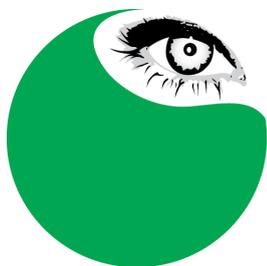


## **Loikka on Tour @ Lublin 2017** **- Finnish Marriage of Dance and Film**



*Dance and film are the art of movement, action, choreography, music and images. Dance film is inherently international; the expressive power of movement can transcend language barriers and bring together people from different cultures. And therein lies the power of dance as a tool for dealing with even the more challenging themes and emotions. The viewer is free to hear, see and experience dance, film and music against the backdrop of his or her personal experiences – in dance film, there is seldom spoken language to limit how we understand or experience what we see or hear.*

**Finnish short dance film is peaking. During the last five years Finnish choreographers and filmmakers have discovered the art form and made it their own. Dance films are made professionally with a high standard and they have been highly successful in many international arenas.**

*Me - Story of a Performance* by director **Jopsu Ramu** and choreographer **Johanna Nuutinen** has been awarded with multiple prizes in international festivals all over the globe. Film follows a performance from different perspectives: how it is perceived by the dancer, the audience and how it can be seen from an objective point of view as a mere code. Through these the interpretation of a different world – The Performance is created and we are all pulled into being a part of it. (ME: English: I, Finnish: We, the Japanese: the eye).

60-second time limit is a fascinating challenge for an artist. Sometimes it is too short and sometimes you can show the whole universe in one minute. It is about how you execute time. As an example for one-minute film we screen *JUMP* by Finnish **Taneli Törmä** and Swedish **Jan Vesala**. The film won first prize in the online 60secondsdance competition in 2015.

*SEE | OBEY* by **Jouka Valkama** and **Susanna Leinonen** won the Loikka Audience Award in 2016 and was voted by the festival viewers. The film was originally made for two separate screens as part of a dance performance. *SEE | OBEY* tells simultaneously three different narratives about human emotions, everyday events and conflicts by physical expression and movement.

*Contiguity* is a debut dance short film by filmmaker **Sami Hokkanen** and choreographer **Vilma Tihilä**. It is a dream-like film about sincerity and how sudden encounters influence a young man's path. The film has been screened in several festivals all over the world.

Parody film *Body Language Zone* by director **Kim Saarinen** and choreographer **Johanna Keinänen** is one of the most successful short dance films from Finland. In the film we follow the body language consultant facing multiple challenges in today's corporate life and dealing with where surplus body language is placed. The film and dance artist Keinänen's performance has been awarded at multiple international festivals. Recently it was awarded the Best Film Prize in Stories We Dance film festival, Italy.

Director **Anna Maria Joakimsdóttir-Hutri** and choreographers **Maria Saivonsalmi** and **Andrius Katinas** have placed their film *Through the Supermarket in Five Easy Pieces* in modern everyday life. The film presents a family of five struggling through a megamarket in a state in which sleep deprivation takes its toll on the parents.

The first Loikka Production Project film *Cold Storage*, by **Thomas Freundlich** and **Valtteri Raekallio**, has collected several recognitions and prizes in international festivals and has been sold to

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international TV broadcasters. In the film, time and reality blur as a lonely ice-fisherman finds his ancient soul brother in the arctic ice. Film have been selected over 100 film festivals and been awarded many prizes. Another film produced through Loikka Production Project *Through the Supermarket in Five Easy Pieces* was premiered on March 2017. Writer-director **Anna Maria Joakimsdóttir-Hutri** and choreographers **Maria Saivonsalmen** and **Andrius Katinasin** have placed their film in modern everyday life. The film presents a family of five struggling through a megamarket in a state in which sleep deprivation takes its toll on the parents.

*Loikka Production Project is a special funding program for dance film initiated by Loikka Dance Film Festival, Finnish Film Foundation, AVEK - The Promoting Centre for Audiovisual Culture and national broadcaster Yle. Yearly one Finnish production company will receive funding to produce new short dance film. Next year among the proposals Jury selects one film to get funding of 55 000€. The project aims to better the working opportunities of the dance filmmakers and improve professional development of the Finnish dance film.*

### **JUMP** (2015, DK, 1'00)

Directors/Choreographers: Taneli Törmä and Jan Vesala

### **SEE | OBEY** (2015, FI, 14')

Director/Cinematographer: Jouka Valkama  
Choreographer: Susanna Leinonen  
Composer / Sound designer: Kasper Laine  
Production: Susanna Leinonen Company  
Screening format: mov

### **CONTIGUITY** (2016, FI, 09'51)

Director: Vilma Tihilä, Sami Hokkanen  
Choreographer: Vilma Tihilä, Sami Hokkanen  
Cinematographer: Tuukka Ylönen  
Composer: Maukka Siirala, Paavo Kerosuo, Antti Kolehmainen  
Sound designer: Kirsi Korhonen

### **ME - STORY OF A PERFORMANCE** (2013, FI/EE/JP, 7'30)

Director: Jopsu Ramu  
Choreographer: Johanna Nuutinen  
Cinematographer: Mark Stubbs  
Music: Jukka Backlund  
Producer: Juha-Matti Nieminen & Timo Ramu  
Production Company: Director's Guild Helsinki & Musuta Ltd.

### **THROUGH THE SUPERMARKET IN FIVE EASY PIECES**

### (2017, FI, 9'00)

Director: Anna Maria Joakimsdóttir-Hutri  
Choreographer: Maria Saivonsalmi & Andrius Katinas  
Cinematographer: Daniel Lindholm  
Composer / Sound designer: Marko Nyberg  
Producer: Petteri Lehtinen  
Production Company: Valve King Oy  
Photo: Paula Kesäläinen  
Screening format: DCP, mov

### **BODY LANGUAGE ZONE** (2015, FI, 10'00)

Director / Cinematographer: Kim Saarinen  
Choreographer: Johanna Keinänen  
Composer: Dave Forestfield  
Sound designer: Kim Saarinen  
Photo: Kim Saarinen  
Screening format: mov

### **COLD STORAGE** (2016, FI, 09'00)

Director / Cinematographer: Thomas Freundlich  
Choreographer: Valtteri Raekallio  
Music: Kimmo Pohjonen  
Sound designer: Akseli Soini  
Production company: Lumikinos Production Oy  
Photo: Thomas Freundlich  
Screening format: DCP, mov

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