



Suomenlinna

NEWSLETTER

SUOMENLINNA NEWSLETTER NRO 2 / 3 | 2007



Esa Toivanen
lives a full life on
Suomenlinna

Completely new children's tour aims to be a success
The gates are open at the Suomenlinna Museum
Suomenlinna Summer Theatre gets new rain canopy





LEADER

Jaakko Antti-Poika

DIRECTOR, GOVERNING BODY OF SUOMENLINNA

Even since the decision was first made to build Suomenlinna it has been an international project. Originally it was military in character, and war and the various alliances under which great fortifications are constructed are usually multinational.

Suomenlinna was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1991 as a remarkable representative of 18th century military architecture. This initiated a new era in its international life, but even before that, in 1985, an important international seminar of restoration experts had been held here that laid down the main principles of restoration far into the future. Since Suomenlinna gained World Heritage status, keeping an eye on trends in the outside world have come to be part of our everyday operations.

For about ten years now Suomenlinna has belonged to a network of European cultural centres functioning at nationally important monuments, and has been chairman for the last three years. This Cultural Centres – Historical Monuments network has provided us with an excellent link with new actors combining cultural activities and built monuments on an innovative basis.

Side by side with expert, skilful restoration work, finding suitable uses for a monument is an important part of its preservation. No country can these days afford to preserve its monuments merely as open-air museums. Finding the right uses ensures that buildings and technical equipment remain in good working order as regular maintenance is the most cost-efficient way of looking after them.

Suomenlinna's dry dock, which features in this newsletter, is a fine example of this mode of operation. The dock is still used for its original purpose. Traditional vessels needing annual repairs have found a good place there for wintering. Work on these ships brings life and jobs to the islands' otherwise quiet winter season. And there is the added bonus that the regular activity in the dock provides a new attraction in the further development of Suomenlinna tourism.



Vitality at the Valimo

In the heart of Suomenlinna, close by the old dry dock, is one of the island's summer treasures: the Cafe Bar Valimo. This is a little eatery and bar which also looks after the Vistors' Moorings.

What used to be an ammunition casting plant has been stylishly renovated. A delicious smell of food floats in the air, and pasta dishes and wok specialities are prepared just a few feet away from customers. However, the real treasures are to be found outside. The sun shines on the Valimo terrace, which is right by the seashore, nearly all day. As well as the fine seascapes, the terrace sometimes offers the sight of off-duty employees of the JT-line waterbus. "It feels that summer's really come when the waterbuses start operating again and the Valimo opens up," says Emppu.

Anna Valkeisenmäki, who also works on Suomenlinna, is also a regular customer.

"I come here for lunch pretty often,

because it's only a short walk away. It's fun to see what's going on in the shipyard as you walk by." The general spirit of the place also wins praise from Anna. "It's really nice to come here, because the staff are so pleasant. And the pasta carbonara is great!"

The Valimo also serves the Vistors' Moorings.

"We can provide yachtsmen with all the usual services," says Mikko Antti-Poika, restaurant owner and harbour master. The Valimo provides showers and a sauna, facilities for emptying septic tanks, and the attractive terrace already mentioned. There are berths for about 40 craft. "We get over 3000 people a year staying overnight here. Suomenlinna's a fine spot for yachtsmen," adds Antti-Poika.

Veikko Eranti

News

Nordic Culture Point comes to Suomenlinna

The Nordic Culture Point, which opened for business on Suomenlinna in May, is a new nodal point for the Nordic cultural community. The Nordic Culture Point, housed in the former premises of the now defunct Nordic Institute for Contemporary Art, on Susisaari, is a cultural advice and information point which comes under the Nordic Council of Ministers. The office also operates as a secretariat for cultural cooperation and manages new programmes. The first director of the Nordic Culture Point is Bergljót Jónsdóttir from Iceland, who started work in April. Jónsdóttir had previously been director of the Bergen Music Festival for ten years.



The men who built the fortress

Fredrik I (1676-1751)

The construction of Suomenlinna began when Swedish king Fredrik I decided that the Finnish coast needed to be protected more effectively against the threat of Russian expansionism. The foundation stones of the plan were the two fortresses Suomenlinna and Svartholma. Fredrik I proved unpopular because of the heavy losses his armies incurred, and during his reign the Swedish king's powers were drastically reduced.





Treasures of the Coastal Artillery Museum transferred to Manege

This spring a start was made on major restorations at the Coastal Artillery Museum in the old powder cellar beside Kustaanmiekka. The cannon, the shot and shell, the fire-control equipment and the historical maps and pictures will be on show this summer at the Manege Military Museum on Iso Mustasaari. A few of the exhibits for which space cannot be found at the Manege will be moved to the mainland, to the main display at the Military Museum in Kruununhaka.

The Manege Museum has a fascinating collection of some of the heavier weaponry used by different branches of the defence forces in the Winter War and the Continuation War. There are also reconstructions of a signals dug-out and a dressing station at the Museum. The Manege is not the only military museum on Suomenlinna. The Second-World-War submarine Vesikko, which is one of Suomenlinna's most popular tourist sights, is also part of the

Museum. Vesikko is the Museum's second-largest exhibit, but the largest is not far away either. The largest is the gun on Kuivasaari, one of the nearby islands, which forms part of the restricted military area.

