

PRESS RELEASE

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Peaceful and calming IHME Project at Helsinki Railway Station until April 12

The 2010 IHME artwork, Scottish sculptor Susan Philipsz's *When Day Closes*, can still be heard in Helsinki Railway Station at 15-23 for one final weekend. Contrary to the advance information, Aleksis Kivi's words and Jean Sibelius' music for the lullaby 'Song of My Heart', sung by Philipsz, will still echo through the station's main hall on Monday, April 12. The work has been awakening a wide variety of emotions for a month now.

Pro Arte Foundation Finland, which commissioned the piece, wanted to hear what those who pass through the Railway Station thought about Philipsz's work, and whether people thought an everyday setting like the Railway Station is a suitable place for art.

The word that most frequently came to people's minds to describe the sound work was 'peacefulness'. They mostly found the contrast with the rush and hubbub of the Railway Station to be interesting. The work was seen as being moving, and even as an experience of being woken from sleep. Others were disturbed by the melancholy quality of the song and drew comparisons with the Finnish national character. The questionnaire, nevertheless, revealed that, during the rush hour, it was easy to walk through the unobtrusive artwork without noticing it, but once people had heard it, it brought them to a standstill.

Comments from the public:

"Astonishment and a lovely feeling. A calming voice in a busy space. Made my day and gave me strength."

"Interesting. The different sounds mingled together."

"When you stand still, the experience is more intense. When you concentrate, it's like you are transported to another place."

“Nice to see that people pay attention to the station’s architecture when they hear the sound.”

Pro Arte Foundation Finland would like more feedback from the public. You can give feedback for both the [IHME artwork](#) and the [IHME Days](#) on our website.

IHME Project in YouTube

[http://www.youtube.com/user/ihmeproductions:](http://www.youtube.com/user/ihmeproductions)

Articles on Susan Philipsz’ IHME Project

Artforum.com

<http://www.artforum.com/diary/#entry25274>

Frieze Magazine

http://www.frieze.com/shows/review/susan_philipsz/

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)9 4289 9778.

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