

LAHTI

OPEN ART COMPETITION FOR THE VIISKULMA SQUARE IN LAHTI

1 April – 14 August 2020



COMPETITION PROGRAMME

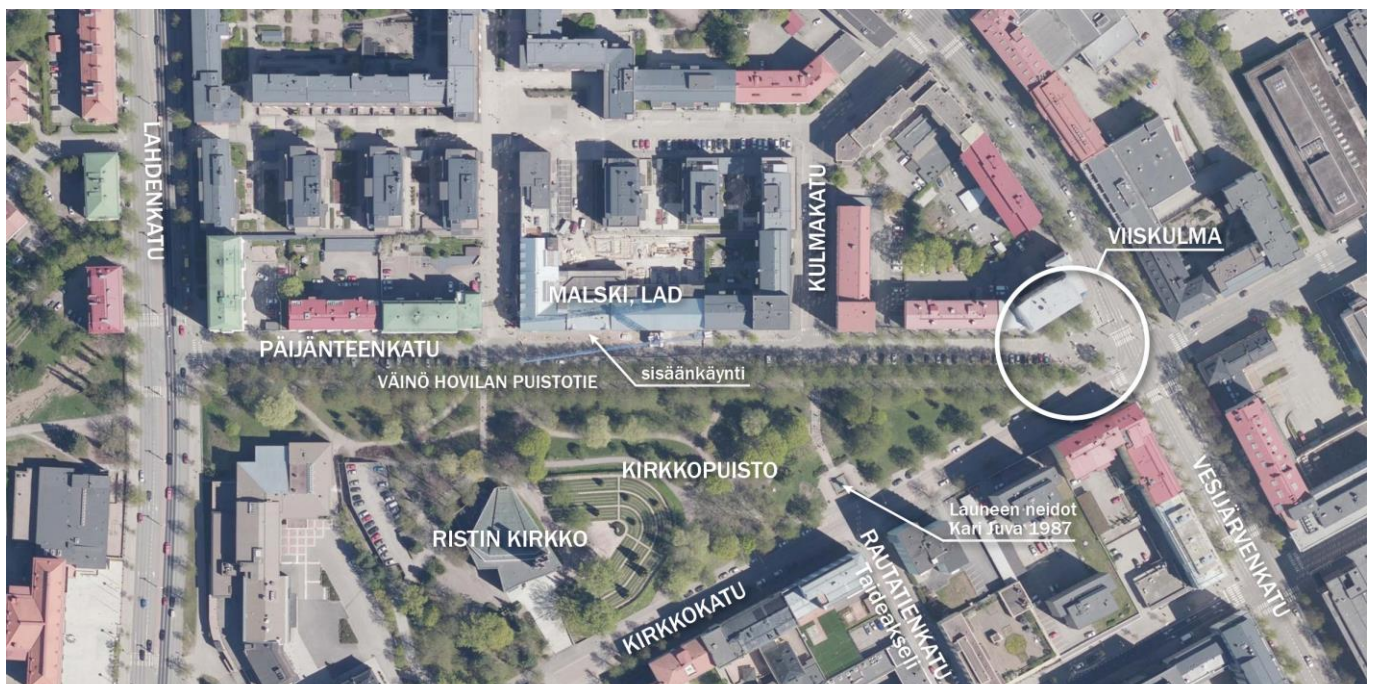
The City of Lahti will organise an open single-stage art competition between 1 April and 14 August 2020. The competition will invite proposals for works of art for the Viiskulma Square in Lahti.

The Viiskulma Square is located in the Central Lahti district, in the area demarcated by Vesijärvenkatu, Kirkkokatu and Päijänteenkatu.

The City of Lahti invites artists and those working in the field of art who are either Finnish or permanently resident in Finland to take part in the competition. The competition can be entered by an individual artist or by a working group, which can be multidisciplinary.

The competition follows this competition programme and the competition rules of the Artists' Association of Finland, in this order of validity.

This competition programme and its appendices will be published on 1 April 2020 on the City of Lahti website at www.lahti.fi/viiskulmantaidekilpailu. The competition programme has been approved by the Artists' Association of Finland on 30 March 2020.



Location map of the Viiskulma Square. Image: Maria Silvast/City of Lahti



1. PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND OF THE COMPETITION

The new art, poster and design museum LAD will open in Lahti in the summer of 2021. LAD will provide a diverse museum experience with high-quality exhibitions, digital solutions and the services of the Malski Centre. The museum is going to be housed in the Mallasjuoma brewery's old factory site on Päijänteenkatu and in the new building to be constructed adjacent to it.

