

FINNISH DESIGN AND HOSPITALITY

Elina Viitaila and Antti A. Pesonen are performing artists, hosts and entrepreneurs of Villa Kokkonen. When you enter their shop in the end of the tour, be prepared for a positive shock. One tiny room is so much full of life related to the story of Villa Kokkonen: unique post-cards, jewels made of silver, artist home calendars and handmade slippers by Elina herself.

The original dining room designed by Alvar Aalto is nowadays a venue of delicious buffet service. By request, a group of visitors can enjoy Elina's chocolate apple cake with dark roasted special coffee. It is also possible to have a pretty awesome Finnish homemade buffet for a lunch.

Aalto

Requests and Bookings

Elina Viitaila and Antti A. Pesonen take care, on every basis, of Villa Kokkonen's cultural and architectural heritage since 1 June 2009.

Mrs. Elina Viitaila
master of music, pianist

Mr. Antti A. Pesonen
*master of social sciences,
opera singer*

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Alvar Aalto's masterpiece

VILLA KOKKONEN

A year-round attraction

Visitors' top comments:

"Finnish culture, classical music, famous architecture and beautiful nature. This experience combines all of the best parts of Finland into one wonderful package."

"It is a nice break from the urban setting of Helsinki. But the best part was Elina and Antti. Their enthusiasm and energy were a treat and their musical performance was wonderful."

"When I heard the first note, I got chills at how perfect the Finnish opera sounded in this woodland set home designed by the famous Finnish architect."

A historical artist's
home proudly presents:

Guided tours & Concerts

Villa Kokkonen is Alvar Aalto's masterpiece (1969), the youngest house of Lake Tuusula artist community and a year-round attraction.

Since 2009, pianist Elina Viitaila and opera singer Antti A. Pesonen occupy the house, cherishing the cultural heritage of the villa and hosting guided tours which culminate in musical performances by the couple.

HOME FOR MUSIC

Villa Kokkonen is the only private house Alvar Aalto dedicated to music. That's why both exterior and interior have been influenced by a delicate connection between music and architecture.

Travertine marble on the floor, Oregon pine on the wall, a huge white canvas on the ceiling and 30 lamps above the canvas guarantee the functioning of a 70 square meter atelier as an excellent concert hall for classical music.

It was Aalto's main intention and passion to build an authentic "Home for Music", the heart of which is an acoustic space conducting to the best possible musical output.

ARTISTIC GUIDED TOURS

Elina Viitaila and Antti A. Pesonen take care, on daily basis, of Villa Kokkonen's valuable heritage revolving around Finnish architecture and music. Their artistic guided tours are easily available by appointment for individual visitors and groups throughout the year.

During summer most of the tours are open to the public.

Guided tours hosted by Elina and Antti showcase Alvar Aalto's architecture in so many ways possible. There is, for example, in the forest garden a special 360-degree route which has been designed to serve the needs of architects, students of architecture and every person interested in studying or enjoying Alvar Aalto's work of art.

Since Alvar Aalto designed Villa Kokkonen for music, one highlight of every tour is Elina's and Antti's musical performance in the gorgeous acoustics of the atelier.

CONCERTS

Villa Kokkonen is a perfect place for concerts. Elina Viitaila and Antti A. Pesonen arrange not only several concerts which are open to the public, but they can also give an unforgettable private concert for a group of more than 10 persons.

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