

# THE MAGIC RESTAURANT

RAVINTOLA SAMPO

OULU - FINLAND

June 27 - July 8

1994

# PREFACE

In the summer of 1994, The Magic Restaurant / Ravintola Sampo  
was created in Oulu,  
in Northern Finland.

Artists, designers, actors and musicians of  
both Finnish and Dutch nationality  
closely collaborated on the realisation of this project.

In the Finnish language, the name given to the project:  
"Ravintola Sampo" embraces the entire concept;  
its English name "The Magic Restaurant" does so only in part.  
In Finland, a "Ravintola" is a venue where guests are served quality  
nourishment,  
in the broadest sense of the word.

Furthermore, "Sampo" is an important concept  
featuring in the Finnish national epic "Kalevala":  
a magic substance constituting the source of wealth  
and thus a motive for exchanges and contact with others.  
So, a Ravintola Sampo is more than just a Magic Restaurant  
and thus serves as a fitting symbol for contemporary  
international and intercultural co-operation.

The images tell a more vivid story than words can do.  
From the earliest beginning to the very end,  
the construction and the/ realisation of the project was visually  
recorded.

Quotations in various Finnish newspapers and magazines are  
complementary.

"Typical for the Ravintola Sampo-project is that nothing is obligatory  
and everything is possible."

"The method applied here is clearly opposed  
to that of a normal art project.

Generally artists are given rules and advice.  
They receive a detailed and circumscribed plan and instructions  
to work according to that plan.”  
(G.C.Bout in an interview for Suomenmaa)

“Sampo was forged with great force.  
Its birth was like a miniature nativity story.  
In the beginning there was an empty space and  
a pile of wood, pieces of stone, and other scrap material.  
All kinds of materials were used to create a magic restaurant,  
that had never before existed.

As soon as the construction was completed,  
the tables were laid, the doors were opened and  
the guests were admitted to fill the space.  
The next morning it all seemed a dream.” (Kaleva)

The critic writing for the principal, national newspaper,  
The Helsingin Sanomat described the event as follows:  
“The Magic Restaurant Ravintola Sampo,  
a sampo of ideas and thoughts”  
“A temporary museum that demonstrates  
all the things a restaurant can be”  
“A phantacy restaurant where a ‘mythical’ restaurant  
met with a ‘real’ restaurant”

In a period of one and a half weeks,  
the restaurant and all that goes with it  
was conceived, organised, designed and created.  
It opened for a single night,  
was attended by many guests,  
and  
had disappeared by the following afternoon.

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Oulu - Finland  
June 27 - July 8  
1994

