



PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

DOCPPOINT AUDIENCE GREW BY A THIRD - INKA ACHTÉ NEW HEAD OF PROGRAMMING

DocPoint - Helsinki Documentary Film Festival attracted audience all around Finland. The most watched film was Susanna Helke's Ruthless Times - Songs of Care, which won the National Competition and the audience favourite award.

In Finland's biggest documentary film festival ended on Sunday 6th of February.

DocPoint was held mainly online between January 31 and February 6 in 2022. The festival attracted audience around Finland. Festival programme included 64 domestic and foreign films. The audience increased by a third compared to 2021 festival. DocPoint 2021 was held online as well.

DocPoint-Yle -awards were given on Saturday 5th of February. The National Competition was won by **Susanna Helke's** musical documentary film RUTHLESS TIMES - SONGS OF CARE, which dwelled into the difficult work life of social health care workers. The International Competition was won by **Ruslan Fedotov's** film WHERE ARE WE HEADED, which depicted people on Moscow's metro.

Ruthless Times - Songs of Care also won the audience favourite award, financed by the Documentary Guild. It was also the most watched film of DocPoint 2022. The most watched international film was ASCENSION. Directed by **Jessica Kingdon**, the film is an intriguing study of capitalism in China.

DocPoint FINEST Market, which is held for the first time, will continue for another week. FINEST Market offers best new Finnish and Estonian documentary films for the industry professionals. The online event has gathered a lot of interest and it will be organised as a part of DocPoint in the future as well.

Next DocPoint festival will be held at the turn of January and February of 2023.

INKA ACHTÉ APPOINTED AS THE HEAD OF PROGRAMMING

DocPoint – Helsinki Documentary Film Festival has appointed **Inka Achté** as the new Head of Programming. Achté is a documentary film director and festival distributor from Helsinki. She has nearly 20 years of experience in film and television industry.

Inka Achté holds an MA in Documentary Directing from the National Film and Television School in the UK. She has worked as a sales agent for documentary films at Taskovski Films and Outlook Filmsales, and has experience as a programmer from various film festivals. Achté has directed documentary features *Boys Who Like Girls* (2018) and *Golden Land* (2021).

Golden Land premiered at DocPoint 2022. The film received the special mention in National Competition.

“It is wonderful to get to develop DocPoint together with filmmakers and audience during times, when documentary films are more popular than ever. I am really excited about the opportunity to open doors for the audience to worlds and viewpoints that we didn’t have access before, or couldn’t even think of” comments Inka Achté.

“I want to be a part of in making more inclusive and diverse film culture that shakes the audience and makes them realise something new about the world they live in. That is the power of documentary film.”

The position of Head of Programming is new at DocPoint. Artistic Director’s tasks will be divided to two people. Head of Programming oversees planning and execution of the festival programme. Industry events and DocPoint FINEST Market will be overseen by another person, who will be appointed in the next few months.

These two people will work together and form the core group of the festival with the Executive Director and the producer. Finnish and foreign programmers will assist in the planning as before. Similar practise is in use at other film festivals.

Kati Juurus has worked as the Artistic Director of the festival since 2019. Her fixed-period ends in February 2022. During Juurus’ time, the festival introduced National and International Competitions in 2021, and DocPoint FINEST Market in 2022, which presents Finnish and Estonian films to the professional audience. The new functions have expanded the festival and refreshed its profile. DocPoint warmly thanks Kati Juurus and wishes her well in the future.

DocPoint welcomes Inka Achté as a member of the team!

Photos of awarded directors and films can be downloaded from [here](#).

Film screeners and photos are available from publicist Pyry Waltari (press@docpoint.fi).

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