

# VESIÄ AMANZI WATERS

Kristiina Korpela - Jill Trappler - Leena Mäki-Patola - Witty Nyide - Jaana Partanen - Eunice Geustyn

## WATERS – VESIÄ – AMANZI

Finnish – South African exhibition project 2010–11

Cape Town–Durban–Johannesburg–Helsinki–Kuopio–Rovaniemi

We have all born out of water, water do we need to live, and we ourselves are mostly water. Water unites and separates people. Everyone on earth does not have clean drinking water, so equals are we not. On the other hand people everywhere are touched by the catastrophes related to the climate change: storms, floods or drought. The WATERS exhibition project has been born around these themes, through the interaction of artists living at waters.

The project draws together three artists from amidst lakes in Finland and three artists from ashore oceans in South Africa. All the artists of the group have dealt with the water theme already in their earlier works. In 2010 the group has exhibitions in the three biggest cities in South Africa: Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg. In Finland the group has three exhibitions in 2011: in Kuopio Art Museum, in Gallery Rantakasarmi in Helsinki, and in the University of Lapland in Rovaniemi.

One of the fundamental principles of the project is the meeting of South and North. With Cape Town as its starting point, the project travels from South to as far North as possible, approximately at the same longitude. The idea of the project is to make and present easily transportable art, like videos, graphics, photographs and paper works as well as installations making use of local materials, too, like water and sand. Each exhibition is implemented on the conditions of the exhibition place, taking into account the characteristic features of the environment.

The South African artists are Jill Trappler and Eunice Geustyn from Cape Town and Witty Nyide from Durban. The Finnish artists are Kristiina Korpela and Jaana Partanen from Kuopio and Leena Mäki-Patola from Varkaus. In Finland the project will be joined by Silja Saarepuu from Tallinn, Estonia, ashore the Baltic Sea.

The exhibitions:

**AVA Gallery, Cape Town, 8 – 31 March 2010**

**artSPACE durban, Durban, 19 April – 8 May 2010**

**Bag Factory, Johannesburg, 13 October – 3 November 2010**

**Kuopio Art Museum, 25 February – 15 May 2011**

**Rantakasarmi Gallery, Helsinki, 26 May – 19 June 2011**

**University of Lapland, Rovaniemi, Autumn 2011**

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FRAME / Finnish Fund for Art Exchange, Arts Council of Finland, Finnish Cultural Foundation, Arts Council of North Savo

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JAANA PARTANEN



KRISTIINA KORPELA



LEENA MÄKI-PATOLA



EUNICE GEUSTYN



WITTY NYIDE



JILL TRAPPLER

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## ABOUT THE ARTISTS' WORKS:

**Kristiina Korpela** has a concern about the climate change as the background of her greenhouse and aquarium works. The artist processes alarming natural catastrophes through flowers, at the same time studying the interaction between people and plants.

[www.iki.fi/kristiina.korpela](http://www.iki.fi/kristiina.korpela)

**Jill Trappler's** picturesque works express how the artist experiences water with all senses and in her body. The unity of nature and human comes true in her working: "We are water".

[www.jilltrappler.co.za](http://www.jilltrappler.co.za)

**Leena Mäki-Patola's** central theme in her installations is clean drinking water and the lack of it as well as inequality in the world. She uses colours and natural elements as her symbols: water, sand and crackled clay.

[www.leenamaki-patola.fi](http://www.leenamaki-patola.fi)

**Witty Nyide** studies water as a social element in her installations and graphics. Her works are based on the water fetching traditions and folklore of KwaZulu-Natal, which she reflects on from the perspective of a young woman.

**Jaana Partanen** deals with water as a uniting and unifying element in her video works. Water connects continents, but generations, too: mothers and daughters. As a mythical element water refers to the homestead of mankind, to womb and birth.

[www.jaanap.fi](http://www.jaanap.fi)

**Eunice Geustyn** in her graphics works reflects on the social differences and inequality in South Africa. She studies the local meanings of water by using maps, plants and water-related objects of different residential areas.

[www.egeustyn.ruthprowse.co.za](http://www.egeustyn.ruthprowse.co.za)

## Contact address

[kristiina.korpela@iki.fi](mailto:kristiina.korpela@iki.fi)

[jill@jilltrappler.co.za](mailto:jill@jilltrappler.co.za)