



CURRICULUM VITAE JENNI JOHANNA NIKINMAA

I am a theatre maker, poet and a playwright who focuses on digital mediums, immersive theatre and stories of nature, trauma, mental health & abuse through dramaturgies that place audiences in the middle of the process of healing. My work is poetic & disturbing. I meet my themes with kind and unblinking forthrightness, and design audience interactions that are both creative and delicate – inviting people to participate comfortably.

Originally from Finland, I studied at NUI Galway and graduated with first class honours from MA in Playwriting & Dramaturgy, and have since moved to Inishmore, Aran Islands.

My recent works include: A digital play in Finnish called *Älä jätä jälkiä* (Leave No Trace), which audiences have received with praise such as "This is the only thing I have experienced online I wish would stay after the pandemic"; An ecocatastrophe themed play where audiences design a new world within a Google doc; A poetry book named *Tequila*; A poetry performance which utilizes tarot cards designed for it to resist the rush hours of life; and a new digital play *It's True I Love You All So Much* that will be produced by Eva's Echo Theatre Company in Galway in 2021.

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EDUCATION

2019-2020 NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND GALWAY

MA Playwriting & Dramaturgy. 1st class honours

Selected 2020 (Galway International Arts Festival internship program)

2009-2013 SNELLMAN ACADEMY

Speech & Drama (Helsinki, Finland)

2012-2013 THEATRE ACADEMY HELSINKI

Open University Acting Studies (20 credits)



Recent courses

include Punchdrunk Performance & Design Masterclass | Devising with Chekhov technique with Max Hafler | Immersive Theatre Masterclass with Louise Lowe (ANU) | Immersive Theatre courses with Center for Everything (FIN)

NOMINATIONS, COMPETITIONS, GRANTS

2021 **Remote Control Residency** with Brú Theatre / Town Hall Theatre in Galway

2021 Grant from Galway County Council toward a play about Civilization / Wilderness

2020 Shortlisted for **Alpine Fellowship Theatre Prize** with the play *Apple Blossoms*

2019 A collection of poetry 2nd in the **Runo-Kaarina** competition (FIN), which publishes the winning collection

2019 (2020) **Alfred Kordelin Foundation** Grant for making "Leave No Trace". Premier 17th of Feb 2021.

2018 (2019) **Kone Foundation** Half a year grant for creation and development of an immersive play about trauma

PUBLISHED IN... **Finland:** *Tequila* (Poetry Collection 2021) | Poetry anthologies - - **Ireland:** Two Meter Review Anthology II (Poem *Vulnerable Offence* 2021) | Two Meter Review Anthology I (Poems *Pearl Diver & Unicorns* 2020)

LIST OF RECENT WORK EXPERIENCE

MULTIDISCIPLINARY WORK

2020 ECO CHAMBERS | Exit Productions, London – part of the creative team developing the immersive online performance looking at ways to disagree productively to find solutions to climate issues within Google Docs.

2020 POETRY FORTUNES | Writer & Performer & Visual Designer – solo performance drawing from the tradition of tarot Premier: Poetry Day Ireland 2020. Booked for Westival 2020 (Cancelled due the pandemic).

PLAYWRIGHT & DRAMATURG

2020-2021 / 2017 ÄLÄ JÄTÄ JÄLKIÄ (Leave No Trace) | Playwright & Dramaturg. Staged reading 4.12.2017 directed by Lauri Majjala at KOM-Theatre. Premier 17th of February as digital performance.

2021 PLAYS IN DEVELOPMENT: *Apple Blossoms* (shortlisted for Alpine Fellowship Theatre Prize) – Themes of forgiveness, retribution, understanding and moving on | *Bird Watching – What Is Love?* A collection of crooked descriptions of love & vulnerability | *It's True I Love You All So Much* – Digital immersive play about self-harm & suicide. The play will be produced by Eva's Echo Theatre in Galway in 2021.

2019 THE UNFATHOMABLE TRAVEL AGENCY | Immersive spatial theatre for understanding madness

2019 MIITTA ELÄÄ! (Miitta lives!) | dramaturg – Premiered 21.3.2019 in Alexander Theatre, Helsinki, Finland

PERFORMANCE POETRY

SLAM COMPETITIONS: 6.-8.2020 UNISLAM in Birmingham | 29.8.2019 The All Ireland Poetry Slam Galway Heat Semifinals (7th) | 17.8.2019 Poetry Slam Finnish Nationals (8th place) | 16.5.2019 Poetry Slam Competition in Tampere (1st place) | Various occasions before, for example twice 3rd and once 1st in Helsinki

SOLO PERFORMANCES: 27.9.2020 RUUSU OPEN MIC Helsinki warm-up | 15.11.202 SOULS OUTSPOKEN Raasepori performance via Skype | THE ADVENTURE POEMS OF A MAD WOMAN at Muusajuhlat Literary Festival Oulu (18.8.2019), Art & Science Tram Onni, Helsinki (15.8.2019) | AN HOUR FOR NATURE with Ohrwurm at Festival Norpas, Kemiönsaari (3.8.2019) | 22.6.2019 BOOKS@ONE Louisburgh, Mayo – solo performance | Various occasions at different events before 2019

ACTING

27.2.2020 **HE LIKED TO LOOK AT IT & I WAS TWELVE** | TeaCosy Theatre, Vagina Monologues at NUIG.

19.8.-7.9.2013 **SINUSTA VÄLITETÄÄN** (They Care About You) | horror theatre. Helsinki, Finland

29.6-10.8.2013 **PESÄRIKKO** (The Nest is Broken) | directed by Kari Kinnaslampi. Teatteri Tuli, Helsinki, Finland.

5.4- 4.5.2013 **TRAUMA** | A play about the prison we all share. Role of Tiera / ID. Teatteri Toivo.

26-27.5.2012 **HOUSE OF DEMOCRACY** – Interactive Art by Jani Leinonen at the World Village Festival, Helsinki.

28.5.-4.6.2011 **VERONIKA DECIDES TO DIE**. Main role. Teatteri Toivo.

PRODUCTION

Producer at POETRY SWINGERS CLUB for writers 2018-2019 | Production manager at ALEXANDER THEATRE 2017-2018 | Production manager at LINNATEATTERI (Turku, Finland) 2015-2017 | Production assistant at ALEXANDER THEATRE, MERI OULU SUMMER THEATRE, SUOMEN KOMEDIEATEATTERI 2013-2018.