



IHME  
CONTEMPORARY  
ART FESTIVAL

**PRESS RELEASE 31.3.2014**

## **Yael Bartana's "TRUE FINN – Tosi suomalainen" at YLE Arena**

This year's commissioned art work for IHME Contemporary Art Festival in Helsinki is conceived by Israeli artist **Yael Bartana**. She takes up a highly topical issue in her new film: How does national identity operate as a means of inclusion and exclusion? What mechanisms exist for this in Finland? Can an immigrant become a true Finn?

For the IHME Project Bartana wanted to invite people living in Finland and with different ethnic and religious backgrounds to take part in creating a utopian moment in Finland. What happens when they live together seven days and determine themselves through the other? Who is the True Finn of the week?

### **Protagonists of the film**

Eight people with different cultural backgrounds took part in the artwork. The participants were selected to join in the work via an open call at the end of last year. The participants are: **Komugi Ando; Mustafe Hagi; Stanislav Marinets; Anna Miettinen; Tiina Pirttilahti; Martin-Éric Racine; Peter Rosvik and Tuisku Torkkeli.** [Read more on the protagonists.](#)

The film's premiere is today on March 31 at the Bio Rex cinema. Entry to the screening is free. IHME Project will be available at YLE Arena 31.3-31.7.2014. <http://areena.yle.fi/tv/2224925>

Artist Yael Bartana is available for interviews during the week 14.

IHME Contemporary Art Festival produces every year a commissioned work of art in a public space. The festival programme is based on the annual IHME Project content. This year's art work will be on show at web-based media YLE Arena. IHME Days will take place at the Old Student House, Helsinki on April 4–6 2014.

### **Further information and requests to interview Yael Bartana:**

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### **Press materials and photos:**

[www.ihmefestival.fi](http://www.ihmefestival.fi) > Media

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*Pro Arte Art Foundation Finland seeks to promote art in democratic society, as an important part of human life and everyday existence. The Foundation's aim is to enhance the status and visibility of visual art, to improve the relationship between visual art and the public, and to make it more accessible. The Foundation's work is international and directed at anyone interested in culture. The Foundation produces the annual IHME Contemporary Art Festival, consisting of a work by a chosen artist in public space, discussions, and art-education projects related to the work.*

*Yle Areena is Yle's online TV-on-demand service and is accessed from about 2 million unique web browsers every week.*

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