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## Festival Opens



 tampere\_film\_festival

Film.culture360 is attending the [44th Tampere International Short Film Festival](#) in Finland which takes over the city from **05 March** until **Sunday 9th of March 2014**. During five days, more than **[100 screenings of short films, silent films and documentary films](#)** from all around the world are shown in the city's four primary cinemas.

The opening ceremony featured a **poignant speech** from festival director **Jukka-Pekka Laakso**, who emphasised that **ethics are as important to the festival as aesthetics**, particularly in the light of recent upheavals in the political landscape. The ceremony featured short speeches from Laakso and the jury members before screening **six short films, from Finland, the UK and Germany**. The main programme features films from **throughout Europe and Asia** while the side programmes also contain a wide selection of films crossing the boundaries between **fine arts and cinema**.

The festival also holds a series of **talks and masterclasses** for filmmakers looking to distribute their short film into the **international market** - **film.culture360 will be taking part** in these discussions and will report back with our findings.

Alongside this, the opening evening saw the launch of experimental pieces by three artists: **Pekka Sassi**, **Pilvi Takala** and **Erkka Nissinen** in honour of the [Distribution Centre for Finnish Media Art, AV-arkki](#) which turns 25 this year. [The FestArt exhibition in Kunsthalle TR1](#) exhibits **Salla Tykkä's** three-piece video installation, which is a cinematic study on memory and power structures. The individual works each describe a subject that the artist used to consider beautiful and perfect in her youth.

The films by German director **Jochen Kuhn** will be seen in [three retrospective screenings](#). His works have often been referred to as living paintings: the director paints his visions on canvas, the pictures overlapping each other and changing continuously.

The festival continues apace throughout the week, check back here for further updates.

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