry Competition, First Prize, Finland
2013	Poukama Design Competition, Finland

PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

Ja Niin Mina Kukoistan, Ministry of Education and Culture, The Finnish State Art
Collection
Suven Sulot, Lapuan Kankurit Store, Tokyo, Japan
Yunnan, Yunnan Restaurant, Jewel Changi Airport, Singapore
Colored Landscapes, Kyo-Ondokoro Inn, Kyoto, Japan