Järisevä gun a favourite with Japanese tourists

"Some of the biggest Coastal Artillery Museum guns that are now being moved because of the restorations were shipped across to the mainland in May on the service ferry Ehrensvärd. It was a heavy cargo and a very unusual one," says Military Museum researcher Kai Heinonen. The Järisevä gun (Järisevä 120/41 A-gun), which stands in front of the Coastal Artillery Museum, remains on Suomenlinna to attract interested Japanese visitors. The Russians brought the gun to Suomenlinna (then known as Viapori) in the early 1900s for the Peter the Great sea for-

ress. A very tight schedule forced the builders of the fortress to go as far afield as Japan to procure the gun. The gun was left behind on Suomenlinna when the Russians withdrew from the fortress in 1918, and it was used in Karelia during Finland's Winter War at the Järisevä fortifications where it is said to have achieved honour and distinction for Finland. When peace came, the famous gun was evacuated from the front to Suomenlinna, on a horse-drawn gun-carriage to begin with and then by lorry, accompanied by the Finnish flag and a guard of honour.

The Japanese are not the only nation to have found their own favourite exhibit in the Military Museum collection. According to Heinonen, the Germans often admire the 88-mm anti-aircraft cannon manufactured in Germany in 1937 (88ltK 37 RMB).

The Manege and the submarine Vesikko are open to visitors every day during the summer from May 12 to August 31 11.00-18.00.



Esa Toivanen lives a full life on Suomenlinna

The large man taking his little dog out for a walk down the village street on Suomenlinna are a familiar sight for many of the fortress residents. Esa Toivanen is a craftsman in wood, and he and his terrier Snadi deal with a whole range of issues with the people they meet. Snadi counts rabbits while his master agrees details about festival arrangements, exhibitions and arts-and-crafts issues.

Esa Toivanen is the prime mover for the Viapori Jazz and Viapori Winter Blues festivals, and many exhibitions and concerts, not to mention Viapori Forum, the local artists' association which is behind them.

The craftsman's workshop

Behind an unassuming wooden door in the wall of the Bastion Hårleman on Susisaari there is a series of workshops and studios for artists and craftspeople. The door of Esa Toivanen's workshop is usually open to the public. Nowadays, the casual visitor who drops in can be from any corner of the world. From time to time, Toivanen has to be a mannequin for international TV crews.

Drying in the store there are branches from trees felled by the Governing Body of Suomenlinna property unit. Beautiful design

products appear in the workshop, the better-known ones being the light fittings and ingenious 'stress blocks' that are on sale at the Artek design shop. The newest product is a paper knife, which two years ago was on show at MOMA, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, after being at the Design Forum in Helsinki.

No going back to the world of consultancy

Moving to Suomenlinna at the turn of the millennium meant a complete U-turn for the Toivanen family. Esa's wife Anu had already swapped her long career in banking for the life of a student nurse, while Esa gave up his consulting job to be a craftsman in wood.

"I had been messing about with wood for my own amusement under the guidance of my father and I had a burning desire to change my occupation. Perhaps my father's

profession had something to do with it, he was a stone mason who had carved war memorials, done the stonework for the Sibelius Monument, cut slabs for Finlandia Hall and so on. I wouldn't go back to the world of personnel-management consultancy under any circumstances.

Toivanen is a man who had not previously been involved in society activities, but after moving to the island, he has already managed to be involved in the foundation of three societies there. Toivanen, who looks like a great big teddy-bear, puts one of his elbows on the table and rests his chin in his hand for a moment to consider where this organizer emerged from.

"It all turns on the fact that I want to be involved in what's going on and I love music – which I can now introduce to other people."

The first job he did was to set up Viapori taidekäsiyöläiset ry an arts and crafts association which has a thriving summer trade in the yellow log house on Susisaari near the workshops and studios where the artists and craftspeople work. In 2000, it was the turn of Viapori Forum ry.

"I made a survey and calculated that there were dozens of professionals from different branches of the arts living and working here, actors, musicians, graphic artists, writers, photographers. The idea was to bring together the different artists living or working on

the island. The society has already organized over 50 different events, most of them small in scale.

Viapori Forum produces the Viapori Winter Blues festival which is organized early on in the year. Aija Puurtinen, otherwise known as Honey B, was recently appointed artistic director of the festival.

Viapori Jazz has become established as a well-known and much-appreciated festival.

"Of course this is a marvellous place for a jazz festival, that was already well known way back in the 1980s when the Sea Jazz festival was held here. Even Dizzy Gillespie played at Sea Jazz! I didn't invent Viapori Jazz all on my own. In the same way as many new ideas, it all started from a conversation with my friend and neighbour Markku Tanttu, the graphic artist, at his place. Markku gave me a book he had written, entitled *Mies joka harrastaa jazzia* (the man whose hobby is jazz), in which Klaus Järvinen has a major role. Järvinen's advice was to ask Jukka Perko to be artistic director and along with Jukka came the third member of the working group, producer Lassi Ikäheimo.

"You can only admire how skilful the younger generation are! The Sibelius Academy, the Pop/Jazz Conservatory and the whole system of musical education in Finland has produced an enormous number of excellent musicians. These musicians are wonderful as personalities, too, miles away from being self-important. I've met well over a hundred musicians in the last seven years and not one of them goes about with his nose in the air."

Most of the arrangements for the festival held in August are handled on a voluntary basis by the residents of Suomenlinna themselves. Esa's family, his wife Annu and their two grown-up daughters and one son-in-law have also been involved right from the outset.

For the autumn, Viapori Forum is organizing a joint event with the local residents' association, called Väkevä Viapori.

