# Professor of Contemporary Art





**Aalto University** 

# Welcome to Aalto!

#### **Aalto University**

**Aalto University** is a community of bold thinkers where science and art meet technology and business. We are committed to identifying and solving grand societal challenges and building an innovative future.

*Aalto University* has six schools with nearly 20 000 students and more than 400 professors. Our campuses are located in Espoo and Helsinki, Finland.

## School of Arts, Design and Architecture

The School of Arts, Design and Architecture are one of the most prestigious international universities of art, design and architecture in the world. Key areas of research are design, digital media, audiovisual representation, art, visual culture, wellbeing architecture and emerging technologies, and urban planning and design.

The school's history dates back to 1871. Our campuses are located in Helsinki, Espoo and Pori.

#### **Professor of Contemporary Art**

The Department of Art now seeks to make an appointment of Professor of Practice in Contemporary Art. The Professor is expected to be an exceptional and active artist, eager to bring her/his particular expertise, experience and contribution to this vibrant and developing environment.

Contemporary art at Aalto University is engaged in active dialogues within the broader field of visual culture and the unique multidisciplinary context and possibilities available through the University's various academic disciplines.





Apply at aalto.fi/jobs

# **Aalto University**

### Towards a better world









**Aalto University** is a university where research, art and education are promoted hand in hand. We are committed to high quality research with significant impact on the international scientific community, industry and business, as well as the society at large.

Aalto's unique profile stimulates collaborations between disciplines and facilitates new innovations.

*Aalto* is an international community: more than 30% of our academic personnel are non-Finns.

Disciplinary excellence is combined with multidisciplinary activities, engaging both students and the local innovation ecosystem.

*Aalto University* was founded in 2010 as three leading Finnish universities, Helsinki University of Technology, the Helsinki School of Economics and the University of Art and Design Helsinki, were merged.

### **School**

# of Arts, Design and Architecture

The School of Arts, Design and Architecture is well known for its internationally recognized high quality artistic activities. Our creative community of students, faculty and staff are all working together to push for new ideas, approaches and viewpoints; across both disciplinary and national borders.

The School of Arts, Design and Architecture aims to change the world through artistic means; to offer new ways of sharing related to design, production, distribution and artistic research practice; to challenge technology-driven thinking and put greater emphasis on an end-user approach in the creation of new environments.

The School is divided into five Departments:

- · Department of Film, Television and Scenography
- Department of Media
- · Department of Design
- · Department of Art
- Department of Architecture

With over 450 staff members, 57 of whom are professors, and almost 3 000 full-time students, our research in the field of design and media is world class and on a strong international standing.

The School's research focus areas are: Digital Media, Design, Audio / Visual Representation, Art, Visual Culture, Well-being Architecture and Emerging Technologies, Urban Planning and Design. Throughout it's 140-year history, the school, and its students, have had an incredible impact on the direction of Finnish culture and design. They have gained international recognition through their work and our alumni include the top Finnish names in art, design and architecture: Alvar Aalto, Ilmari Tapiovaara, Tapio Wirkkala, Kaj Franck and Yrjö Kukkapuro.

The School of Art, Design and Architecture has active links to the surrounding society, business and industry, and the culture sector. Partners include top Finnish and international universities and centres of expertise, such as MIT, Stanford, Harvard, Delft, KAIST, Chalmers, Nokia, Kone, Kodak, Toyota, Hyundai, Saab, Panasonic, ABB, Canon, Alessi, Marimekko, Iittala, Fiskars and Suunto.

In 2015 and 2016, Aalto University achieved an impressive position in the QS World University Ranking, placing top 20 in the Art & Design category of the world's best universities for 2 consecutive years.



# Department of Art

#### **About the Department**

The Department of Art educates and prepares professionals in the fields of art education, visual culture, curating, and contemporary art. The department is known for high quality artistic and art pedagogical activities, and scholarship and research that are recognized nationally and internationally.

The Department has three study programs that are taught by leading scholars and practitioners in their field. The programs focus on art education, Nordic visual studies, and visual culture and contemporary art.

Our graduates work as artists, researchers, and teachers both in public and private sector. Together with them, we continue to carry out our mission to actively create new ways to understand human and non-human life, networks and complex relationships, and the environment, culture, and society. This is not only about changing the world, but also about changing ourselves, and others, along with it.

#### **Structure of the Department**

The Department of Art consists of approximately 470 students and 50 employees, 10 of which are professors. The department has 85 students pursuing Doctor of Arts degrees and since 1995 there haven been 48 dissertations completed.

#### Research

The Department of Art is an active, dynamic, and interconnected research unit that consists of doctoral students, postdoctoral researchers, lecturers, and professors. We conduct research on art and other forms of visual culture, and its practices and education, through a transdisciplinary approach that brings together theoretical and practical knowledge.