Organisation  
Bothnia Art Workshops  
Oulu - Finland

General Director - Kimmo Lehtinen  
Artistic Director - Ger C. Bout

In collaboration  
with  
Arctic Studio-Gallery  
Oulu - Finland







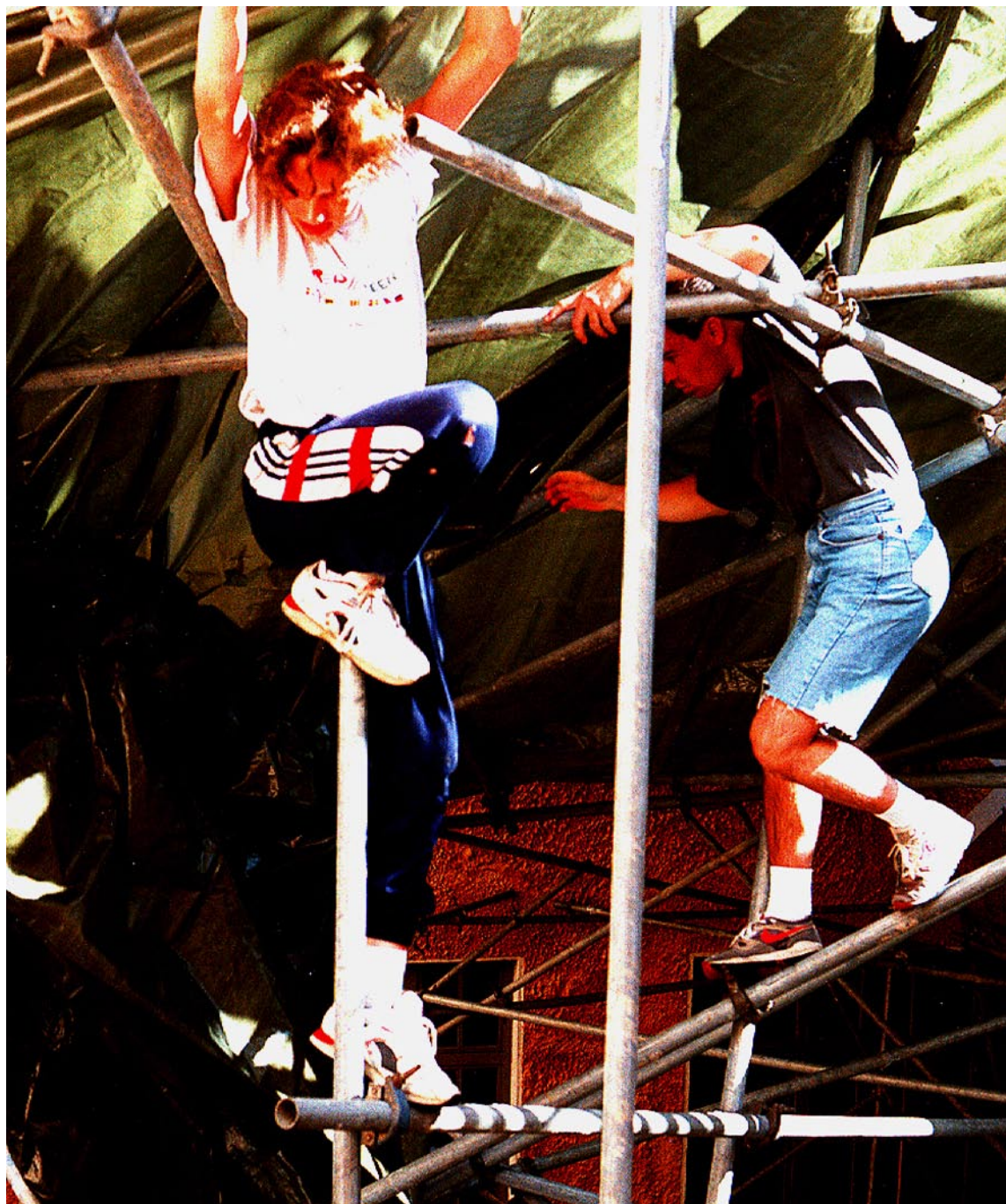


































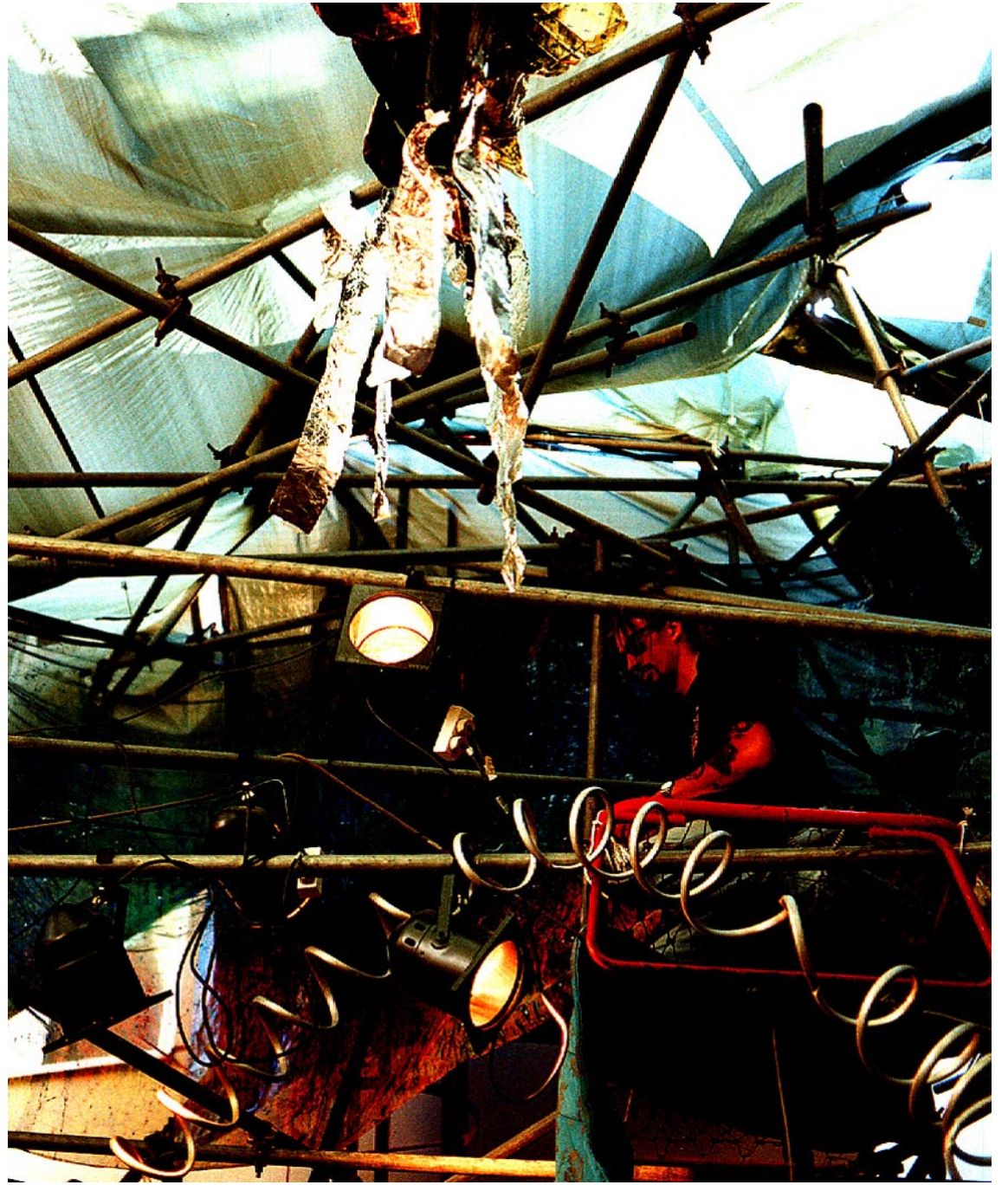




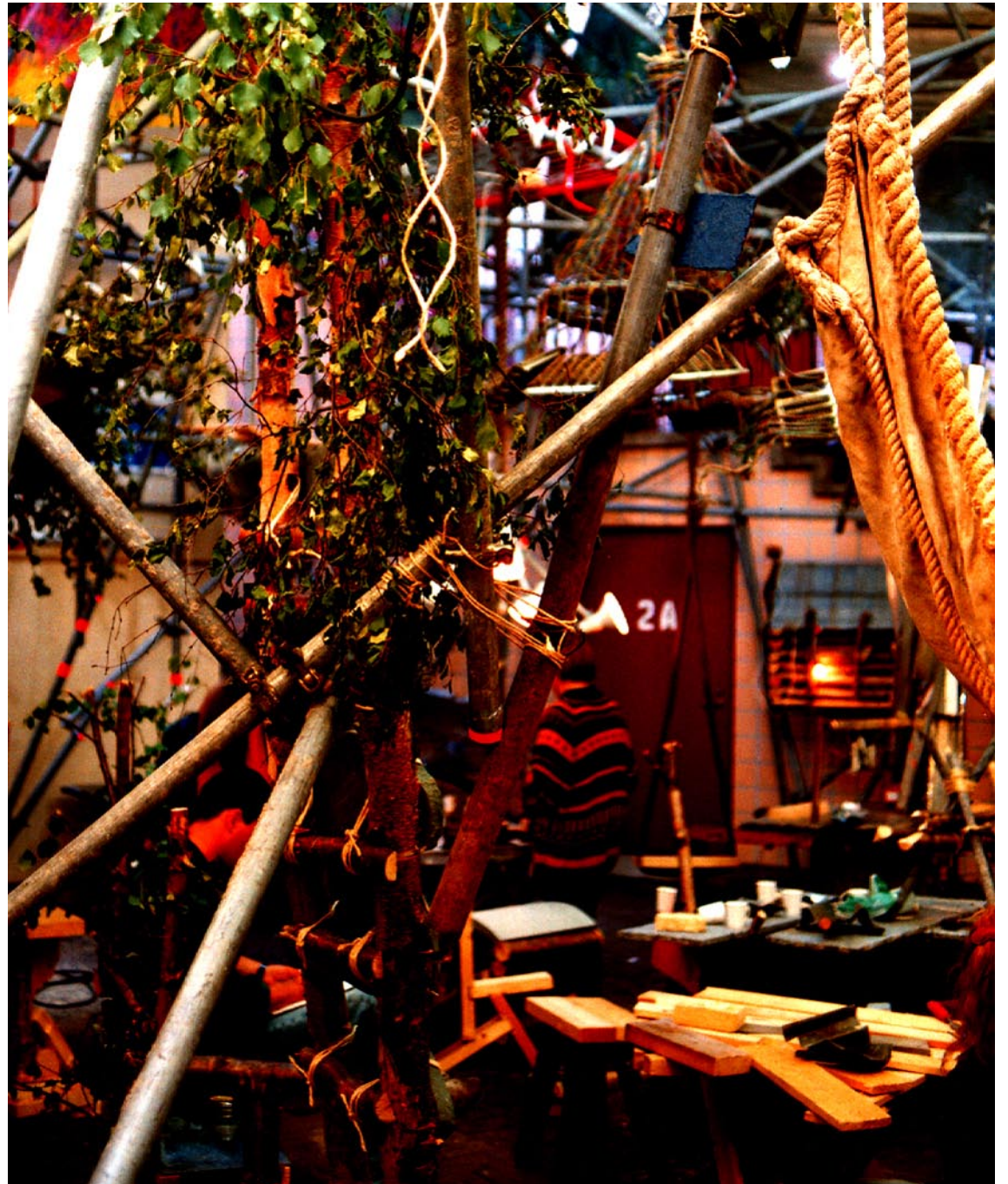






















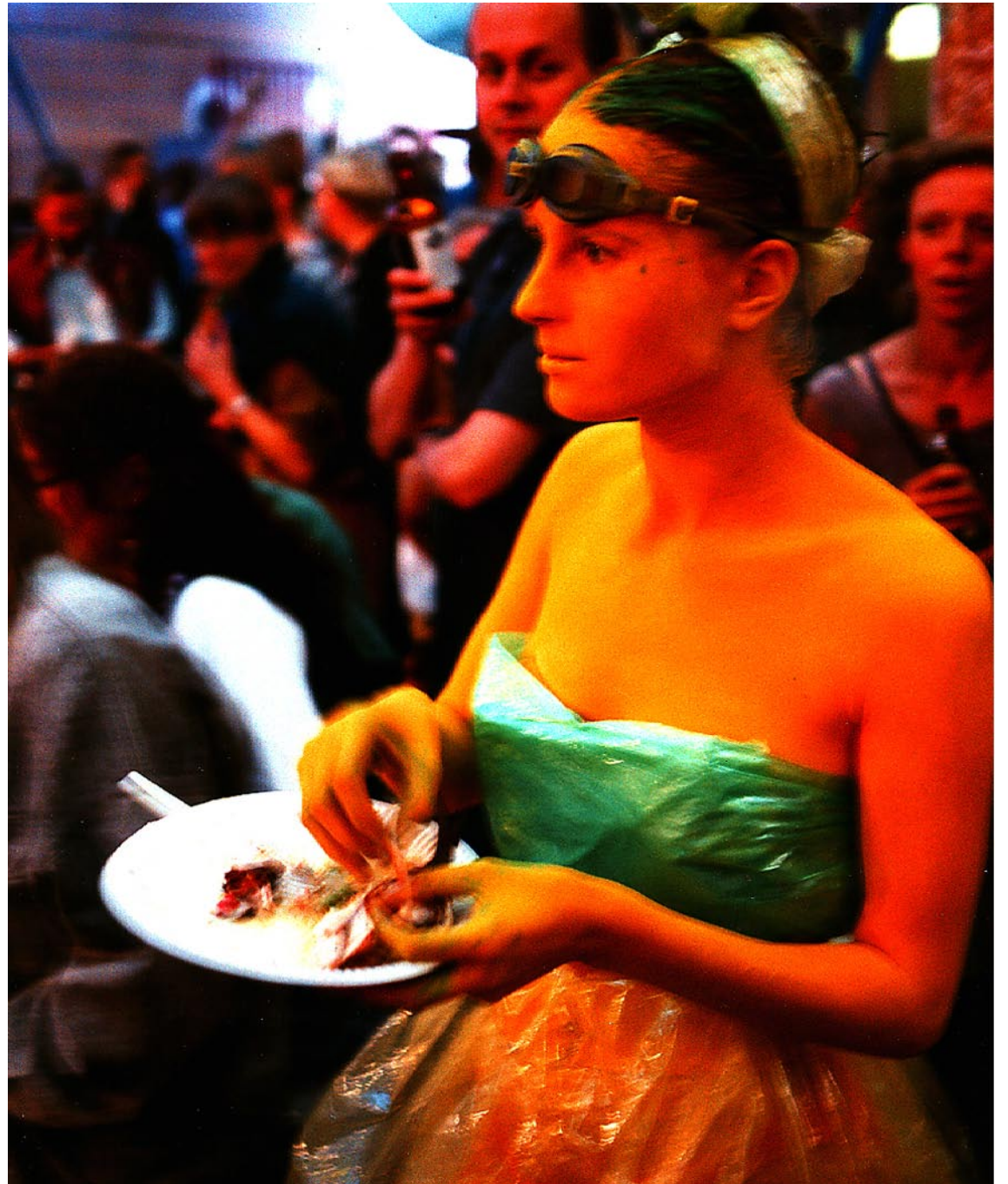






















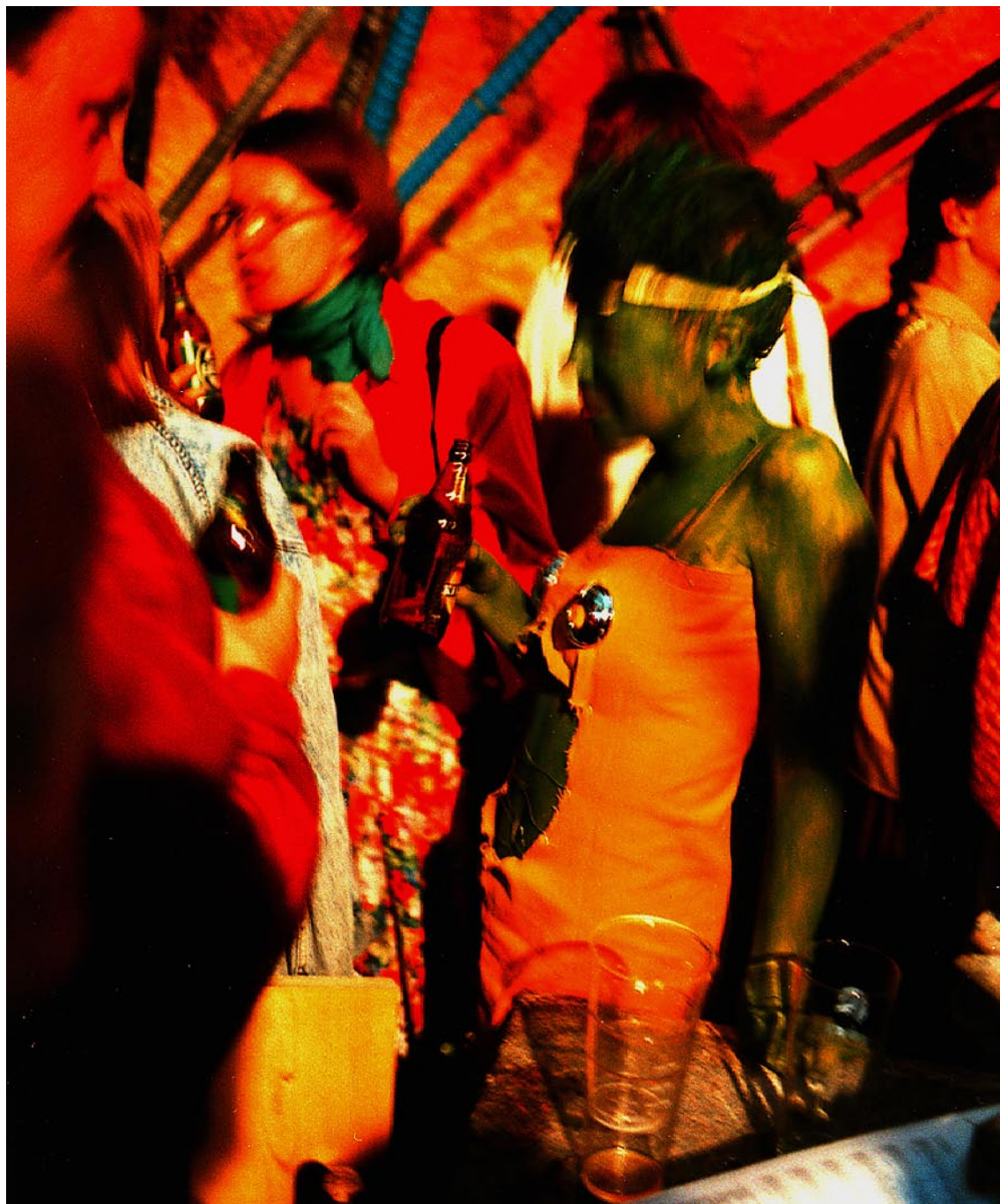












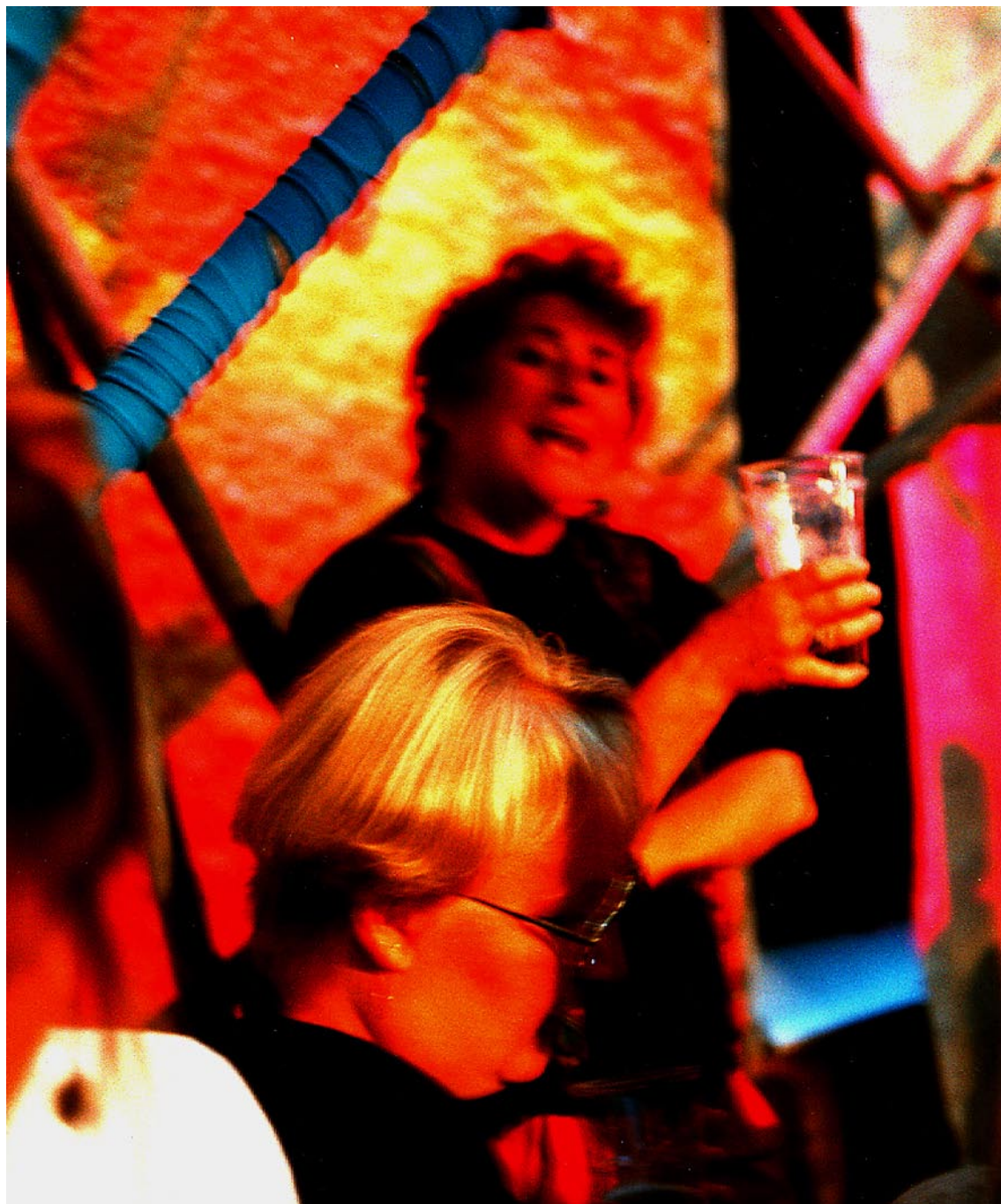




