"We could show you all kinds of things



that are coming to the boil on Suomenlinna. There's an exhibition under way that is going to show how bread used to be baked in the fortress for ships and soldiers, local musicians and many people who have workshops here have promised to help, then Viaporin Vihtahousut are heating the sauna that has room for a hundred people," Toivanen advertises.

Suomenlinna must not be carnivalized

"Suomenlinna isn't suitable for mass happenings of any kind, the fortress just can't take it. It's fine to put on events here and it's a matter of honour to organize them within the parameters of a World Heritage site. We don't want to carnivalize this monument. Consequently Viapori Jazz is a small-scale, acoustic event with a Finnish bias. The same thing applies to the Winter Blues festival.

"But although these events have received support from the Finnish Cultural Foundation, the Ministry of Education and the City of Helsinki Cultural Office and various sponsors, it is an enormous challenge to sell the tickets when there are dozens of events going on in Helsinki at the same time. However, we prefer to put the emphasis on quality rather than quantity and are satisfied with lower profits. This is long-term work and it will take years before a new festival becomes known. Creativity is the main thing – when something new is emerging it needs

considerable trumpeting to carry it right through to the end as a product or an event."

A charming home and a kitchen garden

The Toivanen family has lived in an apartment block called 'Vaasan kasarmi' (Vaasa Barracks) in the middle of the fortress island for seven years now. The name of the building derives from the fact that it served as a barracks for the Vaasa Coastal Artillery Battalion when the Finnish garrison was stationed on the islands.

"The Vaasa Barracks alone used to house 1,192 soldiers, and now there are altogether 850 people living on the island!" exclaims Toivanen.

Next to the building there is a kitchen garden with a breathtaking view. "The first new potatoes will be dug up at Midsummer. It will be nice to sit outside watching boats pass through Kustaanmiekka. I feel privileged in a way. This is a peaceful living environment and the neighbours are nice. You know nearly everyone. And if you happen to come across an islander on the mainland you always say hello even if you don't even know the person's name.

A word on Snadi

Snadi, a Jack Russel's terrier, is an important part of the Toivanen family.

"Extremely important. Snadi insists that we take a walk, rain or shine. The entire island is his territory. He likes to go to the visitors' moorings at Bar Valimo, as Mikko, the caretaker, usually gives him an ice-cream. Even in winter Snadi puts the break on at the gate to the moorings, trying to make a detour in the hope of an ice-cream. Many things are tops here compared with the city. You can see the changing of the seasons. The summer is green. In winter the snow stays clean, as no salt is spread on the roads. Snadi isn't complaining either.

Viapori Jazz takes us by surprise again!

Sentimental ballads, fusion jazz, and Marzi Nyman playing the organ? Yes, this has to be the Viapori Jazz festival. This year, the jazziest summer event on Suomenlinna is even surprising itself.

"With the help of a few well-known Finnish musicians we plan to treat our audiences to a slightly differently flavoured programme this summer. Good music, a great atmosphere and the unbeatable surroundings of Suomenlinna are standard themes of Viapori Jazz," explains Jukka Perko, artistic director of the jazz festival.

"We want to feature unique musical combinations that cannot be heard elsewhere. We contact certain musicians and ask them: if you were allowed to produce the concert of your dreams, what kind of a concert would it be like? This is the way these concerts usually get started. For a long time now, Emma

Salokoski and Maria Ylipää have wanted to do something together, and with a string orchestra, no less. And we are going to make that happen!"

Another festival concert Perko mentions is the Schwing, Stomp & Schlager concert led by Mikko Innanen.

"The train of thought here is what would the music played by a Finnish student who moved to Germany, say sometime in the 20s, sound like?"

The festival programme will also feature Lenni-Kalle Taipale's Autoilujazz, Marzi Nyman's organ music debut, Pekka Pohjola's latest composition for string orchestra, saxophone and percussion and Tuomo Prättälä's acoustic jazz.

Viapori Jazz on Suomenlinna from 22 to 25.8.2007. For further information, please go to www.viapori.fi.





Theatre protected from the weather

In May, Suomenlinna Summer Theatre acquired a rain canopy to cover its stage and seating. The pale grey fabric stretched over steel cross-arches withstands the force of not only wind and rain but also the weight of its architects, Johannes Laiho and Tuija Lind, who climbed up on top to please the photographer. The canopy did not even rock under their combined weight of over 100 kilo. Johannes and Tuija looked pleased with both the finished architecture and with Matti Orpana's technical design and the engineering work of Matti Haaramo and Eero Kotkas, who were responsible for the structural planning.

"Time will show what uses the theatre companies and concert organizers put it to," says Johannes Laiho. "Certainly the colour seems well chosen. Later in the summer the leaves and grass on the walls will probably mask the canopy even more," he adds with satisfaction.

According to Governing Body of Suomenlinna architect Tuija Lind, a new canopy was planned because the old one, which had served for 15 years and only covered the spectators, needed replacing. Before 1993 the theatre operated without any canopy at all, though a temporary canopy was constructed by the Ryhmäteatteri theatre in 1988 and '89 for its production of *Lord of the Rings*.

Ryhmäteatteri got in first

The first user of the newly weather-proof stage will be the Ryhmäteatteri theatre, which will be performing Väinö Linna's *The Unknown Soldier* during the summer season, which extends into early September. It will also be using the canopy for instance as a screen to project an image against, which was not possible earlier.

"A covered stage permits all kinds of dif-

ferent solutions, and not just for lighting, sets and live music. The protection offered by a canopy makes it possible to use costumes, make-up and props comparable to those of an indoor theatre. Even so, the feeling is the same as it should be in a summer theatre," comments Tomi Tirranen, for whom this summer season at Suomenlinna is the sixteenth, and who is responsible for lighting design.