Päijänteenkatu, leading to the museum, will be developed in the coming years with the requirements of the new museum in mind. The City of Lahti is now looking for proposals for works for the Viiskulma Square, which serves as a central route to LAD. The work must establish a unique identity for the square, attract interest in the new museum and guide visitors to it.

The Viiskulma Square competition is seeking feasible proposals for permanent works that take into account the requirements and constraints of a public space as well as environmental conditions. The work may be centred in one place or consist of several parts distributed across the square area. The work may also sprawl out to the nearby streets, as appropriate. A concrete wall will be built at the edge of the square, which can also be used in the proposed work. The square will also receive a paving of natural stone in the summer of 2020. There are no restrictions as to the realisation of the work, and it can also be integrated with the elements of the square, as appropriate.

In 2021, Lahti will be the [European Green Capital](#), which is why the proposed work must take environmental considerations into account.

2. COMPETITION AREA AND REALISATION COSTS



Viiskulma Square in March 2020. Image: Museums in Eetu-Pekka Heiskanen/Lahti

The competition area is the Viiskulma Square. The square is located at the end of Kirkkopuisto, at the junction of Päijänteenkatu, Kirkkokatu and Vesijärvenkatu. The street alignments are derived from the first town plan drawn up by Alfred Caween in 1878.



The paved pentagon and concrete sitting wall set out in the street plan are permanent features of the square. In Viiskulma, the visible height of the wall is 38 cm and on Päijänteenkatu 44 cm. Both have a depth of 50 cm. The rainwater gullies marked in the plan and the underground pipes connecting them are permanent and must not be burdened with elements requiring heavy foundations.

The northern edge of the square belongs to the adjacent plot (see appendix 3) and the work or part thereof must not be placed in the area. Spatially this section of the plot is still part of the square, however. The square lighting will be renewed on the basis of a future lighting plan, but it can be adapted to the needs of the artwork.

The current spotlights will remain in service until then. A cabling reservation is made for the work.

Car traffic from Vesijärvenkatu to Päijänteenkatu has been cut off and the aim is to turn Viiskulma into an inviting and lush art square as part of Lahti's [art axis](#), which begins at Matkakeskus and follows Rautatienkatu. There is an unobstructed route to Malski and the new museum via the Viiskulma Square. The objective is to use art located in the square to attract the attention of the passers-by and to guide them to the Malski Centre and the museum.

50,000 euros have been reserved for the realisation of the work. The amount must cover the design of the artwork (artist's fee), realisation, material costs and the artist's travel expenses. A separate 20,000 euros has been earmarked for the cost of transporting, laying the foundations and installing the work. The competition entry must be designed in such a way that it is realistically feasible with this total budget.

3. COMPETITION ENTRIES

The competition entries must be submitted by the end of the competition period, **14 August 2020 at 15:00**, at the latest. The proposal (envelope or package) must include the words "Lahti Viiskulma Art Competition". The entrant is responsible for the transport and any related expenses. The entries should be sent to: Lahti-Piste, Kauppakeskus Trio, Aleksanterinkatu 18, 15140 LAHTI. Lahti-Piste opening hours: <https://www.lahti.fi/en/information-about-lahti/services-and-counselling>.

One competitor or group can submit more than one entry. Each entry must be submitted in its own envelope with its own pseudonym. The competition entry must not have been previously published or realised. An overdue entry or an entry that does not adhere to the competition programme will be disqualified from the competition.

The competition entry shall include the following:

- a. A maximum of three A3-sized sketches, which illustrate the features and scale of the work and make the assessment of the work possible. The designer may choose the method of presentation so that it supports the proposal. The competition entry should not be accompanied by any miniature models, but if an entrant so wishes, they may include pictures of miniature models in the proposal.
- b. A written account of the work (max. A4), which includes an initial assessment of the life span of the work, the dimensions of the work and information on the materials of the work. In addition, a



cost estimate should be given on a separate A4, which also includes the amount of the artist's fee and an estimate of the the work's annual service and maintenance costs.

c. The location of the work(s) in the competition area presented on the base map A3 (appendix 1) in 1:700 scale.

d. Competition material as a PDF file on a flash drive marked with a pseudonym (the material can also be accompanied by a video file with a maximum duration of 1 minute). Please note: The entrant's personal information must not appear in the file names.

e. An envelope addressed to the pseudonym, containing the author's name, address, phone number, and e-mail address.

