

PRINT SALES GALLERY
17 NOV 2017–7 JAN 2018

**THE
PHOTOGRAPHERS'
GALLERY**



**NEAR THE WIND:
PENTTI
SAMMALLAHTI
AND
KRISTOFFER
ALBRECHT**

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ENGLAND**

The Photographers' Gallery is a registered charity no. 262548
Image: Deerness, Mainland, Orkney © Pentti Sammallahti

Near the Wind: Pentti Sammallahti & Kristoffer Albrecht

17 Nov 2017–7 Jan 2018



Whiteness Voe, Mainland, Shetland © Kristoffer Albrecht

Last year, Print Sales Gallery commissioned Finnish photographers Pentti Sammallahti (b. 1950, Helsinki) and Kristoffer Albrecht (b.1961, Helsinki) to choose a location in the British Isles and produce a series of photographs in response to a particular landscape and its inhabitants. Taken in November 2016, 'Near the Wind' is a collaborative body of work that portrays the remote Scottish islands of Orkney and Shetland in the early throes of winter.

Nature, silence, sea and isolation are subject matters that have long preoccupied Pentti Sammallahti. His images reflect the diversity and breadth of his travels and convey the relationship between humans, animals, and the land with warmth and simplicity. His distinctive works have earned him several major retrospectives and accolades, including named as one of Henri Cartier-Bresson's favourite 100 photographers.

Kristoffer Albrecht shares Sammallahti's impressive travel history and fascination with solitude, quiet landscapes and still lives. His compositions harness a range of subject matter (both within his native Finland and beyond) and similarly reflect a consistent exploration of texture in black and white. Albrecht tends towards the photobook format – having published some thirty to date – where the relationship between the frames is as important as their individuality.

With both artists working exclusively in analogue, these meticulously hand-printed and toned silver gelatins are indicative of the photographers' unique artistic, narrative sensibilities and masterful printing techniques.

Biographies

Pentti Sammallahti

Pentti Sammallahti (b.1950, Helsinki) is a benchmark figure in contemporary Finnish photography. He began photographing at 11 and by 1971 began to travel and exhibit extensively throughout the world. Sammallahti's travels across Europe, Scandinavia, Siberia, the far East and Africa, combined with his interest in fine printing and lithography, led him to publish numerous portfolios such as 'Ici et Loin' (Actes Sud, 2012).



Sammallahti's work has a supernatural sense of a moment suspended in time, with the sensitivity and beauty of the world displayed through its animalistic existence. As a wanderer and master craftsman Sammallahti records the relationships he discovers between people and animals in the far-off places he visits. As a passionate seeker of the perfect mechanical printing method, his own innovative printing techniques and reintroduction of the portfolio form have re-awakened broader interest in published photographic art.

Among his many achievements through his long career, Sammallahti has staged solo exhibitions at Paris' Mois de la Photographie (1996), and at Houston Fotofest, Texas (1998), and was ranked among the famous French photographer Henri Cartier- Bresson's 100 favorite photographers for his Foundation's inaugural exhibition in Paris, and staging a major retrospective at The Recontres d'Arles in 2012. His works can be found at the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, England; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, USA; Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, France; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, the Netherlands; Museum fur Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg, Germany; Moderna Museet / Fotografiska Museet, Stockholm, Sweden; and The Finnish State Collections and the Photographic Museum of Finland.

Kristoffer Albrecht

Kristoffer Albrecht (b.1961, Helsinki) has been exhibiting both at home and abroad since 1983. Making photobooks is an important means of his artistic expression; to date Albrecht has published some thirty photobooks.

His work is included in several public museums and art collections internationally. For several decades he has been teaching photography and also conducting research in the field.

Albrecht has exhibited in solo and group shows across Finland, Russia, Demark, France, Spain and the US since 1983, and his works can be found in international public collections including the Finnish Museum of Photography, Helsinki, the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, the Modern museet, Stockholm and The Pushkin Museum, Moscow.



Kristoffer Albrecht photographed by Pentti Sammallahti, 2004

Photography
Sean O'Hagan on
photography

Pentti Sammallahti: a lyrical world in black and white images

The restless Finnish photographer is a craftsman who finds the same odd, melancholic poetry in locations across the globe

● [In pictures: the work of Pentti Sammallahti](#)



Solovki, White Sea, Russia, 1992 © Pentti Sammallahti



146 12



Sean O'Hagan

Thursday 25 October 2012 15.47 BST

You could say Pentti Sammallahti was born for photography. His grandmother, Hildur Larsson, was an accomplished Swedish photographer for the Helsinki newspaper *Kaiku* in the 1900s. He grew up surrounded by her images. His father took him, aged nine, to the famous Family of Man group exhibition, curated by Edward Steichen, when it came to Helsinki in 1959. From that moment, the young Sammallahti knew what he wanted to do with his life.