The canopy extends the summer season at both ends

The tent-like canopy protects the whole summer theatre, that is, the inner courtyard of the Hyvä omantunto (Good Conscience) ravelin, so this space can now be used starting earlier in the spring and going on later into the autumn. There is seating for nearly 500 people, and the new canopy makes this the biggest 'indoor space' in the fortress, followed by the von Fersen tenaille, where the hall takes 250. According to Jaakko Antti-Poika, Director of the Governing Body of Suomenlinna, the canopy means new events can be added to the excellent cultural programme at the fortress. "We also have a better chance of getting international productions to visit us. It also means our present festivals Viapori Jazz and Lés Lumieres – Entertainment in the spirit of the Enlightenment – can arrange their own concerts at the theatre without any risk of the instruments getting wet or having to issue a rain proviso."

Summer theatre at the fortress since 1968

The first Helsinki Summer Theatre started up at Hyvä Omatunto in 1968. Ryhmäteatteri/Kirja stage started operating there in 1970 and has been alternating with the Q-teatteri since 1992.

The KOM Theatre used the stage in 1971-72 and returned to Suomenlinna last summer with its dramatized version of Väinö Linna's *Here Under the North Star*, to which this summer's production of the same writer's *The Unknown Soldier* forms a natural follow-up.

What's a ravelin?

'Ravelin' is probably an unfamiliar word to non-experts on old defensive systems. A ravelin is an outwork designed to protect the weakest point in a defensive wall. The summer theatre is in a ravelin completed in 1770 which performed this function for about sixty years. Jointly with the bastions Kunnia (Honour) and Hyve (Virtue), the Hyvä omantunto (Good Conscience) ravelin forms part of a continuous circle of fortified defences. The name Good Conscience was given to the ravelin by the founder of the fortress, Augustin Ehrensward.

In his book on Suomenlinna, C.J. Cardberg comes to the conclusion that the names were Ehrensward's response to criticism of the fortress from his colleagues and the king. He speculates that the three names tell critics that he is "a man of virtue who has with good conscience preserved his honour" as builder of the fortress.

Original roof destroyed by bombing in 1885

In the 1830s, during the period of Russian rule, the Hyvä omantunto ravelin was converted into a storage building for ammunition by first closing up the gun apertures and later, at the end of the 1840s, covering the space with a large sheet metal roof. This roof was badly damaged in 1855 when the British/French fleet bombarded the fortress. For the rest of the Russian period the space was used to store explosives and oil.

The mystery of the trousers that constantly needed mending

On the covered courtyard stage at the Toy Museum, the Suomenlinna children's theatre will present a humorous musical play for children aged four years and over, entitled *The mystery of the trousers that constantly needed mending*. The play will feature Suomenlinna's bravest girl, Patti-Katja and her best friend Kaakao-Tommi. The only thing wrong with Kaakao-Tommi, in Patti-Katja's mind is that in spite of his huge size he is not nearly as strong or as brave as she is.

Patti-Katja becomes absorbed in a secret archaeological dig on a deserted plot of land nearby. Kaakao-Tommi doesn't want to go digging all the way to the end of the earth because on the way you might bump into all kinds of scary things and it can be awfully dark in really deep caverns. Patti-Katja is determined to solve the secret even though her dad has forbidden her to play these archaeological games. Finally, Patti-Katja and Kaakao-Tommi find themselves in the middle of a surprising and scary problem. What is the strange object buried in the deserted plot of land, have they found a hidden spaceship or what?

Performances from 7.7. to 9.8. Written and directed by Mika Lehtinen. Performed by Meri Nenonen, Aarni Kivinen, Tarja Matilainen and Jani Kiskilä. Suitable for children aged 4 and over. Duration: 50 min. Tickets: children EUR 8, adults EUR 9, adults accompanying children EUR 8. Reservations: Suomenlinna children's summer theatre tel. 050-5234554.



Ryhmäteatteri's 'Unknown Soldier'

This year, the Summer Theatre is presenting a stage version of Väinö Linna's famous novel *The Unknown Soldier* (1954), which recounts the experiences of a rifle company during Finland's 'Continuation War'. Linna based the book on his own company during the war and the characters have models in reality.

When it first came out, the novel was criticized for its anti-war feeling. The Suomenlinna production directed and dramatized by Mika Myllyaho sees nothing admirable in war. Ryhmäteatteri's *The Unknown Soldier* depicts young men who apparently have no clear idea about the reasons for and consequences of wars, but gain strength from their sense of solidarity and the heroism of others. The roles of the eight young men are played by students at the Theatre Academy

in Helsinki and two female roles are played by women students. The main characters are played by Aku Hirviniemi, Turkka Mastomäki, Juho Milonoff, Taisto Oksanen, Janne Reinikainen and Jani Volanen. The music is by Kie von Hertzen and the sets by Markus Tsokkinen.

Premiere June 20, 2007, other performances, June 18 – September 9 starting at 19.00 at Suomenlinna Summer Theatre

Boat services to the Summer Theatre: JT-Line waterbuses from the Market Square (Cholera Basin) at 18 and 18.30. (About 5 min walk from landing stage) or Helsinki City Transport ferries from the Market Square (about 15 min walk from main jetty).

The cost of transport is not included in the ticket.

