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SPUTNIK presents

OFFICIAL SELECTION
FESTIVAL DE CANNES

Markku Peltola Kati Outinen

ANNIKKI TÄHTI JUHANI NIEMELÄ KAIJA PAKARINEN TÄHTI-DOG

SAKARI KUOSMANEN MARKO HAAVISTO & POUTAHUKAT ESKO NIKKARI

OUTI MÄENPÄÄ PERTTI SVEHOLM MATTI WUORI AINO SEPPO

JANNE HYYTIÄINEN ELINA SALO ANNELI SAULI

In a film by **Aki Kaurismäki**



**The Man
Without
a Past**

Cinematography TIMO SALMINEN Sound JOUKO LUMME TERO MALMBERG Editing TIMO LINNASALO

Set design MARKKU PÄTILÄ JUKKA SALMI Wardrobe OUTI HARJUPATANA Assistant director NADJA DELCOS

Production manager ILKKA MERTSOLA Written, directed and produced by AKI KAURISMÄKI

The Man Without a Past

OFFICIAL SELECTION

FESTIVAL DE CANNES

Written, directed and produced by
AKI KAURISMÄKI

Production
SPUTNIK OY

In association with
YLE TV-1 / EILA WERNING

Co-producers

PANDORA FILM In co-production
with ZDF/ARTE and Network Movie

PYRAMIDE PRODUCTIONS In co-production
with Arte France Cinema, with the participation
of Canal+ and the Centre National de la
Cinématographie

Production supported by
THE FINNISH FILM FOUNDATION
NORDIC FILM AND TELEVISION FUND

© **SPUTNIK OY 2002**

35 mm / Colour / 1:1,85 /

Dolby Digital / 97 min / O.V. Finnish

Original title: **Mies vailla menneisyyttä**

Released in Finland: 1.3.2002



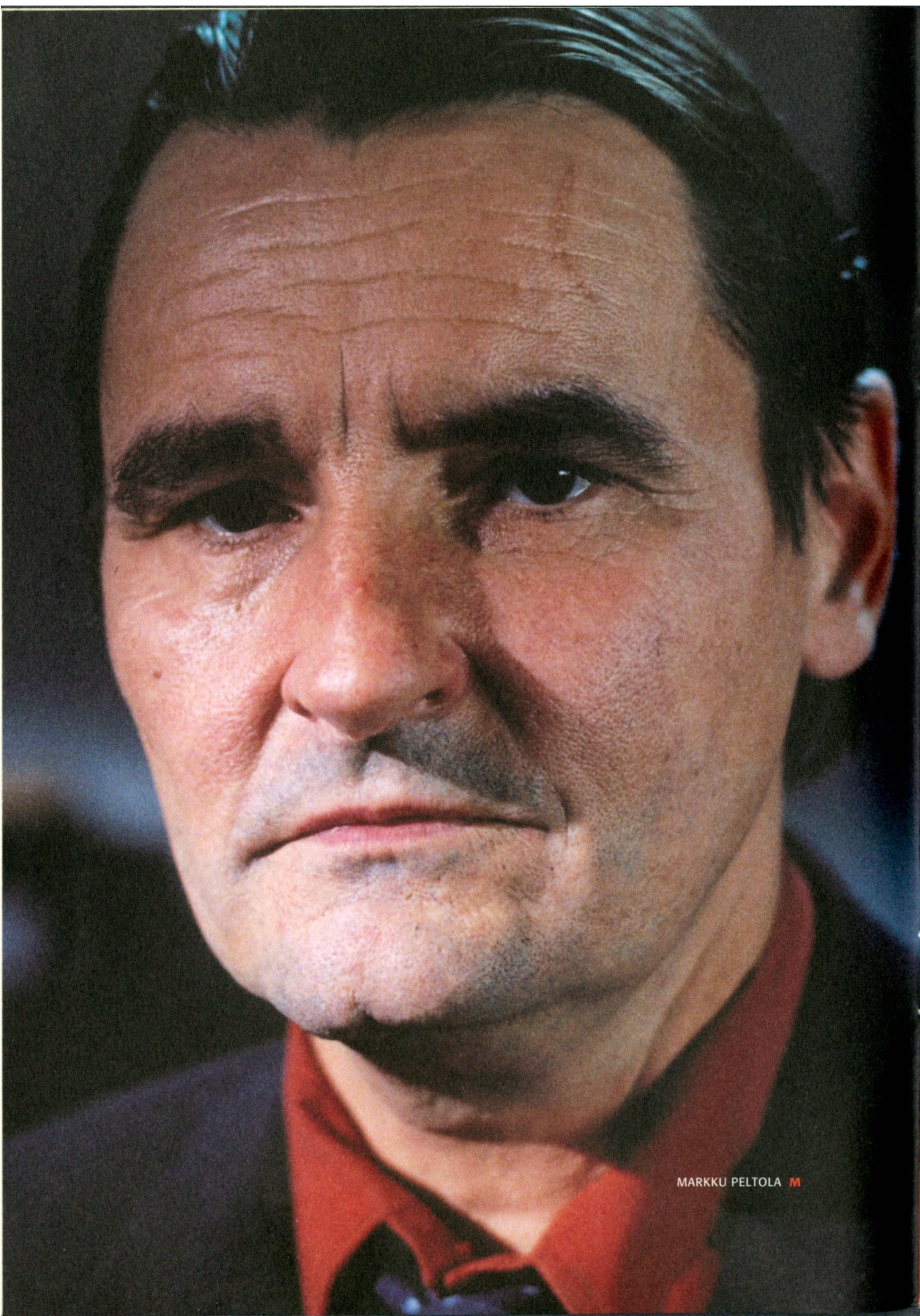
A nameless man comes to Town and gets beaten to death in the first possible moment. Here starts this epic drama, film or should we say a dream of lonely hearts with empty pockets under the big sky of our Lord or should we say birds. – A. K.