We are interested in developing critical, analytical, and artistic research skills that help to approach art and visual culture in their various contexts: in artists' spaces, classrooms, exhibitions, institutions, the public sphere, and societal discourse.

In the Department of Art, research denotes an active process where one extends themselves to the world, works within the world, and examines and synthetizes knowledge, skills, and experiences that stem from that process. In addition to other ways of researching, artistic and arts-based practices are an important component in this process, and we encourage our doctoral students and researchers to try out and develop new and critical ways of knowing in their work.



### **Professor**

# of Contemporary Art

#### **Description and main tasks**

Contemporary art at Aalto University is engaged in active dialogues within the broader field of visual culture and the unique multidisciplinary context and possibilities available through the university's various academic disciplines. Art interacts with research, planning and public debate creating new forms of artistic production and new professional agencies. The Professor of Contemporary art is expected to be an exceptional and active artist, eager to bring her/his particular expertise, experience and contribution to this vibrant and developing environment

The position will be filled on the basis of artistic merits with the title of Professor of Practice. The appointment will be for a fixed 5-year term, beginning August 1st 2017 or as agreed.

Professors of Practice are expected to exercise and guide artistic activity and education, and/or research. They are also expected to follow the advances of their field, to participate in service to the Aalto University community, and to take part in societal interaction and international collaboration in their field.

The professorship is intended for an artist who would excel as a Professor of Contemporary Art within the particular context of Aalto University and the Department of Art. Preference will be given to candidates whose work has a demonstrated relation to, or potential for working with, one or more of the non-art fields represented at Aalto, such as science, technology or economics (http://www.aalto.fi/en/), in addition to the societal, cultural and educational contexts explored at the Art Department and School of Arts, Design and Architecture. Candidates are expected to have a strong ambition for developing the field, and educating students to participate critically in, and broaden, the field of contemporary art.

#### Requirements

The Professor of Practice position is considered a professor position subject to external evaluation. Applicants will be reviewed on the basis of the following areas: artistic merits, teaching, collaborative and multidisciplinary competencies, and activity and leadership in artistic and academic communities. Artistic merits will be emphasized in the selection process:

the applicant is expected to have significant artistic qualifications and achievements and wide practical experience in the field. The applicant is expected to have strong and well-articulated vision regarding the field and how it should be developed.

The main teaching language is English. Strong written and verbal communication skills in English are required.

#### How to apply

Apply for this job following the link in the end. Here you can also find more information about the position.

#### For the application, please include your:

- · Motivation/cover letter
- Curriculum Vitae (including contact information, max 5 pages)
- Artistic portfolio (max. file size 100 MB)
- Summary of teaching experience (max 2 pages)
- A description of your views regarding the present situation and the future development of the field in the context of a multidisciplinary university such as Aalto (max 2 pages)

#### **Application deadline:**

31st of July 2016

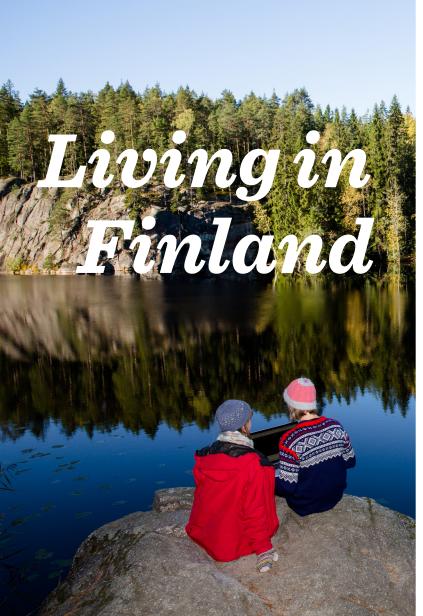
#### For further questions, you may contact

PROFESSOR KEVIN TAVIN for additional information Tel. +358 50 434 2961 E-mail: kevin.tavin@aalto.fi

HR-COORDINATOR PÄIVI NIEMI in recruitment process related questions Tel. +358 50 449 9349 E-mail: paivi.j.niemi@aalto.fi

Aalto University follows the salary system of Finnish universities, but applicants may also provide salary requirements.

Please apply at aalto.fi/jobs









#### Finland has a high-class education system.

We value equality, co-operation, freedom of speech and free press.

#### Finland is a great environment for innovation and entrepreneurship:

low level of hierarchy, investments in R&D, a strong innovation culture and a high number of patents per capita are just some of the characteristics of our society.

Gender equality, open society and low levels of corruption make *Finland a very attractive country* for researchers, innovators, and professionals worldwide.

Cleanliness, close relationship with nature, high level of social security and services and original and versatile cultural life attract people from all over the world to join our community and appreciate Finnish standards of living.

More info at finland.fi