Paper dolls shed light on the obscure world of children's fashion

The collection of paper dolls at the Toy Museum, which date back almost 150 years, gives an excellent insight not only into the changes in fashion that have taken place over the years but also in other important doll accessories included in paper doll cut-out sheets.

"I found very little information in the books I read in my endeavours to trace back the history of children's fashion. Surprisingly though, paper dolls carry minutely detailed information on how children were clothed during different periods of time."

This year, Petra Tandefelt, curator of the Toy Museum, has selected only the most valuable and interesting paper dolls from the museum's own collection for the exhibition now on show in the Veranta gallery which is located in a delightful old wooden villa.

Petra Tandefelt tells us how it fascinates her to see that even the most modest of objects, such as paper dolls, can survive through the

decades and evolve into objects of great value if they have been treated with respect.

"For example this thin balloon string or that flower basket bow are both still around for us to admire."

The oldest dolls in the collection date back over one hundred years and the most recent

ones, in their flared pants and tops, from the 1970s.

The exhibition is on at the Toy Museum's Veranta gallery until September 16, 2007. The Toy Museum is open daily. Admission fee: EUR 5, children (2-17 years) EUR 2.50, students and pensioners EUR 4.00. Suomenlinna C 66, tel. 09 68 417





Completely new children's tour aims to be a success

King Gustav III invites children to join his bodyguard in solving the secret of the enchanted vault. A band of children sign up immediately – that's why they've come to Suomenlinna.

At the start of the children's tour in Tykistölahti bay, producer Sanna Pietilä, who has been watching over the actors and delighted children, feels pleased and relieved after working all spring to create the new attraction now safely under way. To mark the 10th anniversary of a special children's tour of Suomenlinna, its organizer the Ehrensvärd Society has put special effort into its new creation 'The Secret of the Enchanted Vault'. Sanna Pietilä has herself designed and sewed

the performers' costumes, observing the fashion of the period while allowing the usual costume designer's liberties.

The fortress itself is authentic and largely what it looked like when Gustav III made his numerous visits to Suomenlinna to see his friend, chief architect and commander Augustin Ehrensvärd. Swedish master shipbuilder Fredrik Henrik af Chapman also lived on Suomenlinna for several years during construction of the victorious archipelago fleet in its dry dock. Another character encountered on the tour is eminent botanist Carl von Linné, who is known to have given Ehrensvärd tips on plants in his letters. All these persons are met during the children's tour, which lasts nearly one and a half hours.

The only fictional character is the court lady-in-waiting Rosalind. She guides the children through the labyrinth of fortress walls. "After all, a children's tour needs a very special guide," says Pietilä.

Learning about class distinctions and the language of fans

The children are introduced to the 18th century world through stories and theatre. They learn not only about history, but also something about costume and manners during the period. They also find out how women used their fans to pass messages to each other at the officers' dances. Other information concerns class differences and the status of women.

"Through the lively character of Rosalind, the children learn to question the values of the 18th century world by pondering, for instance, why it was considered impossible for an ordinary foot soldier to have anything to do with a lady-in-waiting," explains Pietilä.

Gustav III rides again

The previous children's tour, arranged for nine years, in which King Gustav III enlisted the children's help in a search for his lost crown, had already won a firm place in Finnish children's hearts. Almost 1,700 tours were arranged, involving over 70,000 children. The new tour is expected to be just as successful.

The script is by Annina Holmberg, who was also responsible for the previous tour. This time, she drew on the experiences of the best possible expert – Kari Jagt, who played the part of the king in the earlier tour.

"The presence of the king was considered absolutely vital in the new story, too. The real Gustav III was a juicy character," says Pietilä with a smile.

Direction Frank Skog, King Tuukka Långsjö and Robert Cock, Rosalind Hanna Nyberg and Sofia Koski, Augustin Ehrensvärd, Carl von Linné and Jussi Anttonen, F. H af Chapman, Markus Riuttu and Jussi Anttonen.

Regular tours June 6 – August 11, Tues-Thurs and Sat at 12.00 and 15.00 in Finnish and Fri at 12 in Swedish. Also on August 18 and 25 No tours over Midsummer June 21 –23. Tickets from Lippupalvelu tel. 0600 10 800 and same day tickets from Helsinki Expert Tour Shop at Helsinki City Tourist Office, Pohjoisesplanadi 19. Enquiries and reservations for tickets by special arrangement, Ehrensvärd Society, tel. (09) 684 1850, www.suomenlinnatours.com.

The prince with the heart of glass

Help! The Prince of Venice is suffering from a serious malady that is turning his heart into glass! What can we do? Maybe Figaro the Magician can help... This fairytale opera presented by the Kapsäkki Opera Company, is an adventure for the whole family into the world of Italian opera.

"The story is based on Hans Andersen's classical fairytale The Nightingale. However, the events take place in 17th and 18th-century Venice," explains Reetta Ristimäki, the opera's director and co-scriptwriter.

The opera is a compilation of music from fifteen Italian operas. It includes the music

of Mozart, Verdi and Puccini, The Barber of Seville and The Magic Flute, Reetta Ristimäki continues. The purpose of the performance is to introduce opera to people who are not yet familiar with this form of art.

"The well-known story and enchanting opera classics should almost certainly appeal to first-timers.

"The genre of the opera is in true European commedia dell'arte theatre tradition. Not only will adults find it entertaining but children also will be able to follow the activities, for example, of the harlequin and the grumpy old man with ease. Although the

performance is based on humour, it also gives a tacit introduction to the traditions of the opera and theatre..."