At 11, he made his first photographs – small contact prints of everyday life in Helsinki. In 1964, he joined the Helsinki Camera Club and blossomed. He had his first solo show in 1971, aged 20. The earliest photograph in *Here, Far Away*, a beautiful retrospective book of his work just published in Britain, dates from 1964, when he was 14. A man sleeps in a doorway, oblivious to the bird that pecks at the earth in the foreground. It is an almost austere image, formally accomplished and understated in its arrangement of vertical and horizontal lines: the doorframe, the wood panels, the bricked pavement. But there is an odd melancholic poetry too, not least in the two stark white lines someone has painted on the doorframe, one of which seems to rise, dreamlike, out of the sleeping man's outstretched palm. Above the bird, on the wall, someone has chalked a neat love heart with an arrow through it. Even at 14, Sammallahti's eye was drawn

to the quiet illumination of everyday life. As he grew older, his vision deepened and widened, becoming both more poetic and more austere.

The book is divided into nine chapters, each a record of Sammallahti's restless wanderings through Finland, Norway, Britain, eastern Europe, Africa, China and India. His first published portfolio, a limited edition of 200 signed silver gelatin prints in a box, featured images taken in the west of Ireland in 1978. It was dedicated to Paul Strand, but his photographs of rural Ireland, as well as those taken in Hungary and Romania, have more in common with Josef Koudelka's images of similar people and places. Sammallahti's gaze, though, is warmer, more intimate and, at times, more epic.

It was in the frozen expanses of Solovki on the White Sea in Russia that Sammallahti made some of his most extraordinary images. Here, the blankness of the landscape, shading into grey forests or skies, is an atmosphere in itself. Wolfish dogs and solitary birds feature in many of the images, survivors in a harsh, beautiful environment where everything – rivers, lakes, skies and bare trees – seems frozen into stillness. He also captures the changing of the seasons – snow giving way to mud, a different kind of grey making the landscape an entirely different world.



Houston, Texas, 1998 © Pentti Sammallahti

For all that, Sammallahti's vision is also a lyrical one. He often captures humans and animals in worlds of their own, lost in reverie: dogs chase birds, birds cautiously approach humans or circle above them. Often, his camera captures a single figure in a dreamlike landscape: a man walking down a road in a silent, snow-covered world at dusk, his dog waiting, patient but alert, ahead of him. You can almost hear the crunch of snow underfoot. But what is most palpable is the silence of the surroundings. Looking at the photograph, you feel on the threshold of another, more mysterious world that is indeed here and far away.



Solovki, White Sea, Russia, 1992 © Pentti Sammallahti

Sammallahti: "I wait for photographs like a pointer dog"

Pentti Sammallahti is a master of black and white photography, he has been photographing people and landscapes across the world for nearly 50 years and is considered to be one of the most accomplished classic photographers working today

By Portia Webb

12:04PM BST 03 Oct 2013



Image 4 of 7

Pyhäjärvi, Finland, 1982 (horse and house in moonlight) Photo: © Pentti Sammallahti, courtesy of the artist and The Photographers' Gallery

By the early age of 9, Pentti announced that he wanted to be a photographer. By age 11, Pentti was making his own photographs of everyday life in Helsinki. And at age 21 he was holding his first solo show.

Sammallahti has travelled extensively throughout his life, describing himself as a wanderer who favours remote and isolated destinations to provide the backdrop for his work. Often only the occasional figure or animal interrupts what are otherwise uninhabited scenes. Depicted with humour and warmth, they are part of a bigger narrative, one which encompasses universal themes shared by all living things.

As a benchmark figure in contemporary Finnish photography, his work has a supernatural sense of a moment in time with the sensitivity and beauty of the world displayed through its animalistic existence. His particular use of dogs, which reflects the human existential experience, shows the shared nature of the earth with a gentle humor and fleeting attitude.

"I wait for photographs like a pointer dog," he says. "It is a question of luck and circumstance. I prefer winter, the worse the weather, the better the photograph will be." His favorite time of day is dusk, and the mysterious light — His palette of whites, greys and blacks evoke all the senses, and forces you to look closer and the human connection with nature.

CUBA - Finnish photography in Havana

Finland has taken the first steps in the cultural export to Cuba with the aim of establishing a long-term cultural collaboration with the Caribbean island. In this sense, the Ibero-American Institute of Finland, the cultural and scientific center for the Luso-Hispanic world, starts the activity in Cuba and has appointed a delegate. The first of the scheduled events is the photographic exhibition *Hiljainen valo - Luz silenciosa*, by the renowned artists Kristoffer Albrecht and Timo Kelaranta, which is done in collaboration with the Fototeca de La Habana.



Timo Kelaranta

Kristoffer Albrecht

The exhibition opens on March 17 in the framework of the regional meeting of Latin America and the Caribbean of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, and is attended by the undersecretary, Pirkko Hämäläinen, and the ambassadors of Finland in the region. In addition, the photographer Kristoffer Albrecht will be responsible for presenting the exhibition.