Directors words

My last film was black and white and silent, which clearly shows that I am a man of business. However going forward on that road would demand skipping out the picture next. What would we have then; a shadow. So, always ready for compromises, I decided to turn around and made this film here, which has loads of dialogues plus a variety of colours – not to mention other commercial values.

I have to admit, that deep in my subconscious, there might have been a hope that this step would make me seem normal, too. My social, economical and political views of the state of society, moral and love can hopefully be found from the film itself.

Sincerely Yours *Aki Kaurismäki*



MARKKU PELTOLA M

The Man Without a Past

by Peter von Bagh

The Man Without a Past delivers a new edge to the story that stirred viewers all around the world in *Drifting Clouds*. Without sidestepping bitter issues, one could paint an image of a small country in the North in a touching, amusing, and liberating way. At the beginning of this new film, a man (Markku Peltola) has travelled to Helsinki in search of work, gets mugged, loses his memory, and has to start completely anew, from scratch. He discovers love (Kati Outinen), and is forced to discover values with which man will not be ashamed to live. A small story about people who still know how to be gentle, an enormous cinematic experience.

The themes contain a translucent beauty, cross-lit in a confusingly rich manner by the direction. In the case of expression, the author takes the biggest risks, and wins. We know, ultimately from *Juha* (1999), »the last silent movie of the 20th century«, that Aki Kaurismäki is a rare breed of a portrayer of »the border area«, between the urban and the countryside, the privileged sector of the class society and the margins of Finland, sentenced to anonymity.

Kaurismäki's portrayal of subservience contains dignity (neither pompous nor heavy-hearted), humour, a touch of melancholy (not far removed from the style of Chaplin), and an excellent understanding of the lot of his subjects, a lot that most probably is irrevocably at the »bottom«, but one that also possesses its own rebellious delights as well as room for one's own self. The choice is a proud one, too, as power and domination seem to corrupt always and absolutely. The ethics and style of Aki Kaurismäki are strongly related to several of the giants of cinema who have shown as well an absolute and most boundless respect for man by the creation of such a precise way of expression and such a cinematic style, with respect visible in every frame, through the means of pure cinema. Aki Kaurismäki has created a film in which the daring and powerful scale of form, colours and means of expression indicates a fine awareness of tradition in relation to both Finnish and European cinema, and a bold new stylistic move in his own world.