Fairytale opera The Prince with the heart of glass at Tenaliji von Fersen on July 24, 25 and 26 at 15.00.

Script by Reetta Ristimäki and Nipa Nieminen, performed by Juha Hostikka, Anu Hostikka and Jyri Lahtinen, with Niko Kumpuvaara on the harmonica. Directed by Reetta Ristimäki. Suitable for children aged 5 and over. Duration: 50 min. Tickets: EUR 10. Reservations: telephone number 09 260 0907. www.kapsakki.fi



Genuine suomenlinna gifts

There are many artists and craftspeople on Suomenlinna, who represent well over ten different handicraft sectors, working and producing products for sale. Although a majority of the artists' workshops and studios are not open to the public it is possible to view their work at the b34 summer shop. A variety of ceramics, glass, jewellery and textiles are on show in the yellow-coloured summer shop on Susisaari island. The artists' summer shop is a great place to purchase genuine gifts from Suomenlinna to take home.

The traditional summer exhibition at the ceramics workshop, Pot Viapori, next to the artist's summer shop, will be open from July 19 to August 18. The public will be able to view the dishes and items produced at the workshop and also to visit the area where the actual work is done.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the founding of Pot Viapori. To celebrate this, the Association is organizing a 35-year jubilee exhibition in September on Suomenlinna at the Jetty Barracks Gallery maintained by the Helsinki Artists' Association.



Yläkerho restaurant reopened after complete renovation

Satu Vuorensyrjä, the hostess at the Yläkerho Restaurant (which also goes by the name 'Ylis'), tackles the kitchen shelves at a brisk pace. There is plenty of room in the newly-renovated, spacious kitchen of this century-old house to cater for large groups, too. The house is ready to welcome groups from schoolchildren to veterans, and to cater for parties, weddings and club evenings. In time, even individual travellers are sure to find this building which once housed an officer's club but is now a restaurant open to the general public. For many of the inhabitants of the island 'Ylis' has become a cosy sitting room where they can relax and meet friends.

The restaurant is situated on a hill across from the ferry pier. The long yellow building has undergone basic renovations that lasted a year. The renovations included opening up the floor, painting both the inside and outside of the building, constructing the ventilation system and the sauna suite. In spite of all these renovations the building has retained its former elegance and the traditional atmosphere of the officer's club and has received ample praise from visiting veterans, too.

Satu Vuorensyrjä shows us the dining room and the first thing that draws our attention is the large chandelier in the shape of a cartwheel. The long tables and plastic chairs bring back memories of the 70s as does the jukebox standing by the wall. The dining room will be open in the summer at midday and from 4 p.m. in the winter.

"Moderately priced tasty food will be served," says Satu Vuorensyrjä. The building will of course be open to groups with advance bookings and the food served will be tailored to their particular needs."

We pass under a television fixed to the edge of the ceiling that a group of inhabitants home from work in the city are watching. We then enter a small conference room, the 'Mess', with walls covered in mahogany panels reaching almost to the ceiling. In the room is a heavy conference table, a painting of Marshall Mannerheim and on a raised shelf a row of standards standing to attention as reminders of the meetings held by the Military Association, the former proprietor of the restaurant.

The sauna at 'Ylis' can be rented out. The small sauna and the lounge with fireplace can easily take groups of up to 20 people.

Satu Vuorensyrjä started to work at the restaurant in April after the renovations were completed. She picked up her professional experience while working in different hotels and fine-dining restaurants in Helsinki.

"When the position of hostess became available, I had a feeling it belonged to me."

From the terrace in the grassy courtyard you can see the Naval College and the Helsinki shoreline.

"Cannons have always been part of the Military Association's history and it is currently trying to find out whether it would be possible to place one or two old cannons in the courtyard as historical reminders of the

soldiers who once served in the coastal artillery and were the founder members of the club restaurant in the 1920s," explains Satu Vuorensyrjä.

The club building has been through a chequered history. During the civil war it acted as a prisoner-of-war camp for women. The northern end of the building was destroyed in bomb attacks during the Second World War. For people interested in the garrison and in the war periods, Vuorensyrjä recommends going on one of the guided walks around Suomenlinna organized by the Ehrensvärd Society, which also include stops at the Yläkerho restaurant.



The gates are open at the Suomenlinna Museum

The exhibition entitled "Open the gates! Vessels from the Suomenlinna Dock" takes the visitor from the eighteenth century to the present day, from Swedish times through the Russian era to the decades of Finnish independence. The dock at Suomenlinna has lived through turbulent times during which its existence has been in the balance. While many other traditional docks and harbour areas have been lost or adapted for other uses, ships are still being repaired at the Suomenlinna dock in a milieu that is respectful of history.

Rarities from Valmet's time

The exhibition at the Suomenlinna Museum highlights various options that could have guided the fate of the dock in quite different directions. The exhibition gives a historical perspective to the major decisions faced by the City of Helsinki today as it ponders the re-use of its shoreline. "Valmet chose Katajanokka as the site for its main docks in Helsinki because it has a railway connection," says Petri Sipilä, the scriptwriter for the exhibition.

Petri Sipilä, M.Soc.Sc., is the deputy chairman of the Ship Historical Society of Finland, and in his recent studies he has been familiarizing himself with the history of the harbours at Helsinki. In the exhibition at the Suomenlinna Museum Sipilä has focused on recent decades in the operations of the dock. On display, hitherto unseen at exhibitions or in literature, are tools, ship plans, correspondence and other original documents showing shipbuilding during the time of the Finnish shipbuilding company Valmet.

