

A UNIQUE ACTOR AMONG FINNISH CULTURAL CENTRES

Cultural Centre Valve is a place for exhibitions, concerts, performances, workshops and shows of different genres, located in the heart of the city of Oulu. Valve is not only a vibrant house for events, but also the home for many cultural organisations. Valve co-operates widely with different actors, artists and event organisers and maintains a variety of facilities for the arts and cultural sector to use. Different festivals are organised in Valve throughout the year.

Cultural Centre Valve operates under the city of Oulu. Oulu Culture Centre for Children and Youth operates in Valve. In addition, urban neighbourhood culture services and arts and well-being services are also produced at Valve.

For more information on Valve can be found at www.kulttuurivalve.fi/en/

FESTIVALS AT VALVE IN 2021

- National Monologue Competition in February
- Lumotut sanat – Festival of Creative Writing and Literature in April–June
- Oulu Pride in August
- Oulu August Festival in August
- Oulu Art's Night in August
- Literary Art Festival Muusajuhlat in August
- Oulunsalo Soi – Chamber Music Festival in August
- Oulu Music Video Festival in August
- OuDance Festival in September
- Kehä – Festival of Dyadic Art in October
- The Irish Festival of Oulu in October
- Lumo Light Festival of Oulu in November
- Oulu Comics Festival in November
- Oulu International Children's and Youth Film Festival in November

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, some of the festivals were organized virtually in 2021.

In June 2021 Oulu was selected to be the European Capital of Culture 2026.
Photo by Sanna Krook.



BRIEFLY ON VALVE'S YEAR 2021

You'll find Valve's year 2021 in numbers on page 19.

CHANGES IN THE MANAGEMENT

One of the founders of Cultural Centre Valve, **Arja Huotari**, retired after four decades of working for the cultural services of the city of Oulu. **Johanna Tuukkanen** started as the new head of cultural services and the director of Valve. Tuukkanen is an internationally recognized expert in the field of art and culture, for whom equality and accessibility in art are especially important.

"The job as the head of cultural services has suited me very well. It combines urban development, supporting the pre-conditions and work of cultural actors, international development, and the work for the European Capital of Culture."

NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE IN KAIJONHARJU

Kaijonharju Community Centre (Kaijontupa) was opened in October 2021. The former health centre serves now as a shared living room for Kaijonharju residents. For now, the centre has been open two days a week, and it can also be booked free of charge by residents and organisations at other times. "The future use of the space is shaped according to the wishes and needs of the residents," says **Ville-Mikko Sikiö**, the executive producer of urban neighbourhood culture.

The community centre is part of Sustainable Kaijonharju project that is part of the Suburb Programme 2020–2022 coordinated by the Ministry of the Environment. The objective of the programme is to achieve positive, long-term development that facilitates the residents' well-being and the areas' vitality.

FILM EDUCATION MODEL FROM FRANCE TO OULU

The Valve Film School operates at the Oulu Culture Centre for Children and Youth. The year 2021 brought new international aspects to the activities of the film school, as it joined the prestigious 25-year-old film education network Cinéma, cent ans de jeunesse as the only Finnish member.

"The aim of the network is to teach children and young people film and media literacy and to give them the opportunity to experience film culture and art as part of school education," says the Valve Film School's producer **Tommi Nevala**.

Local co-operation is done with the Kaakkuri school, and after the first year the aim is to expand the activities also to other schools in Oulu.

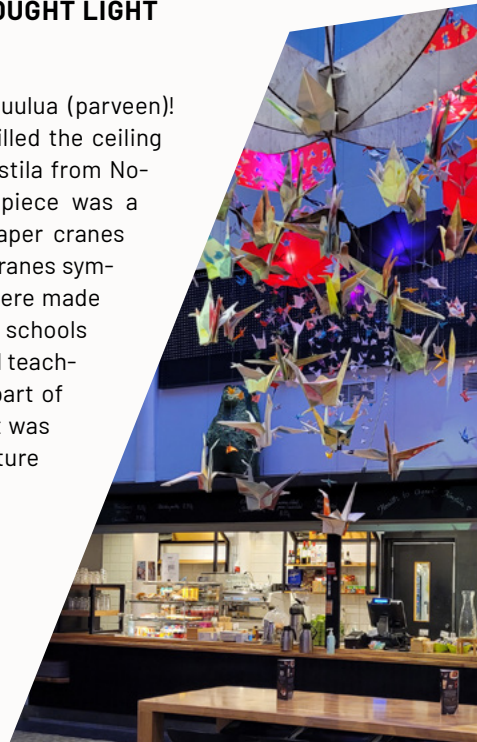
FILM FESTIVAL CELEBRATED ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Oulu International Children's and Youth Film Festival was held at Valve in November. The 40-year-old festival had a record-breaking audience of over 75,000 visitors.

ARTWORK BY STUDENTS BROUGHT LIGHT INTO THE DARK SEASON

The fascinating piece Haluaisin kuulua (parveen!) – I'd like to belong (to a flock)! – filled the ceiling of Valve's lobby and Café H20 Konstila from November to December 2021. The piece was a collection of over 1,500 unique paper cranes hanging from over 50 umbrellas. Cranes symbolize hope and peace, and they were made by hundreds of students from the schools of Oulu together with the artist and teacher **Pia Leppänen**. The piece was part of Lumo Light Festival of Oulu, and it was a co-production with the Oulu Culture Centre for Children and Youth.

Photo by Maaria Rousu



VALVEEN VUOSI LUKUINA / VALVE'S YEAR IN NUMBERS



126 739

Kokonaiskävijämäärä Valveella /
Visitors at Valve



55

Tanssiteatteriesityksiä /
Dance performances



74

Teatteriesityksiä /
Theatre performances



329

Elokuvanäytöksiä /
Film screenings



14

Festivaaleja /
Festivals



20

Konsertteja /
Concerts



3

ValveLiven tuotannot /
ValveLive productions



84

Valveen alueellisia kulttuurituotantoja /
Valve's productions in neighbourhoods
and suburbs



11 839

Lastenkulttuurin verkkosisältöjen
käyttäjämäärä / Children's Culture
online content views



25 834

Lastenkulttuuritoiminnan käynti-
kertoja / Visits to Children's Culture

NÄYTTELYJEN MÄÄRÄ / NUMBER OF EXHIBITIONS

14

Pohjoisen valokuvakeskuksen galleria /
Northern Photographic Center

7

Kahvilan H2O Konstilan
näyttelytila / Exhibition space at
Cafe H2O Konstila

8

Valvegalleria / Valve Gallery

5

Sarjakuvagalleria! /
Comics Gallery

17

henkilöä vakituudessa työsuhhteessa /
permanent employees

79

henkilöä muissa työsuhhteissa tai
harjoitteluisissa / other employees or
trainees during the year

**Valve oli suljettuna vuonna 2021 koronarajoitusten vuoksi kokonaan
tai osin 1.1.– 9.5. sekä kesätauon ajan 5.7.–1.8.**

Valve was closed in 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions
1 Jan–9 May, as well as during the summer break 5 July–1 Aug.

103

Yhteensä / Total