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Pia Livia Hekanaho, Ph.D.

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Hekanaho works as a researcher at the PornAcademy, a multidisciplinary project funded by the Academy of Finland. Currently, she is working on an article on the representations of masculinity by the Japanese author Yukio Mishima, and on another article concerning the S/M-porn magazines focussing on the figures of cruel women or Dominatrixes. Hekanaho's dissertation, written for the Institution of Art Research, Comparative Literature, University of Helsinki, Finland, concerns the French author Marguerite Yourcenar and her texts. In her work, Hekanaho is presenting queer readings on Yourcenar's texts and exploring her authorship from the point of view of textual female masculinity. As a researcher and academic teacher Hekanaho is especially interested in the issues of queer theory and psychoanalysis and the concept of perversion, female masculinity and male femininity, queer methodology, and the productivity of the closet and gay/queer shame. Hekanaho has published several articles in Finnish and English and edited the first Finnish reader in Lesbian Cultural Studies.

Tuula Juvonen, Ph.D.

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Juvonen works as a post-doctoral fellow of the Academy of Finland at the Department of Women's Studies, University of Tampere, Finland. Her dissertation *Varjoelämää ja julkisia salaisuuksia* (Shadow Lives and Public Secrets, Vastapaino 2002) analyses the construction of homosexuality in post-war Finland from a spatial perspective. For the summer term 2006 Juvonen acted as a visiting professor for Queer Theory and Queer Studies at the University of Hamburg, Germany.

Harri Kalha, Ph.D., docent

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Kalha is a scholar in visual culture. He is currently heading a research project funded by the Academy of Finland. His recent publications include the books *Nurkan takana* (2004) and *Tapaus Magnus Enckell* (2005). At present Kalha is editing a collection of scholarly articles on pornography to be published in 2007.

Jenny Kangasvuo, MA

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Kangasvuo is currently a postgraduate student at the Department of Art Studies and Anthropology at the University of Oulu and writes her doctoral thesis on Finnish bisexuality and cultural change. She will graduate as Licentiate of Philosophy in January 2007. She is also interested in Japanese popular culture, and has written articles on the subject. She has worked as a teacher and a project worker in Women's Studies, specialising on sexuality issues, gendered violence, popular culture and pornography.

Sanna Karkulehto, MA, Phil. lic.

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Karkulehto works as a researcher of contemporary literature and media culture in the Department of Art Studies and Anthropology at the University of Oulu, Finland. Her research interests include queer media representations, queer literature and queer oriented cultural phenomena such as *queer chic*, and the politics of queering the media and the cultural institutions. She has written several articles and edited anthologies around her research interests. She is preparing her doctoral dissertation on contemporary Finnish literary institution and its contexts.

Aintzane Legarreta Mentxaka

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Aintzane Legarreta Mentxaka's work is informed by feminism, anarchism, and queer theory. From 2003 to 2005 she was the coordinator of the Dublin Queer Studies Group. Currently, she is completing a Ph.D. in Anglo-Irish literature on the topic of Kate O'Brien and the Basque Country, at University College Dublin. The essay published in this issue of SQS is based on research undertaken with the assistance of funding received from the 'Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences.' She is an IRCHSS Government of Ireland Scholar.

Tiina Tuppurainen

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Tuppurainen is a student of Aesthetics and Women's Studies at the Department of Arts, University of Helsinki. In her Bachelor's thesis she explores female masculinity on *The L-Word*. She will finish her Bachelor's Degree this spring. She is interested in the study of visual culture, body images, beauty ideals, queer studies and popular culture.

Mikko Tuhkanen

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An assistant professor of English at East Carolina University (U.S.A.), Mikko Tuhkanen has published essays or has them forthcoming in *American Literature*, *diacritics*, *GLQ*, *African American Review*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, and elsewhere. He is also a docent of Comparative Literature at the University of Tampere and a docent of North American Literature and Women's Studies at the University of Helsinki.

Michael O'Rourke

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O'Rourke is a Research Associate in the Women's Education, Research and Resource Centre at University College Dublin, where he is completing a PhD thesis entitled *A Passion for the Impossible: Waiting for the Queer Theory to-come*. He is the editor (with Noreen Giffney) of *The Ashgate Companion to Queer Theory*; (with David Collings) a special issue of *Romanticism on the Net on Queer Romanticisms* (2005) and a special double issue of *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge on The Becoming-Deleuzoguattarian of Queer Studies* (2006). He edited two books with Katherine O'Donnell: *Love, Sex, Intimacy and Friendship Between Men, 1550-1800* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2003) and *Queer Masculinities, 1550-1800: Sitting Same-Sex Desire in the Early Modern World* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2006). He is series editor (with Noreen Giffney) of the *Queer Interventions* book series with Ashgate Press

and the *Queer Connections* book series with University of Wales Press. His many articles have focused on queer theory, the history of sexuality, and Continental philosophy.

Annamari Vänskä, Ph.D

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Dr. Annamari Vänskä is a visual culture researcher and works at the University of Helsinki, at the Department of Art History. In her PhD dissertation Vänskä analysed representations of gender, sexuality and the body in contemporary art, advertisements and fashion. At the moment Vänskä is interested in queer theory and pornography. She is part of a research group the Porn Academy in which she is thinking about the discursive limits of sexual representations in contemporary visual culture.

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