Ships of wood and iron

The historical dock at Suomenlinna is the oldest dry dock in Finland. Its construction began in 1749 and there are only a few older dock areas in the whole of Europe. "It's extremely important that the history of the dock is shown at the Suomenlinna Museum. It is good for visitors to the World Heritage Site to know that Suomenlinna was originally constructed as a naval base. In the early years of Suomenlinna and the dock Helsinki was only a small town and a sea fortress would not have been needed to protect it mid-way through the eighteenth century," says Hannu Matikka, who acted as an expert in the exhibition working group.

The dock at Suomenlinna has lived through two busy periods of shipbuilding. In the eighteenth century warships were built there for the Swedish archipelago fleet. The next shipbuilding period did not start until the 1940s, when the dock began building commercial vessels for Finland and the Soviet

Union. One of the best-known vessels from the dock is the old Suomenlinna ferry from 1952. Hannu Matikka, the secretary of the Historic Ship Register knows the vessels built at the Suomenlinna dock. A catalogue of ships built in the eighteenth century and during Valmet's time has been put together for the exhibition. In the Swedish era fourteen big sailing vessels for the archipelago fleet were built at Suomenlinna." The exact numbers of transportation vessels, working boats, sloops-of-war and gunboats are not known," Matikka says.

Shipbuilding was an important part of the trade between Finland and its eastern neighbour after the Second World War and also of the politics. During the Valmet period more than 50 vessels were built at Suomenlinna, some of them as part of the war reparations for the Soviet Union. The exhibition also shows a 1966 news clip from the Finnish Broadcasting Company in which President Urho Kekkonen of Finland and Soviet Premier Alexey Kosygin together with their wives honoured the christening of the Soviet ship Tampere with their presence. Mrs Kosygin acted as the ship's godmother.

In 1974 Valmet's shipbuilding operations were transferred to a new big dock at Vuosaari in Helsinki. Valmet continued ship repairs at the Suomenlinna dock until 1985, when the company's operations there were closed down. The dockyard was handed over to the Administration of Suomenlinna.

Besides ships, aeroplanes have also been built at Suomenlinna dock. The dockyard acted as the Government aircraft factory between 1921 and 1935. The planes built there formed the backbone of the Finnish air force at the time, and in terms of numbers more planes have probably been built there than ships. From the 1930s to the war years this major state-owned dock served as a base for the Finnish submarine fleet and as a place for servicing the Government-owned vessels.

A living historical dock

These days the Suomenlinna dock is best known as a place for repairing old traditional wooden boats, and a place where traditional handicraft skills are cherished. This activity has been carried out at the dock for over two decades by Viaporin Telakka ry. The first old wooden ships were docked into a large-scale basin at the facility in autumn 1986. The exhibition shows a film directed by Synnöve Vaari and Sari Antikainen about repairing traditional vessels. When watching the short film, it is possible even in the summer period to become acquainted with calminating the sides of a traditional vessel. During the summer the dock is quieter, because most of the traditional ships are sailing on the sea. The Suomenlinna docking week will be held again in October, when the gates of the dock will be opened and vessels will sail in.

Puppet theatre and hobby workshop

During the summer the "Open the Gates" exhibition will have a Pirate Flag and Boat corner set aside for children. Visitors to the museum can make pirate flags from sail canvas and boats from board. During the summer the exhibition will also be showing a puppet theatre called Pirates Ahoy! The performances will be held every Thursday between June 7-28 at 10.00 and 13.00 and they are suitable for all ages. Entrance to the exhibition, workshop and puppet theatre is free for children, while parents will be allowed in on their museum ticket. The puppet theatre presentation has room for 25 children, and bookings should be made at the Suomenlinna Museum on the day before at the latest, tel. (09) 4050 9691.

Open the Gates! Vessels from the Suomenlinna Dock 4.5.2007-2.3.2008, Suomenlinna Museum
 Mon-Sun 10.00-18.00, 1.10-30.4 Mon-Sun 10.00-16.00, EUR 5/4, under 18 free
 Guide reservations tel. (09) 4050 9691



It's all happening on Suomenlinna

The summer cultural programme on the sea fortress includes music, theatre, children's theatre and maritime events. More detailed information is available in the calendar of events on the www.suomenlinna.fi website.



Open house at the Japanese Tearoom on June 16 and August 12

This summer, visitors have the chance to visit Finland's first traditional Japanese Tearoom which is located on Susisaari in the casemate that forms part of the bastion Hyve (Virtue). The Tokyuan Tearoom is a unique place in Finland where you can learn about traditional tea-room architecture as well as experience the art of the Japanese tea-making ceremony.

Les Lumières June 15-17

The Les Lumières festival of culture in the spirit of the Enlightenment is now being organized on Suomenlinna for the fifth time. As its name suggests the festival is a celebration of 18th-century music and life accompanied by picnics and balls. The theme of the festival, organized by Helsingin historiapäiväyhdistys (the Helsinki history day association) is Catherine the Great and this year the festival will be presenting the rich culture of her Court.

Viaporin tuoppi August 11

The competition for the Viaporin tuoppi, Finland's biggest race for wooden sailing boats, is held in the waters off Helsinki. The finishing line is in Suomenlinna's Varvilahti bay, which will be full of sailing boats after the race. The traditional post-race celebration will be held in the twilight of the August evening.

