



Kimmo Ojaniemi: T Exhibition in Kirkonkellari, Rauma, 1-31 July 2018

Kimmo Ojaniemi's cathedral-themed wooden sculptures and a supporting sound installation are on display in a summer exhibition in the Kirkonkellari exhibition space in Rauma in July.

Kimmo Ojaniemi is a visual artist who lives and works in Turku. Ojaniemi has had numerous exhibitions in Finland and abroad since the 1980s, and he has also been commissioned for several public works, including *Gaia's Eye* in the Myllytunneli Tunnel in Turku and the memorial *Dominicans in Turku* in the Olavinpuisto Park in Turku. Ojaniemi's work is inspired by human history, culture, natural science, religion and power.

Originally a painter, Ojaniemi is a master of many techniques. Although his career is mainly founded on three-dimensional art, Ojaniemi has never lost touch with the two-dimensional world: he has continued to paint and, increasingly in recent years, also to photograph.



On display in the Kirkonkellari exhibition space at the Church of the Holy Cross in Rauma, the exhibition showcases works made of wood. From the 1980s to 2006, before taking an interest in wooden sculptures, Ojaniemi focused on electrical and mechanical sculptures that experimented with sound and movement. Sound was an essential element of these kinetic sculptures, and their inheritance can be heard in the sound installation that complements the space in this exhibition.

For Ojaniemi, religion plays a major role in humanity and society. Religion as a theme has indeed been present in both the topics and the titles of the works he has produced in the course of his career. The same theme is present in this exhibition: *T*, the name of the exhibition, is the symbol of the Franciscan order, befitting an exhibition held on the grounds of an ancient Franciscan monastery.

For several years now, the cathedral theme has been a feature of the large wooden sculptures Ojaniemi builds out of slats of wood. Three of these sculptures are now on display in Rauma: *Cathedral I*, *Cathedral II* and *Pillar*.

"The works on display were naturally inspired by architectural structures, but above all by the power and importance of religion. Christendom's handsome buildings offer people a sense of security and peace of mind. Grand, expensive buildings are easy to perceive as God's dwellings. In fact, it is hard to imagine a person who would not experience a sense of sanctity and small miracles in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome or the Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris, for example," says Ojaniemi.

Meet the artist on Tuesday, 3 July 2018 at 2 pm

Kimmo Ojaniemi will be introducing his exhibition and sharing stories of his art in the Kirkonkellari exhibition space. Entrance is free. Welcome!

Further information:

Kimmo Ojaniemi, tel. +358 50 371 1422, kimmo1@ojaniemi.com
Kanerva Kuisma, communications manager, Rauma Lutheran Parish, tel. +358 44 769 1245, kanerva.kuisma@evl.fi

Opening hours and venue:

The exhibition will be open in July (1–31 July 2018) in the Kirkonkellari exhibition space as follows: Mon–Fri 10–17, Sat 11–15, Sun 10–16. Kirkonkellari is located next to the Church of the Holy Cross (Luostarinkatu 1, Rauma). Admission to the exhibition is free.