“In Finland, the seasons affect the course of life. The bright summer nights turn dark in autumn, and in winter even the days are dark. The snow covers the earth and the water freezes. We walked on that sea where we swam in summer.” - Kristoffer Albrecht

“I am a poet whose tool is photography. In the artistic tradition what I value the most is surrealism, its freedom and independence. My photographs are a whole, but I move in the space that exists between drawing, painting and photography. The contours are so similar to the drawing that I often refer to my photos as such. I always hope that the spectator throws himself openly at what he sees, that he finds the photograph as if he were someone else.” - Timo Kelaranta

Hiljainen valo - Silent Light has been funded by the Ministry of Culture and Education of Finland and supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is open to the public at the Fototeca de La Habana from March 18 to April 11, 2016.



Hiljainen valo - Silent light

Kristoffer Albrecht and Timo Kelaranta

18.3.-11.4.2016.

Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Photo library of Cuba

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(Old Square, Old Havana)

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Admire the ultimate edition of outdoor exhibitions on the walls of the Raymond VI garden

The advantage of outdoor exhibitions is that it allows you to discover new talent and that it makes you a free outing. But here, for lack of subsidies, outdoor exhibitions on the old ramparts of the Raymond IV garden in Saint-Cyprien are farewell. It is for you the opportunity to admire the 14th and last exhibition on the theme "Elsewhere".

For this ultimate exhibition, the association "Biz'art Pop" exposes 4 talented photographers: **Pentti Sammallahti, Kristoffer Albrecht, Anita Andrzejewska and Marc Riboud**, the famous photographer who died in August last year. You have until October 26 to admire the 46 monochrome pictures of these international photographers, including the iconic photo "the girl with the flower" that Marc Riboud took in Washington in 1967 during a demonstration against the American intervention in Vietnam.



© Kristoffer Albrecht

1- 28.4.2015

KRISTOFFER ALBRECHT: SET-UP PHOTOS

photo exhibition at the Kangasala-house gallery.

Kristoffer Albrecht's skilful black and white layout illustrations are studies of light and shadow. As an artist he seeks timeless, intimate and simple expression - glass, spoon, stone, piece of paper.

The Dependable Set-Up Series is inspired by the arrangements made by Juan Sanchez Cotán (1560-1627), a painter of Spanish manierism. The photojournalist, Dr. Kristoffer Albrecht (born 1961), lives and works in Inkoo.

The exhibition is organized by the Contemporary Photographic Center.



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Near the Wind: Pentti Sammallahti & Kristoffer Albrecht

Pentti Sammallahti



Deerness, Mainland, Orkney
£750 + vat unframed
£905 + vat framed



Hermaness, Unst, Shetland
£750 + vat unframed
£905 + vat framed



Lerwick, Mainland, Shetland
£750 + vat unframed
£905 + vat framed



Hamnavoe, Yell, Shetland
£750 + vat unframed
£905 + vat framed



Ulva Sound, Shetland
£750 + vat unframed
£905 + vat framed



Hillswick, Mainland, Shetland
£750 + vat unframed
£905 + vat framed



Eshaness, Mainland, Shetland
£925 + vat unframed
£1,080 + vat framed



Grimness, South Ronaldsay, Orkney
£750 + vat unframed
£905 + vat framed



Stenness, Mainland, Orkney
£750 + vat unframed
£905 + vat framed



Baltasound, Unst, Shetland
£750 + vat unframed
£905 + vat framed

All hand-printed silver gelatins, signed recto:

25 x 20 cm - £750 + vat unframed

24 x 30 cm - £925 + vat unframed

Please ask a member of staff to see the full portfolio of available works by Pentti Sammallahti.

Continued over page

Kristoffer Albrecht



Whitiness Voe, Mainland, Shetland
£575 + vat unframed
£730 + vat framed



Sumburgh Head, Mainland, Shetland
£575 + vat unframed
£730 + vat framed



Rackwick, Hoy, Orkney
£575 + vat unframed
£730 + vat framed



West Sandwick, Yell, Shetland
£575 + vat unframed
£730 + vat framed



Uyeasound, Unst, Shetland
£575 + vat unframed
£730 + vat framed



Eshaness, Mainland, Shetland
£575 + vat unframed
£730 + vat framed



Toab, Mainland, Orkney
£575 + vat unframed
£730 + vat framed



Lerwick, Mainland, Shetland
£575 + vat unframed
£730 + vat framed

All hand-printed silver gelatins, signed recto:

All £575 + vat unframed

Please ask a member of staff to see the full portfolio of works by Kristoffer Albrecht.

Framing

Slim charcoal stain wood frames with Museum glass available for £155 + vat

Bespoke framing also available - please enquire with a member of staff.

Contact

For any further enquiries, please contact the Print Sales Gallery team:

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