

Press Release

Poetry's Coming Home – a Documentary on the Annikki Poetry Festival

Poetry's Coming Home is a tribute to the diversity of poetry, volunteer spirit and unifying power of culture. The documentary shows how a small courtyard event organised by the residents of the Annikki Wooden Quarter in Finland grows over a decade and a half into a highly valued, international cultural festival. The trailer: <https://youtu.be/joRsIIJ0LwM>

Directed by **Aimo Hyvärinen**, the documentary features volunteer workers behind the Annikki Poetry Festival as well as a large number of brilliant performers: **John Cooper Clarke** (UK), **Mutabaruka** (JM), **Yumi Fuzuki** (JP), **Anne Waldman** (USA), **Kirsi Kunnas**, **Paperi T**, **Aulikki Oksanen**, **Verner Pohjola**, **Pentti Saaritsa**, **Arja Tiainen**, **Emma Kantanen**, **Rosa Liksom**, **Hannu Salama**, **Susinukke Kosola** & many others.

The documentary gives a close account of the preparations for the festival in the year of its 15th anniversary in the wooden quarter built over a century ago in Tampere, Finland. Abundant archive materials shed light on the journey so far. *Poetry's Coming Home* is a tale of the power of ideas, insanely creative people and the tireless volunteer spirit that ensures the continuity of countless cultural events.

Poetry's Coming Home has been directed by Aimo Hyvärinen. He is a versatile, award-winning documentary director, media artist, producer and photographer living in Tampere, Finland. Having started his career in the 1980s, he has directed about twenty documentary films.

Press screening & conference

The press screening and conference will take place at the Annikki Wooden Quarter's club room (2nd floor of the central building), Annikinkuja 2, Tampere, Finland on 22 January 2019 at 12:00 noon. Vegetarian lunch will be served. Please register in advance: [simo.ollila\(a\)gmail.com](mailto:simo.ollila(a)gmail.com)

Premiere for invited guests & media representatives

Premiere for invited guests at Arthouse Cinema Niagara (Kehräsaari, Building B, Tampere) on 25 January 2019 at 6:30 pm. The screening is primarily intended for invited guests, but media representatives are also welcome. Media representatives, please register in advance: [simo.ollila\(a\)gmail.com](mailto:simo.ollila(a)gmail.com)

Premiere party!

Open to everyone, the premiere party for *Poetry's Coming Home* will kick off at Arthouse Cinema Niagara's Arthouse Cafe on 25 January 2019 at 8:00 pm. Featuring Kari Aronpuro, Tuija Välipakka, J.K. Ihalainen, Mari Laaksonen, Pekka Kytömäki, Anna Elina Isoaro and Hannibal & Hot Heros. Come and join the fun!

Contact

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