

New York City Finns Celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary  
of Finland's Independence

### **Street Fair**

On Saturday **September 9, 2017**, from 9:00AM to 6:00 PM, there will be a Street Fair on Bleecker Street, between Christopher Street and West 10th Street, in Greenwich Village NYC. This location is within a one block walking distance around the corner from St. John's Lutheran Church where the Finnish Lutheran Church meets.

Experience a piece of Finland in the middle of Manhattan. The Street Fair will include a variety of vendors: enjoy Finnish delicacies at the Suomi Cafe, buy handicrafts, experience a real Finnish Sauna on wheels, and participate in a Mõlkky tournament. We are expecting thousands of visitors to visit the fair!

Robert Alan Saasto, Esq., will have one booth displaying 100 watercolor paintings by Iren Aunio, a well-known Finnish American artist, who was also his mother. Those chosen will best typify Finland, the country of her birth: birch trees, water and forest scenes. Robert will have a second booth with a visual display of photographs depicting the Finns in NYC, including Harlem, Sunset Park Brooklyn, and the Bronx.

### **Finland100Birthday Party**

In the evening on **September 9, 2017**, from 7:00 PM to Midnight, there will be a Finland 100 Birthday Party event featuring unique Finnish design, tech, and art at Gary's Loft located at 28 West 36th Street, New York, NY, on the rooftop terrace.

Get your taste buds ready for some Finnish treats, such as singer Gea, DJ Rony Rex, media art, music and dance improvisation by Oases from HEL, live painting by Susanna Sivonen, and scanography by Kira Leskinen.

The following day on **Sunday September 10, 2017**, the Traveling Sauna will be in Red Hook Brooklyn.

Experience a genuine Finnish Sauna. The Traveling Sauna has already been traveling across the USA. It will be fired up and ready for bathers on September 10th in Red Hook, Brooklyn. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience what a real Finnish Sauna is like, at the right temperature (between 158 and 212 F) and with the use of Sauna vihta (the birch whisk).

### **The House of Finland**

The House of Finland (THoF) exhibition returns to New York City to highlight the best of Finnish art, design, technology and education.

The exhibition (September 11-14, New York) opens on **September 11th** with an exclusive Press Preview at 287 Gallery (6pm-8pm), guests will enjoy cocktails, hor d'oeuvres and receive goodie bags provided by Marimekko.

The evening opens for the public at 8pm and will include GEA's Butterflies album release gig. The music will be visualized by Kira Leskinen, who plays with the abstraction of shapes using bold colors. Attendees will see a live painting by Susanna Sivonen, media art by Oases from HEL and an exciting preview of upcoming Finnish Fashion brands and designers, such as: the vibrant nordic beauty brand, Lumene, amongst others.

On Tuesday the exhibition will concentrate on Finnish innovation. Finland is one of the world's leading countries in education, game technology and innovation. The third highlighted event is the Tech Tuesday Breakfast Talk, on **September 12th** from 8:30am-11:30am. Companies which are leaders in fun learning, edutech and data analytics will present their latest innovations: AvaDive gamified learning solution, Leiki semantic analytics, Data Refinery - data monetization platform launch.

On Wednesday the exhibition dives into unique Finnish fashion. On the morning of **September 13th from 8:45am-10:15am**, the children's fashion brand, Reima, and Visit Finland, will be organizing a children's fashion themed breakfast event. Known for their quality clothes for a colorful, active lifestyle, Reima promises both safety and sustainability in their designs that cater to an age range from infants to juniors.

Finnish fashion brands have been iconic for centuries, and most recently a new generation of fashion designers have started to command global catwalks. A fashion show produced by the creative media agency FEDITED, on **September 13th** at 6pm, features several unique, up and coming fashion brands: CHAÎNE, Riikka Ikäheimo Couture and sustainable brands represented by Weecos.com such as Uhana Design, Papu, MEM, Nouki, Jatuli, Mine Güngör, Kuula + Jylhä, Mori Collective and Shy Vibes Club.

On the final day the exhibition spoils the senses with Finnish art. The Finnish art scene takes influences from pure nature, and the extreme forms of light and darkness which the seasons provide. Finnish design is known for its architectural forms, simplicity and high quality. The event series closes with an art auction on Thursday, **September 14<sup>th</sup>**, 6pm-8pm.

### **Finn Fun Day at the Scandinavia House**

On Saturday **September 30, 2017**, at the Scandinavia House at 58 Park Avenue, New York, NY, the entire day will be devoted to Finnish events.

Finn Fun Day for the whole family will start at 12 pm with children's art workshop and the art exhibition and gallery tours of 'the Independent visions Helene Schjerfbeck and her contemporaries' from the collection of Ateneum, Finnish National Gallery.

Around 1:00pm the movie 'Teit Meistä Kauniin' (You made us beautiful) by Tuukka Timonen. This drama film is a story of the Finnish band called Apulanta. Olli Hirvonen Jazz band will start entertaining around 4 pm. The events will conclude at 5:00 PM with a closing address by Consul General, Ambassador Manu Virtamo, followed by a short presentation on the Finns in NYC, with a closing cocktail reception to follow. There is also a raffle with great prizes.