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<https://www.lapintaiteilijaseura.fi/artists/anssi-hanhela/>

Anssi Hanhela (1962)

Art Studies:

2005- University of Lapland, Department of Art Education

2006-07 Umeå University

2001 Education of Arts and Media, Kemi-Tornio University of Applied Sciences

1986 Art School of Kankaanpää, Painter

Professional Memberships:

Finnish Painters' Union

Artists' Association of Lapland

Artists' Association of Oulu

Several solo exhibitions in Finland since 1986 (selected):

2026 Insurgent Kapinallinen, Oulu Bookstore / Writers' House

2026 Artists Association House of visual arts, Oulu The Winds of Love
Rakkauden tuulet

2025 House of literature, In Matera, Oulu

2024 Gallery Katariina, Strangers, Helsinki artists' association

1994, 1995, 1998, 2000, 2006, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016 Helsinki

2023 Art Center kulttuurikauppila, Anssi Hanhela Oil pastels, li

2023 Neliö Gallery, Minds, works from 2021-2023, Oulu

2020 tm•gallery, Omia Finnish Painters' Union Helsinki

2020 Hasan& partners Love&Money Helsinki

2019 Cultur Center Akustiikka, PP0-sali, Ylivieska

2018 Artmuseum of Kemi, I and Artist

2017 P-gallery, Porin taiteilijaseura

2015 Malmitalo gallery, Helsinki Anssi Hanhela – pohjoissuomalainen kaksi aikuista lasta

2015 Gallery 5 Oulu,

2015 Gallery Artika Helsinki

2014 Black Wall Gallery, Vaasa
 2014 Korundi, Artmuseum of Rovaniemi
 2012 Gallery Jangva, Helsinki
 2012 Gallery 5, Oulu 2012 Gallery Becker Jyväskylä
 2011 Gallery KAPRIISI Tampere
 2010 Gallery Voima Kemi
 2010 Gallery Art Halvare Oulu
 2010 Gallery Titanik Turku
 2010 tm•gallery Helsinki
 2009 AVA gallery Helsinki
 2009 Varikko gallery Seinäjoki
 2008 Oulu railway station Asematunneli showcase excrement installation Oulu
 2008 Gallery Art Halvare passions of Andrei g Oulu
 2006 Gallery Jangva Helsinki (andrei g)
 2005 Gallery Napa Rovaniemi, (andrei g)
 2005 Taidepanimo Lahti, (andrei g)
 2003 Artmuseum Oskari Jauhiainen Kiiminki (andrei g)
 2001 Gallery Rajatila Tampere 2000 Galleria BE'19 Helsinki
 2006 Gallery Jangva Helsinki (andrei g)
 2005 Gallery Napa Rovaniemi, (andrei g)
 2005 Taidepanimo Lahti, (andrei g)
 2003 Art museum Oskari Jauhiainen Kiiminki (andrei g)
 2001 Gallery Rajatila Tampere
 2000 Gallery BE'19 Helsinki

Solo Exhibitions, abroad:

Sweden: 2007 Vindeln, Konst i Kvarn
 1995 Gothenburg, Gallery Konstpidemin,
 1995 Luleå Galleri Pictor,

Switzerland: 1995 Schaffhausen, Galerie Schiff
 1997 Winterthur, Galerie Löwen

Estonia: 2018 Tartu Art House, Uus maastik

Russia: 1998 St. Petersburg, Borey Art gallery Цветы и мороженое Flowers and ice cream

Norway: 2005 Vadsö, Galleri Light Of Varanger
 1999 The Nordic Artists' Centre in Dale

Group exhibitions in Finland (selected):

2026 TOUCH, Meänkulma Kemi
 2026 Ars Kellokas Lapland Artists' Association and Oulu Artists' Association
 Galleria Kellokas, Kolari.
 2026 Vastaranta-Corresponding Shores Oulu Artists Association, Art Museum Kemi
 2024 Pain, Oulu Museum of Art
 2023 The object of my gaze– Oulu Artists Association 60 years
 2023 Taidekeskus Mäntinranta, Oulu Artists Association 60 years, Thoughts on this moment
 2023 Galleria Rankka proudly presents JOULUBILEET
 2022 Ars Natae, Artists' Association of Lapland, Äkäslompolo

2021 Gallery Ronga, Kiertokulku, Tampere
 2021 ArtTakatie, Pello
 2021 Pohojonen gallery Rankka Helsinki
 2021 Gaze turning circlei Wiurilan kesä 2021
 2021 In the City. Annual exhibition of Finnish watercolor art, Helsinki
 2017 Finnish watercolor art association regional exhibition Oulu
 2016 Lumipalloeefekti, Snowball effect, Aine Museum Tornio
 2016 Haihatus, Joutsa
 2014 Art museum of Kemi, BangBang#KEMI, Taike
 2013 Haihatus, Nordic Art Association, Joutsa
 2012 Lumipalloeefekti, Snowball effect - Northern Finland Biennale, Art Museum of Oulu
 2012 PolArt2K - 2000-luvun politic art show 19.10.-2.12 Artmuseum of Kemi
 2010 Union of Finnish Art Associations, annual exhibitions 2010, Tampere
 2010 Today at home, Works on the family theme, Aine art museum Tornio
 2009 My North, Rantakasarmi, Helsinki, Finland's Nordic Art Association
 2005 Graphica Creativa, Jyväskylä
 1995 Mänttää Art festival

International Exhibitions:

