

Tuija Saarinen-Härkönen: There are not many photos of Eino – The family has kept silent about war desertion

This article is based on a story from my family and the main character is my grandfather, Eino Hietarinne (1904–1943). I examine how his desertion from the frontlines in the Second World War and the periods relating to it have been dealt with in my family: what was permissible to talk about and what was concealed. I correlate this information to the information found from official archives.

The story of my grandfather started as a short statement concerning his fate in the Finnish Continuation War: That my grandfather died as a war hero. My understanding of this changed in 2017, when I ordered documents from the National Archives of Finland. The documents included his military passport and military base card, and they gave differing information of the events compared to my families oral history, and proved that my grandfather deserted from the frontlines and refused to return to service.

My study shows that there are both cultural and social explanations to why my grandmother concealed this part of our grandfather's history from us.



Maria Vihlman: Proximities and distances in the national gallery of pleasure – Alastonsuomi.com as a space and place

The article focuses on the Finnish online nude image gallery Alastonsuomi.com (est. 2007) and explores its spatio-temporality in connection to the platform users' negotiations of proximities and distances. Situated in digital ethnography and queerfeminist geography, the methodological approach involves participant observation on Alastonsuomi.com and conducting 31 interviews with the site's users.

The spatial and experiential proximities and distances are particularly traced in connection to understandings of presumed Finnishness and Finnish sexuality. The platform becomes intelligible through its connec-

tion to Finnishness. At the same time, the site offers an opportunity to renegotiate, re-code and challenge the spatiotemporal and symbolic understandings of national sexual imaginaries. In these negotiations, proximities and distances do not act as opposites but simultaneously create cartographies of pleasure and opportunities for embodied self-representation and belonging. These opportunities are not, however, distributed evenly among the users. Digital choreographies of proximities and distances, enacted through the platform's affordances, allow for exploring how sharing pleasures shape social spaces and infrastructures of belonging.



Katriina Koponen: Intimacy without sex? Asexuals' stories on sexual norms in the cultural category of romantic relationships

Asexuality has gained popularity as an identity category ever since the early 2000s, and it is increasingly recog-

nized as a valid way to organize sexual experiences. However, asexuals face a variety of problems when attempting to navigate romantic connections with others. In late modern times, performing sexual acts with a romantic partner is considered an obvious and highly valued part of romantic relationships. Asexuals who do not wish to participate in sexual acts (either ever or as often as is culturally considered "normal" in a satisfying relationship) express trouble navigating the expectations of non-asexuals when attempting to form intimate romantic relationships. This article highlights asexuals' experiences on facing the sexual norms associated with the cultural category of romantic relationships. Category analysis is utilized to analyze written personal narratives by Finnish people who identify themselves on the asexual spectrum.

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