Concerts August 18-19

Once again there will be a delightful series of concerts 'At home' in the Linnanportti house (the Gatehouse). In Helsinki's 'cultural capital' year in 2000, these concerts were extremely popular. This summer, music-lovers will be able to listen to small-scale concerts in the pale-blue wooden house on the main street of Suomenlinna.

Events

16.6., 12.8.	Open house at the Japanese Tearoom
1.-30.6.	Children's corner at the Open the Gates! exhibition
6.-29.6.	Governor Cronstedt – Hero or villain? Museum tour with a touch of drama.
7.-28.6.	Puppet theatre Ahoy! Pirates on the horizon!
9.6.	Finnish First-Aid Championships, organized by the Finnish Red Cross
6.6.-11.8	The Secret of the Enchanted Vault, adventure for children
15.-17.6.	Les Lumières – Festival of culture in the spirit of the Enlightenment
16.6.	Meriviapori - special event for wooden boats
18.6.-19.	The Unknown Soldier at the Suomenlinna Summer Theatre
4.7.	Theme Day at the Ehrensärd Museum
4.7.-8.8.	The mystery of the trousers that constantly needed mending – at the Children's summer theatre
5.-26.7.	Helsinki Organ Summer Concerts in Suomenlinna Church
24.7.-2.8.	The Prince with the heart of glass – Children's opera
11.8.	The Viaporin Tuoppi – race for

wooden sailing boats

18.-19.8. Concerts 'At home' in the Linnanportti house

22.-25.8. Viapori Jazz

Exhibitions

1.5.-16.9.	Exhibition of paper dolls in the Veranta Gallery at the Toy Museum
4.5.-31.12.	Open the Gates! Exhibition of vessels from Suomenlinna dock, Suomenlinna Museum
19.5.-10.6.	Oona Tikkaaja at the Jetty Barracks Gallery
26.5.-31.8.	From liquors to limes – Celebrating 100 years of the Customs Laboratory, the Finnish Customs Museum
16.6.-8.7.	Helsinki Artists' Association summer exhibition at the Jetty Barracks Gallery
1.-31.7.	Hidden in the vaults – Sculpture at the Bastion Härleman
9.7.-18.8.	Summer exhibition at the Pot Viapori ceramics studio
13.7.-5.8.	Women's Season at the Jetty Barracks Gallery
10.8.-2.9.	Ylva Holländer at the Jetty Barracks Gallery
7.-30.9.	Pot Viapori ceramics studio – 35th anniversary exhibition at the Jetty Barracks Gallery



Information about Suomenlinna

Suomenlinna summer brochure in three languages

You can find all you need to know about Suomenlinna summer services in our sunshine-yellow summer brochure. The brochure, published in three languages, contains details of events, exhibitions and opening hours. It also contains a map of the area showing the principal routes, which will take even the more-experienced Suomenlinna visitors straight to their destinations. Download the brochure from the Suomenlinna website at www.suomenlinna.fi or order it by e-mail from matkailu@suomenlinna.fi

Take a torch and a tunnel map

One of the fascinating things about Suomenlinna is the network of tunnels on the island that you can visit. It's worthwhile taking a torch with you, as there is no lighting in the tunnels. The Suomenlinna branch of the Mannerheim League for Child Welfare has drawn up a map of the Susisaari and Kustaanmiekka tunnels, which makes it fun to explore them - but still exciting for younger explorers. The map is on sale at the Suomenlinna Visitor Centre.

Suomenlinna guns on the map

Altogether there are 105 guns or gun barrels scattered around the fortress area. You can find the guns by following the gun map which shows the location of all the cannon and artillery pieces on the island and tells you about the guns brought to the island at different stages of its history. The map is published in three languages and is on sale at the Suomenlinna Visitor Centre.

History of the fortress in an hour

You can learn about the secrets of Suomenlinna best by relying on one of the Suomenlinna guides. On a guided tour of the fortress you will hear stories about the island's history and visit the main sights of the fortress. Those taking part in the tour will also be able to visit the museum in the home of August Ehrensvärd who designed the fortress. During the summer season, the August Ehrensvärd Society organizes guided tours every day in three languages. The Guns and Tunnels theme tour, which is only organized in Finnish, is a clear favourite. Further information about guided tours is available at www.suomenlinnatours.com.

Suomenlinna tourist services on show

The Walhalla Restaurant beside Kustaanmiekka at the southernmost tip of Suomenlinna has been providing meals for visitors since 1952, the year of the Helsinki Olympic Games. The restaurant complex comprises a gourmet à la carte restaurant that also takes advance bookings for private parties, the popular Nikolai pizzeria, and the Aurinkoterassi (Sun terrace) with its breathtaking views out to sea. Long-term product development focused on high quality and customer service has attracted a broad spectrum of customers from statesmen and business magnates to Finns celebrating family occasions and tourists from all over the world. Walhalla is run by Inkeri Saveskiilava and Hannu Kiilava and the expert kitchen team is led by head-chef Markku Pirhonen.



SUOMENLINNA VISITOR CENTRE

Open every day from May 2 to September 30, 10.00-18.00. The Suomenlinna Visitor Centre, The Governing Body of Suomenlinna, Suomenlinna C74, 00190 Helsinki, (+358 09) 684 1880, matkailu@suomenlinna.fi, www.suomenlinna.fi

The Suomenlinna Newsletter is published three times a year. For the online version in Finnish, Swedish and English, go to Suomenlinna website at www.suomenlinna.fi.

Publisher The Governing Body of Suomenlinna
 Editor Synnöve Vaari
 Layout Teerenhovi
 ISSN 1458-1590