# PARTICIPANTS

## REALISATION

Kirsti Carlenius  
Annechien Deurloo  
Raija Heikkilä-Knuutinen  
Markus Kalo  
Johanna Kamunen  
Tuomo Kangasmaa  
Esmoreit Kempkes  
Marian Ketner  
Koen Klinkers  
Leevi Lehtinen  
Sampsa Lehtinen  
Esa Leskelä  
Sakari Matinlauri  
Päivi Mikola  
Moosa Myllykangas  
Sanny Overbeeke  
Sampo Remes  
MishaRuwette  
Maarten Schepers  
Markku Siekkinen  
Jouko Toiviainen  
Pekka Viljamaa  
Mark de Weyer  
Antti Ylönen

## Performing Artists

Johanna Harjapää  
Minna Henrikson

Kalevi Ilkka  
Anna Kaisa Järvi  
Jussi Juutilainen  
Mika Kamula  
MarkKohlenberg  
Esko Lassila  
Helka Lehtinen  
Hanna Liedes  
Sari Lievonen  
Jari Oikarinen  
Pasi Piirttiaho  
Jarmo Rautio  
Liisa "Linda" Sairanen  
Silva Sallamaa  
Hannu Siren  
Heli Taimisto  
Tomi Teppola  
Ville Veijalainen  
Sakari Väätuainen  
Matti Ylilauri

## Support Crew

Silja Kerola  
Sirkka Lehtinen  
Jukka Pekka Rautio  
Marika Smedlund  
Martti Tuomaala

## Press

Maija Aalto  
Heikki Kastemaa  
Vuokko Rätty



# SUPPORTED & SPONSORED

By

Arctic Studio-Gallery  
