

## RAIJA JOKINEN - TEXTILE ARTIST OF THE YEAR 2020



Raija Jokinen / Sleep Cycle 1 (2018) 68 x 78 cm, linen fiber

Raija Jokinen (1960), lives and works in Helsinki and Sipoo

Graduated Master of Arts from the University of Art and Design Helsinki (now Aalto University) in 1990

Has participated in more than 200 joint exhibitions and held about 23 solo exhibitions

Served as a lecturer in textile art at Aalto University

Numerous art awards and honorable mentions have been granted both at home and abroad. Latest Sipoo Cultural Award 2019

Celebrates her 30-year of textile artist career with exhibitions in 2020:

- Voipaa Art Center in Valkeakoski, Finland, 15.2.2020 - 19.4.2020
- R-Space Gallery, Lisburn Northern Ireland, 1.8-19.9.2020
- Galerie L'entrée Des Artistes, 75004 Paris, FR, October 2020
- Höyry-Gallery, Korpilahti, Finland 7.11- 29.11.2020

### Textile artist Raija Jokinen draws and paints with textile fibers

Textile Artists TEXO has chosen Raija Jokinen as the Textile Artist of the Year 2020. Textile Artists TEXO wants to highlight its internationally successful colleague, an artist whose work has been exhibited mainly abroad. Textile artist Raija Jokinen is an internationally acclaimed and award-winning artist who, with determination and dedication, has developed her own expression technique. With her uncompromising attitude, she renews Finnish textile art and makes it visible in the international context.

Raija Jokinen is known for her original textile technique and pictorial expression, in which shapes resembling the physical nature of man are merging into natural shapes. With her works, Raija Jokinen brings to us a life-sustaining world of shapes that can be found in almost every living thing. In the expression of each, the rich form language of organic forms varies from roots to entangled twig networks - resulting in fragile appearance, but with a strong visual or abstract content.

**“The technique I developed could be described as a crossing point of painting, sculpting, graphics and textile”- Raija Jokinen**

In the field of textile art, Raija Jokinen's technique and expression are unquestionably unique. Jokinen splits tangible things into their original elements and rearranges them into different combinations. She finds analogies between material and abstract structures, expressing them in an agonisingly beautiful way in her works. Raija Jokinen's way of working can be compared to drawing and painting, but her material is textile fiber. The line of the works is made of fiber and stitch, and Jokinen uses these elements to draw her picture world. Despite their delicate appearance, the materials and method are extremely durable, and the atmosphere and content of the works are intense.

Textile Artists TEXO is a professional organization of experts in the field of textile art, one of the member organizations of Ornamo. Since 1981, TEXO has named its distinguished member the Textile Artist of the Year. The award is the most significant textile art award in Finland.

For more Information:

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