Aki Kaurismäki

WRITER, DIRECTOR, EDITOR AND PRODUCER

BORN IN FINLAND 4.4.1957, BUT...

FILMS AS DIRECTOR

- 1981** The Saimaa Gesture
(co-dir. with Mika Kaurismäki)
- 1983** Crime and Punishment
- 1985** Calamari Union
- 1986** Shadows in Paradise
Rocky VI (short)
- 1987** Hamlet Goes Business
Thru the Wire (short)
- 1988** Ariel
- 1989** Leningrad Cowboys Go America
Dirty Hands, (TV film)
- 1990** The Match Factory Girl
I Hired a Contract Killer
- 1991** La vie de bohème
Those Were the Days (short)
These Boots (short)
- 1993** Total Balalaika Show (documentary)
- 1994** Take Care of Your Scarf, Tatjana
Leningrad Cowboys Meet Moses
- 1996** Drifting Clouds
- 1998** Juha
- 2002** Dogs Have No Hell (episode in Ten Minutes Older -project)
The Man Without a Past

THE WORLD OF AKI KAURISMÄKI is one of the most easily recognisable in modern cinema. On the margins of Europe, a country called Finland, and the never-ending journey of the Finns from the countryside into the towns, onwards to the European no-man's-land and the coarse farce of modern bureaucracy, to our shared tragedy that hardly anyone else has illuminated through an equally golden humour. An optimistic tragedy, therefore, and an auteur who has not forgotten certain things as such very simple, but the understanding of which has become amazingly rare. Love for one's neighbour. Solidarity. The insight that financial deprivation does not automatically turn one into a fool, and therefore each human being has dignity. He has been able to portray the de facto formation of a less developed country in the heart of a welfare society, the reality of it in an incorrupt fashion and the way it exists – i.e., not as reflected in »the media».

The films of Aki Kaurismäki can be arbitrarily divided into three or four genres. There are the »classics», culminating in *Hamlet Goes Business* and *La vie de Bohème* – ones that have continued the dialogue with the living interlocutors – Shakespeare and Henri Murger. Secondly, there are the comic road movies, of which *Leningrad Cowboys Go America* is a cult movie all over the place, and *Take Care of Your Scarf, Tatjana*, a stroke of genius, the weekend of a Finnish working-class man taking place simultaneously in fictional history (»the sixties») and a very real world and fairy-tale like Finland squeezed in between the East and the West.

And then there are those wonderful films that belong, even internationally, to the last perceptive descriptions of the working-class milieu or the proletarian self. This »disappearing act» has been the joint fiction of the characterless status cinema and the entertainment pap, as if the ordinary man no longer existed. In the conditions of a faceless Entertainment Europe such as this, the »Working-class Trilogy» of Aki Kaurismäki (*Shadows in Paradise*, *Ariel*, *The Match Factory Girl*) is like a precious gift. The poetic fundamental truth of *Drifting Clouds* (1996) touched the hearts of audiences all over Europe. »I would be ashamed to look at myself in the mirror if I didn't now make a film about unemployment,» Aki Kaurismäki said as he explained the thematic choice of *Drifting Clouds*. As we are now presented with a new Kaurismäki work, *The Man Without a Past*, we can see that *Drifting Clouds* marked the beginning of a new trilogy.

