

Kaarina Kaikkonen
Unfolding Hope

Opening Saturday November 15, 2025 | 4-9 pm

November 15, 2025 > January 17, 2026

z2o Sara Zanin | via Alessandro Volta 34

z2o Sara Zanin is pleased to present *Unfolding Hope*, the fourth solo exhibition by Kaarina Kaikkonen (Iisalmi, 1952), this time invited to engage with the gallery's space at Via Alessandro Volta 34.

Kaarina Kaikkonen's work invariably features a sentimental exploration of small objects carrying personal and social symbolic values, but her ability to constantly reinvent new formal configurations in both individual works and the installations that have been a frequent part of her practice for many years remains surprising.

This *Unfolding Hope* exhibition does not evince the narrative side of nostalgia for what has been as much as it transforms the past into active memory in the present: an essential incubator for consciousness of our being that adds resonance to the many voices that have accompanied her and continues to do so on her path.

Her works clearly embody the need to rebuild, to bear witness to something new in the present moment, a "politically poetic" oeuvre regarding the capacity for personal and collective resistance that takes a proactive look at the future. A gesture of hope for oneself and for others.

BIO:

Kaarina Kaikkonen (Iisalmi, 1952) lives and works in Helsinki.

Among her most recent solo exhibitions: *Carte Blanche à Kaarina Kaikkonen*, Musée Hébert, Musée Archéologique and Musée Dauphinois, Grenoble, France (2025); *The Tears Shed Because of You*, Galerie Forsblom, Helsinki, Finland (2024); *And Its Was Empty*, installation at Kunsten Museum of Modern Art, Aalborg, Denmark (2024); *Dancing Together*, public installation at ArtHouse Jersey, Jersey, USA (2024); *Reaching Light*, Brescia, Chiesa di Borgo Trento, Brescia, Italy, as part of Brescia Capitale della Cultura (2023); *Waves of Life*, Bergamo, Via Tasso, Bergamo, Italy, as part of Brescia Capitale della Cultura (2023); *Flying Waters*, Riverrun Festival, The Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C., USA (2023); *Kaarina Kaikkonen – Tied Together*, M77 Gallery, Milan, Italy (2022); *We Need Some Hope*, façade of Kunsthalle Charlottenborg, Copenhagen, Denmark (2022); *Kaarina Kaikkonen*, Hanaholmen Gallery, Espoo, Finland (2020); *Kaarina Kaikkonen*, z2o Sara Zanin, Rome, Italy (2019); *Kaarina Kaikkonen*, KUNSTEN Museum for Modern Art, Aalborg, Denmark (2018); *Kaarina Kaikkonen*, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Caen, France (2017); *Kaarina Kaikkonen*, Uppsala Art Museum, Sweden (2017); *Kaarina Kaikkonen*, Galerie Forsblom, Helsinki, Finland (2017); *Falling Light, Blooming Spirit*, Ateneum Art Museum, Helsinki, Finland (2016).

Among her most recent group exhibitions: *True Colors. Tessuti: movimento, colori e identità*, MAXXI L'Aquila, Italy (2025); *This Body Made of Stardust*, Viviane Sassen, Collezione Maramotti, Reggio Emilia, Italy (2025); *Natura/Utopia. L'arte tra ecologia, riuso e futuro*, Palazzo Baldeschi, Perugia, Italy (2025); *Contrappunti*, z2o Sara Zanin, Rome, Italy (2024); *Baltic Horizons*, State Gallery of Art, Sopot, Poland (2023); *Kunsten Retro*, KUNSTEN Museum of Modern Art Aalborg, Denmark (2022); *Threads of memory*, Numeroventi, Florence, Italy (2022); Porvoo Triennial, Porvoo, Finland (2021); *Harsomaa*, Gallery Himmelblau, Tampere, Finland (2021); *Koivukujabiennaali 2021*, Iisalmi, Finland (2021); *UNITY/PEACE/FORWARD*, The John F. Kennedy Center, Washington DC, USA (2021); *Non-Sculpture: Light or Flexible*, Changwon Biennale, South Korea (2020); *Sharing Our Dreaming Room*, z2o Sara Zanin, Rome, Italy (2020); *Traces*, Medieval Civic Museum, Bologna, Italy (2020); *Finnish Wave*, Busan Art Museum, Busan, South Korea (2019); *ITSENÄISYYS*, Uppsala Art Museum, Sweden (2017); *Dreamaholic*, Museum for Contemporary Art Weserburg, Germany (2017).

Her works are included in major public and private collections, including: Albright – Knox Art Gallery; State of Finland; Collezione Maramotti, Reggio Emilia; MAXXI - Museo Nazionale delle Arti del XXI Secolo, Rome; Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation; Malmö Art Museum; Helsinki Art Museum; Borås Art Museum; Wyoming University Art Museum; Kuopio Art Museum; Iisalmi; Lapinlahi Art Museum; Oulu Art Museum; EMMA Museum for Modern Art; Kiasma Museum for Contemporary Art; Swanljung Collection; Joensuu Art Museum; Mikkeli Art Museum; Aine Art Museum; Pieksämäki; Sara Hildén Art Museum; Kaisa Blomstedt Collection.

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Opening hours: from Tuesday to Saturday | 12-7 pm

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