



LAURA VALOJÄRVI • LAURA LIGHTLAKE

CURRICULUM VITAE

+358 45 630 6111 • laura@lauralightlake.com • www.lauralightlake.com

EDUCATION

Current: 2012- Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture, Helsinki,
Department of Media, Doctoral programme in Visual Communication Design
Expected graduating as Doctor of Arts (DA): April 2020
Research topic: Path of an Illustrator – What is the creative process of illustrating a picturebook like?

2013 Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge School of Art, Cambridge
Exchange studies at the Center for Children's Book Studies. Spring semester 2013.

2007-2009 University of Arts and Design Helsinki, Department of Art, Master's programme in Art Education
Degree: Master of Arts (MA)
Final thesis subject: Study about the process of illustrating a picturebook
Degree of the thesis: 5/5

2004-2007 University of Arts and Design Helsinki, Department of Art, Bachelor's programme in Art Education
Degree: Bachelor of Arts (BA)
Final thesis subject: Study about the self-drawn paperdolls of my childhood
Degree of the thesis: 5/5

2002-2004 Helsinki Polytechnic Stadia, Helsinki, Degree programme in New Media Design
Target degree: Bachelor of Culture and Arts, Online Communications and Graphic Design

1997-2000 Lahti College of Arts and Crafts, Lahti, Degree programme in Graphic Design
Degree: Vocational qualification in audiovisual communications, Graphic Design
Final thesis subject: Study about illustrating a pop-up book for adults
Degree of the thesis: 5/5

1997-2000 High School of Salinkallio, Lahti
Degree: Matriculation Examination



WORK EXPERIENCE

Current: 2007- Illustrator and Mentor, www.lauralightlake.com

Working as an illustrator, mentoring professional illustrators and other creative professionals

Illustration clients: Finnish Post Group Ltd, Werner Söderström Ltd, Karisto Ltd, Minerva Publishing Ltd, Metsämörriohjaajat Ltd, Suomen Latu Ry, Karelian Juvenile Organization, Tuomarila Family Health Care Center, Putinki Ltd, Embassy of Finland in Paris

2014-2016 Teacher, Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture, Department of Media

Designing and being in charge of the following courses:

- Illustration Minor Illustrada, 2015-2016
Department: Department of Media, Visual Communication Design

Visiting lecturer:

- Hybrid narrative, 2014, 2015
- Discourse in design, 2017

Examiner and supervisor of various Master's and Bachelor's Theses

2011-2015 Teacher, Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture, Department of Art

Designing and being in charge of the following courses:

- Professional Artist Survival Kit, 2011-2015
Department: Department of Art
- Art Meets Business, 2012
Department: All departments in Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture and Aalto University School of Economics

Visiting lecturer:

- Course: How Not to Starve - professional and life skills for artists, 2012

Examiner and supervisor of various Master's and Bachelor's Theses

Semester 2012, Art Teacher, Annantalo Arts Center, Helsinki

Teacher of Animation

November 2011, Art Teacher, North Karelia College, Outokumpu

Teacher of Illustration

2007-2008, Art Teacher, Mini Lions Club, Espoo

Teacher of Film Making

2002 - 2003, Art Director, Filmitöollisuus Ltd., Helsinki

Working as an Art Director for various Television Programs and Live TV Shows.

2001, Graphic Designer, Funny-Films Ltd., Helsinki

Working as a Graphic Designer for various Television Programs and Live TV Shows.

2000-2001, Front Office Assistant, Regent Palace Hotel, London

Everyday tasks of a Front Office Assistant



OTHER ASSIGNMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Designing and executing Illustrator Living in Global Village seminar and Nordic Illustration Seminar Series
Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture, Helsinki, 20.5.2016 and Spring-Autumn 2016

Designing and executing Illustrator as an Author seminar
Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture, Department of Media, 28.11.2014

Visiting lecturer for Master and Doctoral Students of Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge School of Art, 2016
Lecture title: What's your story? Narrative interview as a tool for understanding creative practice

Member of the Jury, Finnish Post Art Award 2017

Member of the Board, The Finnish Illustration Association, 2014-2017

BOOK ILLUSTRATIONS AND DESIGNS

- Ruben ja kadonneet karaatit, 2014, WSOY, illustrated novel
- Iivari-tonttu karkuteillä, 2013, WSOY, picturebook
- Ruben ja ratikkaralli, 2013, WSOY, illustrated novel
- Ruben ja Harman kartano, 2012, WSOY, illustrated novel
- Mennään sirkukseen, 2012, Minerva Kustannus Oy, illustrated nonfiction
- Prinsessa Wilhelmiina ja kohtalon lantti, 2012, WSOY, picturebook
- Ruben ja rouva Mallamudin tapaus, 2011, WSOY, illustrated novel
- Suomen lasten linnakirja, 2011, Minerva Kustannus Oy, illustrated nonfiction
- Hirviökäsikirja, 2010, Karisto Oy, illustrated nonfiction
- Kulta, voisitko syöstä tulta?, 2010, WSOY, picturebook
- Eskarilainen mörrimetsässä, 2009, Suomen Latu Ry, illustrated guidebook
- Ohjeita lohikäärmeiden kasvattajille, 2009, WSOY, picturebook
- Vain lapsille, 2008, self published, picturebook
- Hui hui Huikkolaan, 2007, Karjalainen Nuorisoliitto, illustrated poem collection

EXHIBITIONS

- Curated Illustration Exhibition: Tarinoiden puisto, Virka Galleria, Helsinki, 2014 - 2015, 2017
- Curated Illustration Exhibition: Mikkeli 10th Illustration Triennial, Mikkeli Art Museum, Mikkeli, 2014
- Illustration Exhibition: Finnish Picturebook Store, Helsinki, 2012
- Curated Illustration Exhibition: Mikkeli 9th Illustration Triennial, Mikkeli Art Museum, Mikkeli, 2011
- Curated Illustration Exhibition: Pro Children's Literature Association, Ebeneser House, Helsinki, 2011
- Illustration Exhibition: Annantalo Arts Centre, Helsinki, 2009



AWARDS, MERITS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Helsinki Book Fair, Winner of the Voting for the Most Beautiful Book Cover, 2012
Omenapuu laulaa, 2012, Karisto Ltd

Turku Book Fair, Winner of the Voting for the Most Beautiful Book Cover, 2012
Omenapuu laulaa, 2012, Karisto Ltd

Rudolf Koivu Award, Best picturebook by the Children's Jury, 2011
Ohjeita lohikäärmeiden kasvattajille, 2009, WSOY

Turku Book Fair, Winner of the Voting for the Most Beautiful Book Cover, 2011
Suomen lasten linnakirja, 2010, Minerva Publishing Ltd

Scholarships, Finnish Cultural Foundation:
Research scholarship, 2014, 2016 and 2019, Art scholarship, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009

Scholarships, Arts Promotion Centre Finland:
Art scholarship, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2009

Scholarships, Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture:
Research scholarship, 2013

Scholarships, Emil Aaltonen Foundation:
Research scholarship, 2012

Scholarships, Finnish Norwegian Cultural Foundation:
Research scholarship, 2012

Scholarships, The Finnish Illustration Association:
Art scholarship, 2009

Scholarships, Werner Söderström Ltd. Literary Foundation:
Art scholarship, 2013, 2012, 2010, 2009

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Finnish	Mother tongue
English	Fluent
Swedish	Good
Danish	Basics