4. PRIZES

If a number of proposals corresponding to the number of prizes are submitted within the competition period, the following prizes will be awarded:

I prize EUR 6,000
II prize EUR 4,000
III prize EUR 2,000

The judging committee has the right to distribute the amount reserved for the prizes differently, as long as the total prize amount remains the same. Tax exemption will be applied for for the competition prizes.

5. COMPETITION JUDGING COMMITTEE

The judging committee is formed by
Päivi Airas, Planning Architect, Lahti City, Urban Planning
Elisa Lindell, Regional Art Museum Researcher, Lahti City Museum
Paula Korte, Curator, Lahti City Museum
Elina Ojala, Environmental Director, City of Lahti, Environmental Development
Tanja Keskitalo, Producer, Malski, Kinon Property

The Artists' Association of Finland has appointed the following professional artists as members of the committee:

Merja Puustinen, visual artist
Anni Laakso, sculptor

The secretary of the committee will be the art coordinator appointed for the City of Lahti in the spring of 2020. Aura Lehtonen, lawyer of the Finnish Artists' Association, will serve as a mediator in the competition. The judging committee may be assisted by external experts in their assessment of the proposals.

6. CRITERIA

The judging committee will evaluate the entries on the basis of their artistic quality and capacity to create experiences. The assessment draws attention to the kind of physical place the work creates,



how it is placed in its surroundings, how it speaks to the people passing by and how it directs them towards the new museum. The assessment also considers how the work accounts for environmental aspects and people moving around in the area (walking, cycling, emergency access road).

The judging committee also assesses the feasibility, safety and maintenance costs of the work.

7. COURSE OF THE COMPETITION

The competition will begin on 1 April 2020.

The proposals for the works must be submitted by the end of the competition period, 14 August 2020 at 3 p.m, at the latest.

The decision on the winner will be made by Friday, 18 September 2020, and the award-winning designers will be notified personally. The results will be announced at a news conference, which at the same time will open an exhibition based on the competition. The venue of the exhibition will be announced later. The judging committee's review report will be made available on the Lahti City website after the results of the competition have been made public:

www.lahti.fi/viiskulmantaidekilpailu.

After the exhibition has closed, the submitted entries must be collected from Lahti-Piste within its opening hours by 30 October 2020. After this date, the uncollected proposals will be destroyed.

8. COMPETITION CONFIDENTIALITY

The submissions, posted envelopes or electronic material must not include the name of the designer or any other markings from which the identity of the designer could be concluded. All entry documents and the flash drive must be marked with a pseudonym. In addition, a sealed envelope addressed to the pseudonym must be included, containing the name, address and telephone number and email address of the designer.

9. QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE COMPETITION

The competition secretary will provide more information on the practicalities of the competition. Until an art coordinator who will act as the competition secretary has been appointed, enquiries can be sent to taidekokoelmat@lahti.fi. Further questions on the competition entries can be addressed to the mediator by sending an e-mail to aura.lehtonen@artists.fi or by calling +358 50 434 4280.

Questions can be submitted during two periods.

Period I: 11 May– 5 June 2020

Period II: 20 July – 31 July 2020

After the question period has ended, the questions will be answered at www.lahti.fi/viiskulmantaidekilpailu within two weeks.

10. COPYRIGHT



Copyright of the entries will remain in the possession of the designer. The use of copyright must be agreed with Kuvasto, a copyright society for artists, or in cases where the designer is not represented by Kuvasto, separately with the author.

The City of Lahti reserves the right to use and publish the material of the award-winning works free of charge. The organisers have the right to place all or only some of the proposals submitted to the competition on display in the exhibition, on their website, on social media and in the region's resident evening organised by the city, for a time they consider appropriate.

10. POST-COMPETITION PROCEDURES AND COLLECTION OF ENTRIES

The decision to order the final work is made by the City of Lahti, which has the right to order the work on the basis of any sketch awarded in the competition.



APPENDICES TO THE COMPETITION PROGRAMME

1. Base map 1:700 (A3)
2. Aerial view/Orthoimage 1:700 (A3)
3. Current town plan 1:700 (A3)
4. Main plan notations and regulations (A4)
5. Viiskulma general layout
6. Viiskulma standard cross-sections
7. Base map material (dwg)
8. Images of the Viiskulma Square

