

PRESS RELEASE

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Sounding Out Contemporary Art

The IHME Days at the Old Student House in Helsinki 26-28 March 2010

The IHME Festival of Contemporary Art offers audiences encounters with contemporary art. The IHME Days are a three-day package of lectures, discussions and films for the general public as well as art enthusiasts and professionals. At 7 pm on Sunday March 28 The Trial, judged by philosopher Tuomas Nevanlinna, calls a hot topic to the stand: is art instrumentalized by the demands of collaboration between art and economy and what will happen to the basic values of art? The prosecutor at the two-hour trial is artist Antti Majava and the defender is art manager Kira Sjöberg with witnesses.

All the events are free of charge.

“The discussion at this year’s IHME Days centers on art in public space and sound as an art work. Everyone gets to be heard: artists, researchers, sound professionals and the public alike. Fresh comments will also be heard on Susan Philipsz’ IHME Project which is currently on view in the main hall of the Helsinki Central Railway Station. On Friday night the audience has the opportunity to see 16 mm films by British **Luke Fowler** reflecting on the dialogue between looking and listening”, **Paula Toppila**, project manager of Pro Arte Foundation Finland.

“Several reports commissioned by the government and ministries have been published in the last few months in which culture and its future are defined. What they have in common is an emphasis on culture in the context of economy. In the background there is a general perception that Finland is driven towards an economic, spiritual and cultural crisis which can only be overcome by carrying out major structural and conceptual changes. The organizations, structures and financing basis of cultural life should be reshaped to especially support cooperation with business”, artist **Antti Majava** remarks. Majava will read the grave charges and **Kira Sjöberg** will come to the defense. The sentence will be delivered by the judge of this year’s Trial, philosopher **Tuomas Nevanlinna**.

TAIDESÄÄTIÖ
PRO ARTE
FOUNDATION
FINLAND

The IHME Club organized in cooperation with Pixelache festival, offers something totally different. The main attraction of the IHME Club, which starts off on March 27 at 10 pm, is the Swedish **Slagsmålsklubben** performing in Finland for the first time. The music programming of the IHME Club is by **Timo Kaukolampi** and the visual programme is designed by **Petri Ruikka**.

IHME Days programme : www.ihme2010.fi.

All the IHME Days events are free of charge.

Sokos Hotel Torni offers the IHME Days participants a special rate of 85 euros for a single room and 95 euros for a double room. The offer is valid March 26-28, 2010. Reservations Sokos Hotels Sales Service Centre: +358 (0)20 1234 600 / sokos.hotels@sok.fi Reservation code: IHME

Further information

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Press Material

Press material is available at www.ihme2010.fi >Media>

Press photos.

For user name and password, please call + 358 (0)45 632 6267.

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