



PRESS RELEASE, FREE TO PUBLISH

ANTI - Contemporary Art Festival offered six days of contemporary art made specifically for the public spaces of Kuopio, Finland. A large international audience enjoyed this 9th edition of the festival, which was widely praised across Finland's national media.

Join us next year to celebrated a decade of the ANTI Festival from 27.9. to 2.10.2011.

Focused on a theme of writing and language tens of thousands of people encounter the work a truly international group of artists. From June to October **Eungyung Kim & Shoji Kato's** installation **ISLAND ASPIRED** was seen by everyone visiting Kuopio's 2010 housing fair, along with summer tourists and local residents. The housing fair alone was visited by some 150,000 people.

Across the six days the festival dramatically increased the number of vistors to Kuopio, and created thousands of new customers for some of the city's businesses: Burts Coffee hosted **Sarah van Lamsweerde's INSTANT FICTION**, where hundreds of audience members enjoyed a coffee while the extraordinary piece unfolded. Five hundred people visited Fressi Gym five to watch **GETINTHEBACKOFTHEVAN's marathon performance WEIGH ME DOWN**. Restaurant Sampo hosted an amazing evening of Love Song karaoke and thousands of people engaged with **Abinadi Meza's** hidden story encoded across the city in posters and stickers.

Artist **Iva Supic Jankovic** helped spread the ANTI word with her piece **PUBLIC SPACE MY ASS – a limited edition, hand painted festival t-shirt; we have a few left, so contact as immediately for this unique record of this year's festival.**

The Nordic Conference and the 2010 ANTI seminar; Writing, language and Site attracted a large numbers of Nordic and international professionals in the field of live and performance art. The events were especially designed for networking and discussing the cultural worth and agency of the work presented at ANTI and across the Nordic region. There was much talk too about how Nordic institutions could collaborate together and support contemporary performance practice.

Next year is ANTI's thenth anniversary. So look at for our opening birthday party on 27.9! It's going to be a blast!

Finally we'd like to thank everyone from the sites we worked with this year to those how attend and support the festival. Without this very local support the festival would not be possible. So, many, many thanks from everyone at ANTI to the city of Kuopio. See you next year!

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