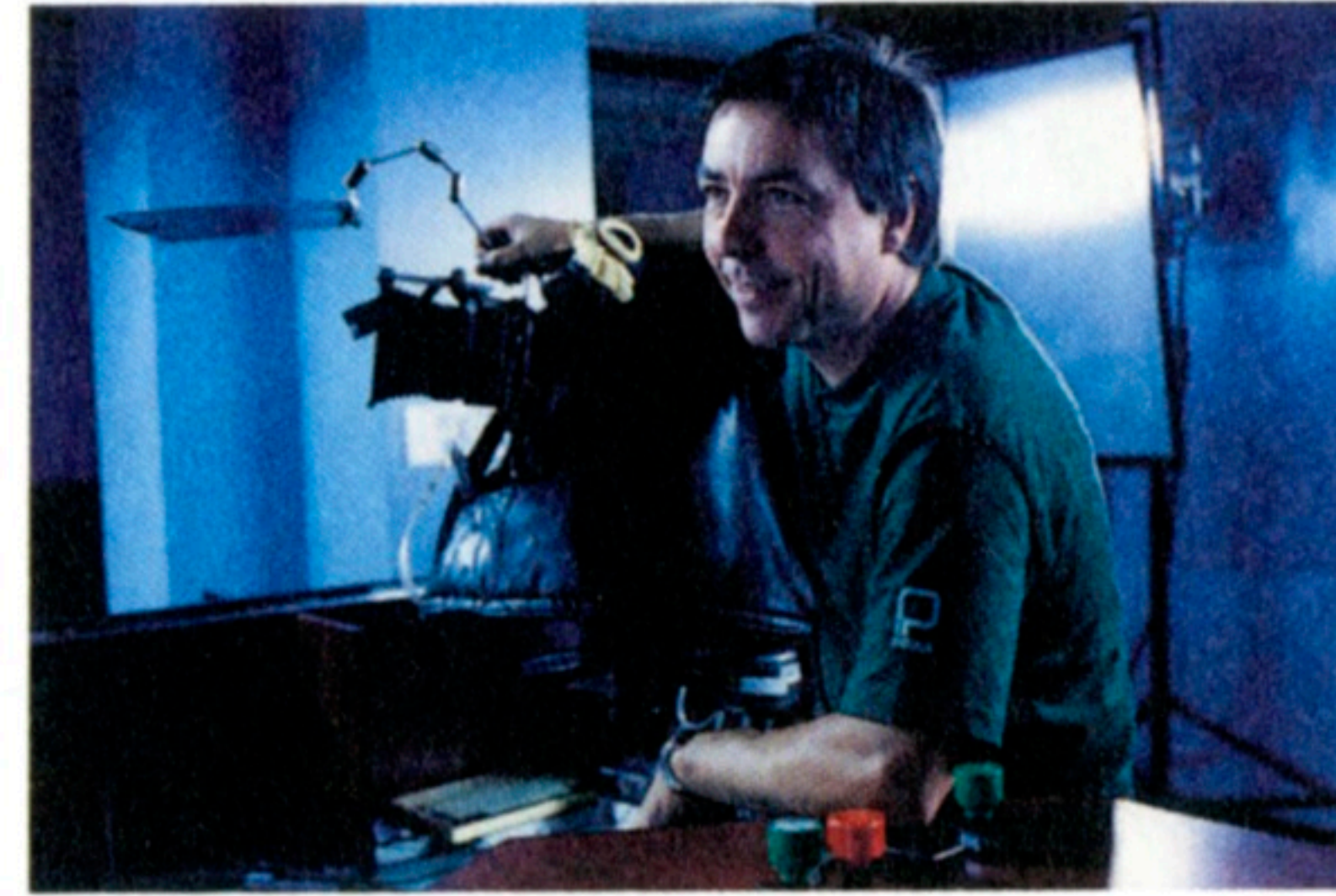
In early 1994 the editors of the monthly supplement of Helsingin Sanomat, the largest Finnish daily newspaper, sent a selected group of public figures a question: »What is the meaning of life?» This time, the question was presented in earnest, as the questioners were young lower-grade school children – at their age, serious matters are not to be toyed with. Many of those receiving the query were quite perplexed, but one answer stood out above the others: »The meaning of life is to acquire a personal morality that respects nature and man and then, to follow it.» The answer of Aki Kaurismäki – and one explanation why *The Man Without a Past* elevates us, as the audience, to the level of true humanity.

