

# JÓSEFINA ALANKO

Living and working between Finland, Austria & Poland  
b.1993 Finland, North-Karelia

## Biography

Jósefina Alanko is a Finnish artist working across painting, ceramics, and textile-based installation. Rooted in her Karelian heritage and the vocal traditions of her grandmothers, her practice explores how memory is held, transmitted, and transformed through the body.

Working with materials such as linen, wool, sand, and clay, Alanko creates sculptural surfaces that exist between painting and object. Her process is iterative and material-led, moving between form and dissolution. Central to her work are sewn protrusions—“pockets” or “cocoon”—embedded within the textile surface. These forms hold tension, weight, and repetition, evoking interiority, protection, and the body’s capacity to carry experience.

Memory in Alanko’s work is not narrative, but structural: it persists through material, rhythm, and form.

Alanko’s recent solo exhibitions include *Linen Skin* at Art Hall Porvoo (Finland), *Spirit Anatomy* at BWA Ostrowiec (Poland), and *Roots of Invisible Entities* at STRABAG Kunstforum (Vienna). In 2023, she was awarded the main prize of the STRABAG Artaward International.

“I was raised inside a culture that I did not fully have access to as a child.

Its language and spiritual traditions were present, but not passed on.

I have inherited something that was never fully given.

My work engages this gap—using material and the body to access forms of memory that exist beyond narration.”



## Spirit Anatomy

Textile

Hand dyed linen

H 400cm x W 300cm

H 400cm x W 300cm

H 400cm x W 300cm

H 400cm x W 200cm

H 400cm x W 200cm

2024

Photo: BWA Ostrowiech



Ghost(s)  
Object/Textile

Glass, acrylic, epoxy, pigment, cotton rope, chains  
and linen

H 210cm x W 140cm

2024/2025

Photos: Szymon Sokołowski





Linen Skin / Linne hud / Pellavaiho  
(Series Spirit Anatomy)

Textile

Hand dyed linen

H 2400cm x W 300cm

2026

Photo: Lotta Blomberg

Mute  
No.1

Painting  
H 180cm x W 140cm  
Acrylic, glass sand, linen

2026







## Exuvia

No.2 , No.1  
Objects

H 165cm x W 65cm (frame 89cm x 60cm)

H 125cm x W 62cm (frame 94cm x 62cm)

Linen, silicone textile, reflection glass and acrylic

2026, 2025



## Jósefina Alanko

### Selected exhibitions:

\*2028 - Group show at Joensuu Art Museum Onni, Joensuu

2026 – Solo show, “Linen Skin” Kunsthalle Porvoo, Porvoo

2025 - Group show “Untitled” at UFO art galley, Kraków

2024 – Solo show “Blue Moth” at UFO art galley, Kraków

2024 – Group Show “Rubato” at Silvia Steinek Galerie, Vienna

2024 – Solo show “Spirit Anatomy” Curated by Goschka Gawlik at BWA Ostrowiec, Ostrowiec

2024 – Solo presentation at SPARK Art fair, Vienna

2024 – Jan Koniarek Gallery, Group show “RAUMPLAN” Curated by Vladimír Beskid , Trnava

2024 – Solo show “Roots of Invisible Entities ” at STRABAG Artlounge , Vienna

2023 – STRABAG Artaward International 2023, Nominated artist 2023, STRABAG Artlounge , Vienna

2023 – Instituto Iberoamericano de Finlandia, “The Hug 10 years”, Group Show, Madrid

2022 – Solo show “Deformation Of Life” at Miejska Galeria Sztuki w Łodzi, Łódź

2022 – “Dark Spring” Galleria Myymälä2, Helsinki

2021 – Solo show “Eternal ghosts” at Art Ikubator / The Art Factory, Łódź

2021 – FLASH3 Biennial, curated by Alexander Salvesen and Jere Suontausta, Suomenlinna / Helsinki

2021 – Group Show Spring salon 21 curated by the Kosminen collective, Kosminen, Helsinki

2021 – Group Show BODY, curated by Round lemon Artist collective , London

2020 – Group Show “It’s not Your body”, Gallery-Gallery, Moscow

2019 – Collaboration Show “On colors” with Agata Ciehomska at Galleria OFF Piotrkowska, Łódź

2018 – Solo Show “Moniuszki” Solo show at Galleria Uusi Kipinä, Lahti

2018 – Group Show “Matriarch” , ASP Łódź, Galleria Kobro, Łódź

2018 – Award Show “The Art of Basware” Art award, Hotel Clarion, Helsinki

2018 – Group Show “Päätös” BFA final exhibition, Galleria Saskia, Raja-tila, Mäntinranta, Tampere

2017 – Solo show “Porin Saskiat exhibition prize 2017” at Galleria Poriginal, Pori

2017 – Solo show at Galleria 3h+k, Pori

2017 – Solo show at Gallery Quinta del sordo, Madrid

### Education:

2014 – 2018 Kankaanpää Art school, Satakunta University, Finland

2016 – 2017 Universidad Europea Madrid UEM / Visual arts, Architecture

2013 – 2014 Lahden Kansanopisto, Visual arts / Painting , Finland

### Art Awards:

2023 – 1st price, STRABAG Artaward International 2023, Vienna

2022 – 1st price in the public art competition for Thohmajärvi main library

2018 – Nomination The Art of Basware Artaward, Helsinki

2017 – Porin Saskiat, Exhibition Prize for Galleria Poriginal, Pori

### Residences:

2025-2026 - Strabag Art x Fassfabric studios, Vienna (2 years)

2022 – Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris (3 months)

2020 – The Finnish Artists’ Studio Foundation – Casa Finlandese, Grassano (1 month)

2017 – The Hug residence, Madrid (6 months)

### Publications / Catalogues :

2024 – SPIRIT ANATOMY by BWA Ostrowiec, text Goschka Gawlik (PL)

2024 – Group show “RAUMPLAN” Jan Koniarek Gallery

2023, 2024 – STRABAG Artaward International (AT)

2022, Solo show Miejska Galeria Sztuki w Łodzi, Łódź (PL)

2021 – BODY Publication – ( Limited edition of 30) Round lemon Collective (UK)