2015 ENIGMA, Arndt Haike gallery, Berlin, Danmark
 2015, How to Read in the Dark, Lapland artist association, Joensuu , Riga, Berlin
 2015 Tartu Kunstimaja, Estonia; Grimmuseum, Berlin, Germany
 2014 BangBang#KEMI, Artists' Association of Oulu, Kemi Art Museum The Finnish Artists
 2012 I live on the Arctic Circle, Eesti Tallinna, Latvia Riika
 2011-13 Karvavahetuse aeg, Lapimaa nüüdiskunst, Eesti, Latvia
 2010 7th International Miniprint Finland
 2010 9th Lessedra World Art Print Annual - Mini Print Bulgaria
 2010 Mail Art project "Avtoportret/Enter" Yaroslavl Art museum Russia
 2008 AVA Galleria presents The Art Career exhibition, Valencia Espanja, Helsinki
 2008-09 Colouring The North, Verkligheten, Umeå, Stockholm Sweden
 2006 Egoart prize, nominated artist. www.egoart.sk (andrei g)
 2006 Artperiscope-The Light, Tabor gallery, Czestochowa, Czech Republic
 2006 Fifth Annual International Miniatures Exhibition "little m", Lithuania
 2005 Graphica Creativa, Jyväskylä
 2004 Art from Finland, Petrozavodsk, Russia
 2005 Art Nature, Utrecht, Netherlands
 2003 World Art Collection, National Art Gallery of Seoul, Korea
 2002 The Barents Art Exhibition Arkhangelsk, Russia
 2002 Karelian Holidays Petrozavodsk Russia
 2000 Reasons to love the Earth 2000-2001
 1999 Art- E- Mail Virtual Art Exhibit, Columbia
 1999 Art-e-mail in MAC21 International Contemporary Art Fair, Spain
 1996 HIP (Hanhela-Isaksson-Päiviö) Övertorneå
 1996-97 Bowl Project, Finland
 1995 Baltic Sea States Triennial of Graphic Art, Poland
 1995 Box`95, Lithuania
 1994 Laplands' Art Summer, Finland
 1994 1998 Man and Woman Nude Art, Estonia
 1994 Grafik från Nordkalotten, Sweden
 1993 The 4th Riga Minigraphics Triennial, Latvia

1992 The Baltic Countries Graphic Art Triennale, Poland
1991 Nordkalottens Höstsalong, Sweden
1991 Nordisk Kunst, Denmark
1990 Graphica Creativa, Finland
1989 Nordisk Teckningstriennial, Sweden
1985 Plan Air, Poland

Happenings and workshops:

2005 From The Light, Video Art, Tampere, Helsinki
2004 The First Volgograd International Festival of videoart "Videology"
2004 Studio Là-bas→, Cable Factory, Helsinki, Andrei G.: video installation FURY
2004 Studio Là-bas→, Cable Factory, Helsinki, Andrei G.: video projection, Lauri Luhta:
performance, djing
2004 Là - Bas -> live art happening, Oulu, Finland
2002 International Snag sculpture symposium, Inari, Lapland
1999 International Ice Festival, The Norwegian Glacier Museum, Fjærland

Works in Collections:

Art School of Kankaanpää;
City Of Oulu;
City of Raahen;
Kaleva Printing House, Oulu;
Council of Oulu Region;
Finnmark fylkeskommune, Vadsø, Norway;
Graphica Creativa ry, Jyväskylä;
Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation;
Kemi Art Museum;
Lapland Hospital District, Muurola;
OP Oulu;
Oulu Museum of Art;
Oulu-opisto, Kiiminkijoki Unit Haukipudas;
Oulu Saskia ry;
Russia;Petrozavodsk City Exhibition Hall,
Poland;Sztuka Polska, Gdansk;
The Association for Respiratory Health in Oulu Region;
The Northern Ostrobothnia Hospital District ;
Union of the Professional Engineers in Finland

Scholarships,awards and acknowledgments assorted:

Finnish Arts and Culture Agency, Project grant 2026
Supplementary State Artist Pension 2026
Honorable Mention in the City.
Annual Exhibition of Finnish Watercolor Art, Helsinki 2021
1-year working grant, Oulu Arts Council 2011
City of Oulu ½-year working grant 2005
Gjesteateljeteret i Vadsø, scholarship 2005, Norway
International Artist Center Dalsåsen, scholarship holder 1999, Norway

Anssi Hanhela was born in 1962. After many years of studying and working all over Finland, Hanhela returned to his roots in Haukipudas, Northern Ostrobothnia.

Hanhela started his career in the 1980s painting expressive landscapes.

After having painted constructivist images of gods and minimalist hidden images that dealt with sexuality, he circled back to expressionism when he started painting colorful, expressive art that consists of stories and scenes of life.

The works deal with, among others, problems of loneliness and social oppression. Love is another important theme. A man's life is a struggle between reality and his own sensitive emotions. It is an existential distress about which of the traces drawn in his memory are real, and which are colored by strong emotions and daydreaming born out of loneliness. Everything is nevertheless just as real, the world around him takes strongly shape through one's self.

In most paintings, the viewer can find Hanhela himself, a dark-haired man with a mustache, sometimes even wearing a stern expression on his face. Humor is a part of the internal world portrayed by the works. Erotic themes and the striped shirt era are retreating. The latter of which especially reflects changes in the artist's personal life.

Ghosts, spirits and breaths are new features in his work. They mirror his own thoughts and those around him, they also portray meetings and fantasies in another dimension.

In Hanhela's works ghosts represent goodness and give a person strength.

Ghosts appear sometimes from his own head and sometimes as if from another dimension. Ghosts are thoughts whose goodness or wickedness depends on the day and the circumstances. Societal uncertainty gives birth to evil spirits. The world today is possessed by egotism, conceit and excessive individualism.

That's why we need ghosts.