Peter von Bagh

Timo Salminen

CINEMATOGRAPHER (BORN 1952)

Began his collaboration with director Aki Kaurismäki in 1981 and has since been the director of photography in all of Aki Kaurismäki's films (except TV-production Dirty Hands) and most of the other films produced by Sputnik Oy and Villealfa Filmproductions Oy.



Kati Outinen (BORN 1961)

IRMA

Kati Outinen appeared in her first film role in 1980 and entered the Theatre Academy the same year. After her graduation in 1984 she was engaged by the KOM Theatre in Helsinki for ten years. Her remarkable career in film includes leading roles in Aki Kaurismäki 's films: *Shadows in Paradise*, *Hamlet Goes Business*, *Dirty Hands*, *The Match Factory Girl*, *Take Care of Your Scarf Tatjana*, *Drifting Clouds*, *Juha*, *Dogs Have No Hell* (episode in Ten Minutes Older -project) and *The Man Without a Past*.





Markku Peltola (BORN 1956)

M

Markku Peltola has been working on numerous experimental music and theatre projects since 1978. In addition to his many theatre roles he has had several supporting roles in films including: *Juha* and *Drifting Clouds* by Aki Kaurismäki.

During the recent years Markku Peltola has been working in a theatre-restaurant he founded with his theatre group. Markku Peltola had a leading role in Aki Kaurismäki's short film *Dogs Have No Hell* (an episode in the *Ten Minutes Older* -project).

The Man Without a Past is his first leading role in a feature film.

KATI OUTINEN **IRMA** AND MARKKU PELTOLA **M**

Annikki Tähti

FLEA MARKET MANAGERESS

The first recording of Annikki Tähti was published on 28.2.1953. She was part of the female singer generation who conquered the stages from men in post-war Finland. The nostalgic waltz *Muistatko Monrepos'n (Do You Remember Monrepos)* recorded in 1955 opened up suppressed paths for yearning for the lost Karelia, a province annexed to the Soviet Union after the Second World War, and became the first Finnish gold record seller. Annikki Tähti is still performing regularly and she is one of the most famous and beloved grand old ladies of Finnish popular music.

Marko Haavisto & Poutahaukat

THE SALVATION ARMY BAND

Marko Haavisto & Poutahaukat band was founded in 1997. Their first record was published in 1999 with the title *Täydellinen maailma (A Perfect World)*.

In the film *The Man Without a Past* Marko Haavisto & Poutahaukat is seen as a Salvation Army Band.

Aki Kaurismäki has used the band earlier in a short film *Dogs Have No Hell* (an episode in the *Ten Minutes Older* -project). The leader of the band Marko Haavisto previously fronted a band called The Badding Rockers. The Badding Rockers' songs were used in Aki Kaurismäki's earlier films: *Drifting Clouds* and *The Match Factory Girl*.


The second album of Marko Haavisto & Poutahaukat *Lamppu palaa (The Lamp Is Alight)* was released in March 2002.



ANNIKKI TÄHTI FLEA MARKET MANAGERESS



MARKO HAAVISTO & POUTAHUKAT
THE SALVATION ARMY BAND



Tähti (BORN 5.12.1995)

HANNIBAL

Tähti is a daughter of a famous dog-actress family; her grandmother *Laika* had the unforgettable role of Baudelaire in the film *La vie de bohème* by Aki Kaurismäki and the mother, *Piitu*, performed one of the principle roles in Kaurismäki's *Juha*.

