

MERJACASTRÉN

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Studio:

Kaapelitehdas, D-stairs 3rd floor, Helsinki and
Home studio in Siuntio

Web page and portfolio:

<https://merjacistren.fi/>

<https://finnishdesigners.fi/en/portfolio/merja-castren/>

EDUCATION

- 2017 Bachelor of Culture and Arts 1.9.2013 - 2017, Häme University of Applied Sciences, Degree Programme in Design, Glass and Ceramics.
- 1993 Master of Science (Engineering) 6.4.1993. University of Technology Helsinki, Finland.

OTHER EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2022 Sculpture course for Wood and ceramic, Tapani Kokko and Jari Vesterinen, Finland.
- 2021 Throwing boxes, Heidi Puumalainen, Ceramic Centre Septaria, Finland.
- 2019 Filaments and Textures Workshop, Alberto Bustos, Ceramic Centre Septaria, Finland.
- 2019 Hand build large objects, Leena Juvonen, Glass- and ceramic centre Kuu, Finland.
- 2017 Special techniques in ceramics - Nerikomi, Nanna Bayer, Glass- and ceramic centre Kuu, Finland.
- 2016 3D Clay Printing workshop, Estonian Academy of Arts, Estonia.

JOINT EXHIBITIONS (selected)

- 2024 Ornamo Art & Design Sale, Design Lab Galleria, Iittala & Arabia Design Centre, Helsinki
- 2023 Muji Gallery, Helsinki, Finland.
- 2023 The Mosaic of Poems, Espoo Visual Artists, Gallery Aarni, Espoo, Finland.
- 2023 Diversa Natura, Galleria Napa, Rovaniemi, Finland.
- 2023 Ornamo Art & Design Sale, Gallery Maamusta, Helsinki, Finland.
- 2022-23 Canopy, Gallery Laterna Magica, Helsinki, Finland.
- 2022 What a Wonderful June, Gallery Fokka, joint exhibition, Helsinki, Finland.
- 2022 Ornamo Art & Design Sale, joint exhibition, Helsinki Cable Factory, Finland.
- 2021 Hospitality, Yearly exhibition of LUTS Artist Association, Gallery LUTS, Lohja, Finland.
- 2021 RED, Espoo Visual Artists, joint exhibition, Gallery Aarni, Espoo, Finland.
- 2021 Pearls of winter, Huone ett Rum, joint exhibition, Inkoo, Finland.
- 2021 "Asteita", joint exhibition, Finnish Glass Museum, Riihimäki, Finland.
- 2021 House of Arts, Lohja House Fair, LUTS Artists exhibition, Lohja, Finland.
- 2021 Nordic Nature, Galateea Contemporary Art Gallery, Bucharest, Romania.
- 2021 Ornamo Art & Design Sale, Helsinki Cable Factory, Finland.
- 2020 Snowless Day, Gallery K, Vantaa, Finland.
- 2020 Ornamo Art & Design Sale, Helsinki Cable Factory, Finland.
- 2020 4°C - Reflections on the state of nature, Gallery Ronga, Tampere, Finland.
- 2019 Told by Layers, joint exhibition, Nokia Art House, Finland.

- 2019 Ornamo Art & Design Sale, Helsinki Cable Factory, Finland.
- 2018 A+ Ambition In Glass – Glass Exhibition, Riihimäki Glass Museum, Finland.
- 2018 Ornamo Art & Design Sale, Helsinki Cable Factory, Finland.
- 2017 Summer Dates – Ceramic and Glass Works, Design and Art, GalleriAri, Mikkeli, Finland.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 Mikrogallery, Gable Factory Konttori, solo exhibition, Helsinki, Finland.
- 2022 Artist of the Month, Gallery Aarni, Espoo, Finland.
- 2021 Artist of the Month, Artisaani Shop, Helsinki, Finland.
- 2019 Where is new green..., solo exhibition, Caisa Gallery, Helsinki, Finland.
- 2018 Eternal Ice - Pop-up-exhibitions: Restaurant Fero Helsinki and Restaurant Kuura Espoo, Finland.
- 2018 Eternal Ice – Glass Art exhibition, Galleria Mafka&Alakoski, Helsinki, Finland.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 Gallery Aarni, Joint exhibition, Espoo, Finland.

PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 *Utterat kaivertajat*, Exhibition review, Richard Kautto, Lapin Kansa nr 109.
- 2021 *Lutsissa halutaan luoda yhteyksiä*, Eira Talka, Länsi-Uusimaa nr 344.
- 2018 *Muotoilija Merja Castrénia ajaa käsillä tekemisen palo*, Kaisa-Liisa Ikonen, "Antiikki ja taide" Magazine, 3/2018.
- 2018 *Sininenkin lasi on joskus oranssia*, Petri Lyy, "Aamuposti" nr 102 and "Länsiväylä" nr 43.

WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

- 2019 Touch of Ice, blown glass (three pieces), HUS Art Collection, Helsinki, Finland.

PUBLIC WORKS

- 2017 Light Bringers, artistic outdoor lamps, Urkin piilopirtti, Pinsiö, Finland.

MEMBERSHIPS

- 2023 Design cooperative Unionin26
- 2021 LUTS, the Artists' Association of Western Uusimaa
- 2020 Espoo Visual Artists
- 2019 Artists O
- 2015 Ornamo Art and Design Finland

SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS

- 2023 Taike, Targeted grant for organizing a joint exhibition (Castrén & Haanaho).
- 2021 Taike Corona Grant, 3 months grant for artistic work.
- 2019 City of Espoo Cultural Institution, 3 months artist grant.