

Ulla-Maija Alanen

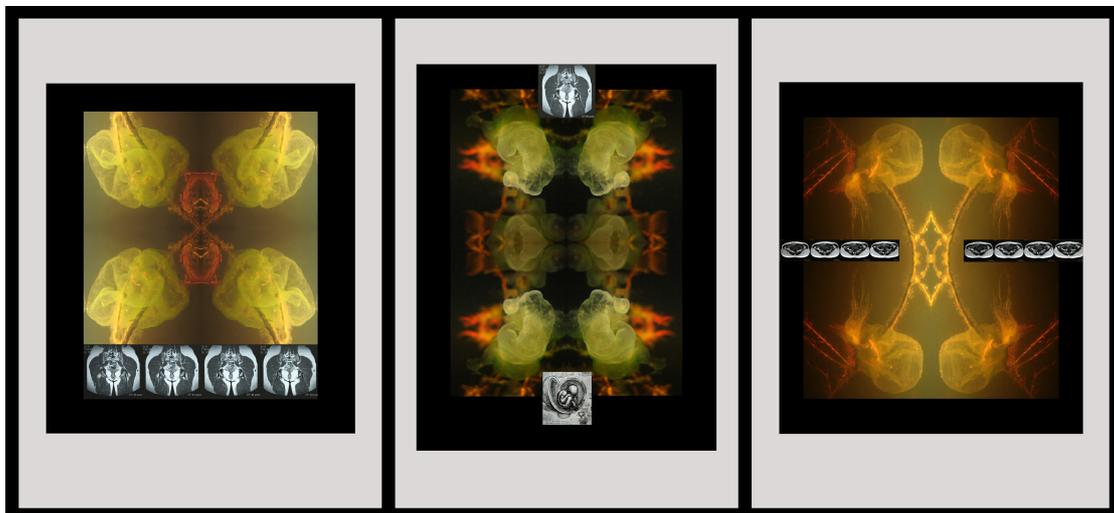
Human Space / Človeški prostor

WHERE: HAM (House of Architecture Maribor), Krekova 2, Maribor

WHEN: opening 27.10.2016, 18.00

OPEN: 27. 10. - 9. 12. 2016, Mon.- Fri. 9.00 - 21.00

The exhibition Human Space / Človeški prostor by artist-architect Ulla-Maija Alanen is based on a study of the architecture of anatomy and the anatomy of architecture, with intriguing photographic works that let viewers look into the underwater world, the human body and architectural space.



Music composed by Maija Ruuskanen

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Univerza v Mariboru

Fakulteta za gradbeništvo,
prometno inženirstvo in arhitekturo

Ulla-Maija Alanen

Human Space/Človeški prostor

A study on the anatomy of architecture and the architecture of anatomy

"There is an essential relationship between architecture and the proportions of the human body, and he who has not made himself master of the human form and especially anatomy, will understand nothing of architecture." Michelangelo

When thinking about the human relationship to architectonic space we of course talk about experiencing space, but the space in which our experiencing takes place often remains outside the discussion. We experience and perceive external space but our skin delimits these experiences within our own physical, internal space: feelings are manifested in our body.

When we step into the gallery we step into our own internal landscape. The architectonic space and the body's space merge, and the latter takes on a new dimension when our internal landscape, structures and proportions present themselves to us as architectonic allegories and metaphors. The topography of the human body becomes a landscape, a geography of the skin. The earth, air and water breathe and are encapsulated in the moment of capturing the image: the invisible form that the person's movement leaves in the space becomes visible, and underwater photographs resonate with the liquid landscapes of MRI images.

When we move in water our skin is like a membrane that separates our internal ocean from the water outside the body. The different membranes inside us are layered skins that carry and transport the flows inside us. The surfaces that demarcate architectonic space can also be seen as the skin of the building, the task of which is – just in the case of the boundary surfaces of our own body – to simultaneously separate and connect.

Ulla-Maija Alanen is a Helsinki based artist and architect whose art productions have been presented in different parts of the world. She has, among other things, been a pioneer in large-scale façade projections that offer a comment on the urban space. Her current production consists of several photographic and underwater video exhibitions as well as cultural work with the elderly: she is working on improving the living conditions of people with memory impairments by means of art and architecture.





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New video artwork dedicated to HAM: "Wellamo - Liquid Universe", 13 min.

Part 1. An ode for the Adriatic sea.

Olli-Pekka Tuomisalo (soprano saxophone), Risto-Matti Marin (piano)

Part 2. An ode for the Finnish lakes.

Eeva-Kaisa Malin (flute), Maija Ruuskanen (piano)

Wellamo is the goddess of water, lakes and seas in the Finnish mythology. She controls the winds, storms and waves. The waters are inhabited by two gods and many deities. It is a place for them to live in and from the waters they also control life on the earth.

"Wellamo" is composed by Maija Ruuskanen.

LINKS:

Video trailer:

<https://vimeo.com/164084005>

Exhibition catalogue, preface by prof. Juhani Pallasmaa:

https://issuu.com/artavenue360/docs/ihmisen_tila_fin_eng__19052016_2

Ulla-Maija Alanen's CV:

http://www.kolumbus.fi/ulla-maija.alanen//CV_Oct_2016.pdf

House of Architecture Maribor - HAM:

<http://ham.raz.um.si/index.php>

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