Cast

M Markku Peltola	Ovaskainen Janne Hyytiäinen	Salvation Army Girl Tuire Tuomisto	Jokinen Markku Pätilä
Irma Kati Outinen	Electrician Antti Reini	The Salvation Army Choir Vappu Lysti Ritva Harteva	Cook in bar Helka Viljanen
Nieminen Juhani Niemelä	Hannibal Tähti	Raija Lahtinen Eeva Penttinen	Shipyard Foremen Eero Nykänen Erkki Puskala
Kaisa Nieminen Kaija Pakarinen	The Salvation Army Band Marko Haavisto	Salvation Army Officers Peter von Bagh	Shipyard Welder Henry Astikainen
Anttila Sakari Kuosmanen	Jouni Saario Jukka Teerisaari Jyrki Telilä	Matti Oinonen Aarno Kuussalo Aarre Ritola	Trouble-maker Silu Seppälä
Flea Market Manageress Annikki Tähti	Muggers Risto Korhonen Panu Vauhkonen	Barmaid Eira Ritvanen	Policemen Juha Springare Jukka Salmi Aki Hirvensalo
Bar Owner Anneli Sauli	Tom Wahlroos	Homeless in Doorway Anja Angel Pentti Kirstilä	Pasi Kokkonieniemi Mika Roiha
Shipyard Clerk Elina Salo	Guard at Gent's Vesa Mäkelä	Drunk Olli Varja	Mechanics Andrei Tchernousov Matti Nylund
Bank Clerk Outi Mäenpää	Doctor Aarre Karén	Man in Dumpster Keijo Nyrhinen	Men in restaurant Jouni Kortesato Timo Linnasalo Heikki Mattila
Bank Robber Esko Nikkari	Nurse Eeva-Liisa Haimelin	Employment Office Clerk Liisa Kuoppamäki	Cook Hanna Jokinen
Investigating Officer Pertti Sveholm	Boot Thief Kalevi Heinämaa	Employment Office Director Sulevi Peltola	Waiter on train Toni Salminen
Lawyer Matti Wuori	The Nieminen Children Joonas Karastie Anton Peltola	Lindström Erkki Lahti	Chief Officials Pentti Auer Olavi Tuomi
Ex -wife Aino Seppo	Accordionist Jouni Marjaranta		

Written, directed and produced by Aki Kaurismäki

Cinematography Timo Salminen	2nd assistant cameraman Nea Salminen	Accountant Sinikka/Stebeocat Oy
Sound Jouko Lumme Tero Malmberg	Still photographer, continuity Marja-Leena Hukkanen	Music recording and mixing Soundtrack Studio / Olli Kykkänen DF Sound / Petri Lopina
Editing Timo Linnasalo	Script supervisor Haije Alanoja	Mixing SES Film Sound / Olli Pärnänen
Set design Markku Pätilä Jukka Salmi	Steadycam operator Jukka Talikka	Laboratory Finnlab Oy
Wardrobe Outi Harjupatana	Carpenters Jukka Rautiainen Pertti Salmenjoki	Colour grading Timo Nousiainen
Make up Nadja Delcos	Production manager Ilkka Mertsola	Negative editing Tuija Kotamäki
Gaffers Olli Varja Kalle Penttilä	Assistant director Nadja Delcos	Titles Jan-Eric Nyström
Electricians Antti Ruusuvoori Henri Heino Toni Salminen	Location manager Jouni Kortesato	Insurance Sampson & Allen Yrittäjään Fennia
Electrician trainees Antti Reini Elsa Varja	Production secretary Haije Alanoja	Camera Arriflex BL II
Location supervisor Olavi Tuomi	Production assistant Eevi Kareinen	Original film material Eastman Kodak Vision
Assistant cameraman Rauno Ronkainen	Catering Laurent Nègre Mimmo Hildén	Nagra Nagra IVS
	Technical assistants Heikki Mattila Tatu Masilkin	Editing facilities Steenbeck Dr Leo Catozzo

Bandoneon

(com. Jakoila, arr. Jakoila / Savolainen)

Antero Jakoila

LOVE KUSTANNUS OY
»ENCORE» / LOVE
KUSTANNUS OY 2000

Sinfonia nro 3 A-duuri op. 55

(com. Leevi Madetoja)

