Starting from an early age, Tom of Finland played with the iconographic dialectical relationship to these events and the often oppressive culture of sexuality pointing towards the culture that constructed the relationship between sexuality and fear in the first place. One aspect of Tom of Finland's drawings is that the faces of his gay figure were jumpstarted in 1950s Los Angeles, through his ongoing involvement hands-on in creating the hetero-normative vision of sexuality. While living life as an adman in Helsinki, his global career as an iconic gay figure was jumpstarted in 1950s Los Angeles, through his ongoing involvement hands-on in creating the hetero-normative vision of sexuality. While living life as an adman in Helsinki, his global career as an iconic gay figure was jumpstarted in 1950s Los Angeles, through his ongoing involvement hands-on in creating the hetero-normative vision of sexuality. 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Program

Harri Kalha, Kati Mustola
and Leena-Maija Rossi

Discussion
Sunday, June 14, 5pm

This program is the first in a series of talks, screenings, and discussions organized in conjunction with Tom of Finland: The Pleasure of Play.

Art historian Harri Kalha and sociologist and LGBTQ historian Kati Mustola will each give a presentation discussing Tom of Finland’s biography with a particular emphasis on gender and queer histories in Finland. Following the presentations, Kalha and Mustola will be joined by Leena-Maija Rossi, the Director of the Finnish Cultural Institute, who will moderate a discussion.

Harri Kalha is Adjunct Professor of Art History and Gender Studies at the University of Helsinki. He is Adjunct Professor of Visual Studies at University of Turku. Kalha recently edited a scholarly anthology on pornography, Pornoakatemia! (2007), which won the Finnish award for “Erotic Charge of the Year”, and was the author of Tom of Finland: Taidetta seksin vuoksi (The Art of Having Sex) (Helsinki: Finnish Literature Society, 2012).

Kati Mustola has written and edited books, articles and museum exhibition texts on LGBT history. Her research focuses on the legal rights of sexual minorities in Finland and Scandinavia. Mustola’s monographs in English and Finnish are Sex, Law and Pornography in Scandinavia, 1862–1999 (Amsterdam: Aksant Academic Publishers, 2007), co-edited with Jens Rydström; and Tom of Finland: Ennennakematonta – Unforeseen (Helsinki: Like/Kustantaja, 2006).

Leena-Maija Rossi is the Director of the Finnish Cultural Institute in New York. She has previously worked as researcher and teacher at the University of Helsinki, and as a cultural critic and freelance curator. She has published widely both in Finland and internationally; her most recent book, Muuttuva sukupuoli, is forthcoming in Finnish in 2015, published by GAUDEAMUS Helsinki University Press.

All programs will take place at:
Artists Space Books & Talks
55 Walker Street
NY 10013

More programs to be added, please visit our website:
www.artistspace.org