

The Nordic Summer Academy for Artistic Research – SAAR 2017

13-20.8.2017, Helsinki, Finland



Organized by: UNIARTS Helsinki

Contact person: Michaela Bränn, Research Coordinator, michaela.brann@uniarts.fi

SAAR 2017 schedule on web:

<http://artisticresearch.fi/saar/activities/saar-2017-helsinki/program-2017/>

Practicalities – logistics

Travelling

The University of each participant will cover the travel costs. Please contact your own country's contact person for more details as soon as possible!

Arrival time: Sunday 13.8.2017 – Preferably no later than in the afternoon. A **joint dinner is served at 19:30.**

Departure time: Sunday 20.8.2017 – Preferably not before 13:00, as the last lunch is from 12:00 to 13:00.

Please note that times are in Finnish time!

Accommodation

The venue for SAAR 2017 is the **Cultural Centre Sofia** in Nordsjö/Vuosaari in Helsinki, about 20–30 minutes from the city center and from the airport.

- Individual hotel rooms have been booked for all participants. The network covers the cost.
- Breakfast, coffee, lunch and dinner is included in the accommodation at Sofia
- The centres sauna facilities are available for all participants

Food allergies? Please send information about your food allergies or other food requirements to SAAR coordinator Michaela Bränn, e-mail: michaela.brann@uniarts.fi

Cultural Centre Sofia <http://sofia.fi/en/home/>

Address: Kallvikinniementie 35 / Kallviksuddsvägen 35, 00980 Helsinki, Finland

Reception, tel: +358 (0)10 277 900

You can reach Sofia from the Helsinki city centre by **metro**. Get on a metro that has its end station marked as *Vuosaari/Nordsjö*. Get off the metro at the Vuosaari/Nordsjö station. From the metro, it is about a 20-minute **walk** to Sofia Cultural Centre. You can also reach the centre by **taxi**. The taxi station is to the left of the exit of the metro station. You can also take **bus** no 816 (from platform 16 at the metro station) that goes all the way to Sofia. Bus no 560 also leaves from the Vuosaari metro station (platform 12). If you take bus 560, get off at the *Kallahdenraitti* bus stop from where there is a 1.2 km to walk to Sofia.

Airport transportation: <https://www.finavia.fi/en/helsinki-airport/to-and-from/train-buses-and-taxis/>

<https://www.finavia.fi/sv/helsingforsvanda/till-och-fran/tag-buss-och-taxi/>

Tickets and fares: <https://www.hsl.fi/en/tickets-and-fares>

Metro timetable: <https://aikataulut.reittiopas.fi/linjat/en/hM1.html>

Bus no 816 timetable: <https://aikataulut.reittiopas.fi/linjat/en/l816.html>

Bus no 560 timetable: <https://aikataulut.reittiopas.fi/linjat/en/b560.html>

Spaces and tech

There are opportunities for discussions in smaller groups and presentations in different environments. We have access to seminar rooms and spaces outside.

We have the following rooms booked in Sofia for SAAR (map as separate attachment):

In Building A (the Main building):

Rooms => Mänty, Poiju, Leppä, Koivu

In Building C:

Room => Kallio – a big space (booked for 13-18.8. – not Sat and Sun 19th and 20th)

Sofias technology – they have, along with normal conference technique in rooms:

- Music stands 1 x
- Portable PA system 1 x, Dynacord D 8A
- Wireless microphones max. 2 x (Sennheiser)
- Microphone stands 2 x

Portable PA-system, max. connections: 1 x wireless microphone and 1 x microphone with wire

Pianos:

- **Yamaha**, 125/153/65 (width/height/depth, cm)
- **Schimmel**, 105/146/50
- **Fazer**, 109/145/54

Specific needs for equipment or technical support? Please send an email to Michaela Bränn so that we can see what is possible to facilitate on site in Sofia. E-mail: michaela.brann@uniarts.fi

Website

The SAAR 2017 schedule and information about practical things will be posted and updated on our website:

<http://artisticresearch.fi/saar/activities/saar-2017-helsinki>

Program/schedule:

<http://artisticresearch.fi/saar/activities/saar-2017-helsinki/program-2017/>

Supervisors/tutors:

<http://artisticresearch.fi/saar/activities/saar-2017-helsinki/supervisors-2017>

WORKING METHODS

The aim of SAAR is to discuss in depth the participants' research projects within the developing discourses of art practice and research. This happens through different forms of supervision and intensive conversation. SAAR is based on the participants' projects and is centered in the discussion of the projects. Supervisors are there to facilitate the discussion and to participate in working groups.

Written presentations – before start

Before the start of SAAR 2017 all participants will send in short written presentations describing their research projects. The participants send in the presentations in via an electronic form that will be distributed by the coordinator. The presentations will be published on-line.

The main questions to be answered in the presentation are:

- Give a short general presentation of your work
- Describe the context of your research
- Summarize in 3 bullet points the main problems/questions/objectives in your research
- Choose 5 key words to describe your research

This presentation should be in a **maximum 1 A4**. The presentations should be read by all participants thoroughly before the start of the week.

The deadline for sending in the presentation is Friday June 9th. The online electronic form is in the address:

<https://my.surveypal.com/SAAR-2017-written-presentations>

Opening live presentations – as SAAR week starts

As a warm up session to kick off SAAR 2017 participants will give short live presentations. The time is a **maximum of 10 minutes** per person/presentation. The format for the presentation is open – all forms of communication are welcome. The presentation can e.g. include an action/practice element. **The presentation should include:**

- A very brief contextualization of your research topic – outline the core elements
- Choose one (1) specific question/problem/objective in your research that you would like to explore during the SAAR week. Highlight this problem/question/objective with a practical example/s

Do not go in-depth in your research project in the presentation. It should just give your fellow participants a general idea of your research topic. The live presentation works as a source of complementary information to the written presentation you have written beforehand.

Group discussions/workshops

“Group discussions” are held as parallel discussions, with 4–5 groups at the time. The group discussions are based on the initiatives of the participants. Each participant will initiate at least **one** group discussion during the week. The discussions should be quite improvised, and not too prepared, in order for us to dive into where ever in the process the researcher is at right now.

In order to start the group discussion the participant should prepare a 5 minutes “*action*”, which is then followed by an *open conversation*. The action could be a physical action, giving instruction to the group members, trying out something with the participants, reading text, asking others to read, showing visual material etc. It should somehow “open a window” towards a domain that the researcher wishes to discuss. At the beginning of the week, we will decide when each research participant initiates a group discussion/workshop, and from day to day, we will make sure that there is an equal distribution of participants and supervisors across the groups. Instructions for how reporting from the group sessions will be done, is provided during the start of the Academy.

Summing up

The summing up- sessions will be short, but here the groups will report the main issues they have discussed, we will plan the day ahead, and make sure all practicalities are on track.

Individual supervision

The participants will have the possibility to sign up for individual supervision with the supervisors. Schedules for this will be drawn up at the beginning of the week.

Presentations at the end of the week

We will end the week with the participants presenting what they have realized about their project during the week: what has been clarified, what do they want to continue with, what is still unclear etc. It is an individual summary of

the week, but still part of the experimentation with/within the project. Each participant has 30 minutes (including discussion) and the formats of the presentations can vary, the participants can decide how to dispose the time.

We encourage to experiment with the format of presentation or to collaborate. Some preparation time will be provided and we will make a schedule for the presentations once we know technical requirements and which space each presenter wants to use.

In order to vary the activities, we will encourage participants to use all the spaces, included the outdoor space, during the group discussions.

Other activities

In terms of social activities, we will provide information about interesting events or other possible activities in Helsinki in the evenings. These will not be compulsory, but some might decide to go together. On Thursday we will organize an excursion in Helsinki. More information about the excursion will be provided later on. On Saturday evening, we will go out on the town for a joint dinner.