Bout-Saari Associates  
City of Oulu  
Finnair - Oulu  
Kiviniemen Meripelastusyhdistys  
Kari Maja  
Pekka Meriläinen  
Oulaisten Kivi  
Oulu - Museum of Modern Art  
Oulun Käsi- ja Taideteollisuus Oppilaitos- Videolinja  
Oulun Pysäköintitalo  
Oulunsalokunta  
Pohjolan Romu  
Puukeskus  
Ravintola Grammari  
Ravintola Neptunus  
Raisio  
Sampo yhtiöt  
Steel Academy  
The Lehtinen Family  
University of Oulu

# LITERATURE

## Video

Ravintola Sammon Nousu ja Tuho  
Oulun Käsija Taideteollisuus Oppilaitos-Videolinja  
Kari Maja, 1994, video 13min.20.

## Radio

RadioMega, Oulu, Finland, july 10, 1994  
KRO, DutchRadio, Damocles, Hilversum,  
september 12, 1994, 60minutes

## TV

FinnishTelevision, A-Studio, Helsinki, Finland,  
july 11, 1994, video, 10minutes

## Magazine

Taide, EijaHirvonen  
Kuin suosittu kahvila hyvä taideteos syntyy oikeasta ilmapiiriristä  
Helsinki, Finland, vol 34, 4/1994

## Newspapers

HelsinginSanomat, Helsinki, Finland, july 13, 1994  
Kaleva, Oulu, Finland, july 9, 1994  
KainuunSanomat, Kajaani, Finland, july 6, 1994  
Suomenmaa, Oulu, Finland, july 5, 1994  
KansanTahto, Oulu, Finland, june 30, 1994  
Kaleva, Oulu, Finland, june 28, 1994  
Kaleva, Oulu, Finland, june 18, 1994  
KansanTahto, Oulu, Finland, june 9, 1994  
HelsinginSanomat, Helsinki, Finland, june , 1994  
Kaleva, Oulu, Finland, june 2, 1994



# THE MAGIC RESTAURANT

RAVINTOLA SAMPO

Would have been impossible  
without the support and enthousiasm  
of many people.

Thank you all  
for  
your help  
time  
and  
energy.

Ger C. Bout & Kimmo Lehtinen  
Oulu, Finland,

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