

**Mikkeli's 10th Illustration Triennial** returned to its roots this year with the free theme, execution and technique for the entered illustrations. The exhibition features 96 pieces of work from 39 illustrators. Mikkeli Art Museum and the Association of Visual Communication Designers in Finland, Grafia, have organised the Illustration Triennial together for the 10th time this year. The Association of Finnish Illustrators, Kuvittajat, participated in the organisation for the third time.

**Mikkeli's Illustration Triennial** was launched in 1987. Over the last few decades, the Finnish field of illustration has undergone some major changes. Nowadays, Finnish illustrators are known worldwide, and illustration spreads outside its traditional publication channels in our visualised culture. Thus, Mikkeli's 10th Illustration Triennial showcases the wide variety of illustrations today and the diverse ways of using illustrations from architecture to books. All illustrations chosen for the exhibition have been published in the last three years.

**In total, 80 illustrators** with 228 pieces of work participated in the competition. The illustrations for the exhibition were chosen by a jury of illustrators who were **Emmi Jormalainen, Eili-Kaija Kuusniemi, Jukka Lemmetty, Sanna Mander** and **Kari Piippo** as well as the Museums Director **Matti Karttunen**. They also selected the awarded illustrations.

**The awarded illustrators in Mikkeli's 10th Illustration Triennial are:**

1st award, Grafia: **Aimo Katajamäki**

2nd award, Kuvittajat: **Anna Emilia Laitinen**

Shared 3rd award, Länsi-Savo Oy: **Lasse Rantanen**

and Mikkeli Art Museum: **Jenni Tuominen**

Honorary mention: **Terhi Ekebom, Satu Kettunen, Pauliina Mäkelä** ja **Ville Tietäväinen**.

**The exhibition's invited** guest is the well-known London-based Irish illustrator, children's author and designer, **Chris Haughton**. His debut children's book, *A Bit Lost* (Borim Press 2009), redefined in many ways the form. Haughton perceives the pages of a picture book as theatrical stages. His style is characterised by his masterful use of space and timing and the awareness of the power of strong, yet simple character design. The book has been translated into 19 languages, and it has won a number of awards all over the world. Haughton's other picture books are *Oh No, George!*, (Walker Books 2012) and the most recently published *We Have a Plan* (Walker Books 2014).

**Chris Haughton** is also known for his fair trade work. In 2007, he was listed in Time Magazine's Design 100 for his cooperation with the fair trade company People Tree. In 2011, he co-founded MadeByNode with **Akshay Sthapit**. Node's aim is to create a worldwide cooperation network of well-known designers and Nepalese rug weavers. In 2013, London Design Museum held an exhibition presenting the rugs produced through this cooperation.

Mikkeli Art Museum, visiting address Ristimäenkatu 5, postal address Hallituskatu 8 E, 50100 Mikkeli, Finland, [www.mikkeli.fi/museot](http://www.mikkeli.fi/museot), [museot@mikkeli.fi](mailto:museot@mikkeli.fi). Museum opening hours: Tue-Sun 10am-5pm, Wed noon-7pm, Mon closed. Admission fee: adults €5, students €2.50, under 18-year-olds free. You can also find Mikkeli Art Museum on Facebook.