Oulu Symphony

Orchestra / Arvo
Volmer, conductor
WARNER/CHAPPELL MUSIC
FINLAND OY »MADETOJA-
ORCHESTRAL WORKS 4» /
ALBA MUSIC OY 2001

Valkoiset linnut

(com. Veikko Juntunen,
lyr. Pauli Ylitalo, arr. Taisto
Wesslin)

Markus Allan

VEE-MUSIC, »KOHTALON
TUULET» / SPUTNIK OY 1997

Kansanlaulu

(com. & arr. Matti
Rantanen)

Matti Rantanen

SPUTNIK OY 2001

Mä ystävän löysin

(Herbert Booth)

Salvation Army Choir & Poutahaukat

SPUTNIK OY 2001

Serena

(com. & arr. Jakoila)

Antero Jakoila

LOVE KUSTANNUS OY
»ENCORE» / LOVE
KUSTANNUS OY 2000

Do The Shake

(Brown / Gibson / Johnsson /
Mallet)

The Renegades

WARNER/CHAPPELL MUSIC
FINLAND OY »CADILLAC»/
SCANDIA 1964

Motto Wasabi

(com. & lyr. Masao Onose)

Masao Onose

BMG FUNHOUSE MUSIC
PUBLISHING
»ONOSE MASAO SHOW» /
DOUBLE JOY RECORDS 2000

That Crawlin' Baby Blues

(com. & lyr. Blind Lemon
Jefferson)

Blind Lemon Jefferson

Älä unhoita minua

(trad.)

Tapio Rautavaara

SOINTU 1951

My Heart Must Do The Crying

(Brown/Gibson/Johnsson/
Mallet)

Renegades

WARNER/CHAPPELL MUSIC
FINLAND OY »THE
RENEGADES» / SCANDIA
1965

Veto

(com. & arr. Jakoila)

Antero Jakoila

LOVE KUSTANNUS OY
»ENCORE» /
LOVE KUSTANNUS OY 2000

On jumalan lähteessä vettä

(com. & lyr. Ida Björkman)

Marko Haavisto &

Poutahaukat

SPUTNIK OY 2001

Pieni sydän

(com. Tynnilä & lyr.
Pekkarinen)

Annikki Tähti &

Poutahaukat

WARNER/CHAPPELL MUSIC
FINLAND OY
SPUTNIK OY 2001

Paha vaanii

(com. Marko Haavisto/
Ismo Leponiemi lyr. Marko
Haavisto, arr. Marko Haavisto
& Poutahaukat)

Marko Haavisto &

Poutahaukat

LOVE KUSTANNUS OY
SPUTNIK OY 2001

Lokki

(trad.)

Tapio Rautavaara

SOINTU 1946

Su Cara

(com. & arr. Jakoila)

Antero Jakoila

LOVE KUSTANNUS OY
»ENCORE» / LOVE
KUSTANNUS OY 2000

Via Vitae

(com. & arr. Taisto Wesslin)

Jousikvartetti Sputnik

WESSLIN MUSIC
»VIA VITAE» SPUTNIK OY
1997

Hawaii No Yoru

(com. & lyr. Ken Yokoyama)

Crazy Ken Band

BMG FUNHOUSE MUSIC
PUBLISHING
»GOLDFISH BOWL» /
DOUBLE JOY RECORDS
1999

Muistatko Monrepos'n

(com. Erik Lindström, lyr.
Aili Runne)

Annikki Tähti &

Poutahaukat

WARNER/CHAPPELL MUSIC
FINLAND OY
SPUTNIK OY 2001

Stay

(com. & lyr. Marko Haavisto
transl. Vesa Haaja)

Marko Haavisto &

Poutahaukat

LOVE KUSTANNUS OY
SPUTNIK OY 2001



ANNIKKI TÄHTI AND POUTAHAUKAT



TÄHTI HANNIBAL, KATI OUTINEN IRMA AND MARKKU PELTOLA M

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