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Mikko Carlson is a postgraduate student at the School of Art Studies at the University of Turku. He currently writes his doctoral thesis on The Male Sexual Identity and Its Connections to Social Space in the Novels of Christer Kihlman (b. 1930). He is especially interested in the problematics of both material and textual spaces as well as the politics of queer readings and interpretations.

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Jokinen is a postgraduate student in the Department of Women's Studies at the University of Tampere. He is working on a PhD study on masculinity and violence in representations of war. His recent publications include a monograph *Panssaroitu maskuliinisuus* (The Armoured Masculinity: Man, Violence and Culture, 2000) and two edited anthologies which focus on studies on men and representations of masculinity in popular culture.

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Hekanaho is a scholar and a lecturer in queer and literary studies at the University of Helsinki. She is a member of the PornAcademy project funded by the Academy of Finland. Hekanaho's dissertation concerned queering the works of the French author Marguerite Yourcenar. She has published widely on queer and masculinity studies. She is especially interested in queer readings of psychoanalytic theory. Currently, Hekanaho is preparing a reader in psychoanalytic queer theory/queer psychoanalytic theory, and contributing to several readers on queer studies.

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Juvonen is currently holding a position as an acting professor for Women's Studies at the Department of Social Sciences and Philosophy, University of Jyväskylä, Finland. Her dissertation *Varjoelämää ja julkisia salaisuuksia* (Shadow Lives and Public Secrets, Vastapaino 2002) analysed the construction of homosexuality in post-war Finland from a spatial perspective. As a member of Academy of Finland financed CoE research ream Politics of Philosophy and Gender she now works on issues of queer sexuality, power, representation and politics.

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Kangasvuo is currently working as a teacher of Cultural Anthropology at the University of Oulu, Finland. She is also a postgraduate student at the Department of Art and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Oulu. She writes her doctoral thesis on Finnish bisexuality and cultural change. Her recent publications include an article on bisexual women (2006) in the anthology edited by Taina Kinnunen and Anne Puuronen, and an article on Japanese porn comics for women in the anthology edited by the head of PornAcademy, Harri Kalha. She has worked as a researcher in the research project PornAcademy and as a teacher and a project worker in Women's Studies, specialising on sexuality issues, gendered violence and popular culture.

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Karkulehto is currently working as an acting professor of Literature at the University of Oulu, Finland. Her doctoral dissertation *Kaapista kaanoniin ja takaisin* (From Closet to Canon and Back, Oulu University Press 2007) examines three novels by Finnish women authors each of whom has received the Finlandia Prize for fiction. The analysis of the novels is consequently grounded in the politics of performativity, queer theory, and their contextualization. Karkulehto has written numerous articles and edited several books which have focused on queer theories and queer political reading, the history of sexuality, the body, and queer representations in contemporary media and literary culture.

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Kinnunen works as a University lecturer in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Oulu, Finland. She has studied the relationship between body and culture. Her recent project has been and several articles on embodied meanings of cosmetic surgery. She has also coedited a book of sexuality and the body, and written of winter-swimming, fitness-sports, male body representations in sport journalism and gendered meanings of food, for example. Her doctoral dissertation was on extreme bodybuilding.

SQS 01/08

111

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Loren Krywanczyk graduated from Yale University in 2006 with a Bachelor's degree in English and a Bachelor's degree in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. She writes frequently for the Connecticut chapter of the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network (GLSEN) and presented a workshop on LGBTQ issues in public schools at the 2007 and 2008 True Colors Conferences in Connecticut. She has published pieces in numerous publications, including *Radical Teacher* journal (Queering Pedagogy as a First-Year Teacher appeared in the August 2007 issue), and presented a paper on queering pedagogy at a conference at CUNY Hunter in December 2007.

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Kurki works as a research doctor at the Institute for Art Research of the University of Helsinki. His position is funded by the Academy of Finland. Kurki has published articles on Jacques Lacan, Alain Badiou and Maurice Blanchot as well as translated continental philosophic texts.

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Pirskanen graduated from the Department of Philosophy of the University of Tampere in 2005. She works on her doctoral thesis titled Subject, desire and contingency in Judith Butler's thought' in the Ph.D. program of Women's studies at the University of Jyväskylä. Pirskanen is a member of the "Politics of Philosophy and Gender" (PPhiG) research team within the Academy of Finland Centre of Excellence in Political Thought and Conceptual Change. She is also a doctoral student in the Research School of Womens Studies.

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Rautiainen is a 26-year-old journalist who holds a master's degree in media and communication from the Stockholm University. She further holds a Bachelor's degree in Finnish language from Tampere University where she has done most of her media-related studies. When it comes to research and queer studies her main interests lay in reality TV, its representations, politics and audiences.

SQS 01/08

112

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Rossi is a researcher of visual culture. She works as a university lecturer at the Christina Institute for Women's Studies, at the University of Helsinki. Her research is informed by feminist and gueer studies, and she has published widely on the issues of contemporary art and advertising, both in Finnish and international publications. Her monographs include the books Heterotehdas (Hetero Factory, 2003) and Taide vallassa (Art in Power, 1999). Her most recent research interests also include the questions of nationality, trans- and internationalization, representations of ethnicity (white Finnishness included) and racializing practices in the field of visual culture. Currently she is the director of the research project The Making of Polar Stars. Internationalization of Finnish Photography and Video Art. The project is funded by the Academy of Finland, and it is based in the Museum of Finnish Photography.

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Sandbacka is a student of literature at the University of Oulu. He has written his master's thesis on the ontological uncertainty in Rosa Liksom's comic *Roskaa*.

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Tihinen is an art-historian whose interests are fantasmatic indentities in the *fin-de-siécle* art and culture. Tihinen's dissertation about the images of Finnish artist Magnus Enckell (18701925) was published in the spring 2008. Tihinen is also an art-critic who was awarded E. J. Vehmas critic prize in the spring 2008.

SQS 01/08

113

Contributors