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The golden age of Finnish design and nostalgic travel atmospheres on display in Aalto2's summer exhibitions

The main summer exhibition at the Museum of Central Finland transports visitors to the 1960s and 1970s, a time when modern design met the change in the tourism industry. The Alvar Aalto Museum's main exhibition shines a spotlight on the designers of Artek's drawing office, spanning from the 1930s to 2004. A shared sense of nostalgic retro aesthetics and the visual style of past decades connects these two distinct yet fascinating exhibitions.

The Museum of Central Finland Delves Deep into the Cultural History of Finnish Tourism

Rantasipi was a legendary wilderness hotel chain that began in Central Finland when Rantaloma Ltd. was founded in Viitasaari in 1965. Designed by architects, the hotels prominently featured Finnish materials and design in both their construction and interiors. Typically located in scenic rural landscapes or on the outskirts of cities, their remote settings quickly earned them the nickname 'wilderness hotels.' The exhibition takes visitors on a visual journey through the hotels and resorts of the 1960s–1980s, offering a unique perspective on Finland's tourism history through the lens of Rantasipi

Rantasipi - Tales from the World of Wilderness Hotels

In the Art Hall, 10 May 2025 - 4 January 2026

The Alvar Aalto Museum Presents a Look into the History of Artek's Drawing Office

Visibly Invisible – Artek's Drawing Office 1936-2004 exhibition showcases, for the first time, the skilled designers who worked at Artek over a span of more than 60 years. From the very beginning, Artek's brand was built on the furniture designed by the Aaltos, particularly Alvar Aalto. Over the decades, Artek's drawing office was home to a wide range of interior architects, textile designers, and professionals in the applied arts. While their work is behind many well-known products, the designers themselves have remained almost anonymous. Visibly Invisible – Artek's Drawing Office 1936-2004 brings these talented individuals to the forefront—those who played a key role in shaping Artek's success story as a modern European design and interior company.

Visibly Invisible – Artek's Drawing Office 1936–2004

In the Gallery, 23 May – 14 September 2025



The Aalto2 Museum Centre brings the atmosphere of the summer exhibitions' era to life

Aalto2 Café will serve iconic Rantasipi cocktails, taking visitors on a nostalgic journey through taste. The opening of the Rantasipi exhibition will be celebrated with a themed day full of events, along with other activities that deepen the exhibition experience.

Aalto2's summer 2025 exhibitions offer an unforgettable journey through past decades of Finnish design and tourism – welcome to experience the charm of the era and iconic design!

The Aalto2 Museum Centre is a meeting place for architecture, design and cultural heritage in Jyväskylä, Finland.

PRESS IMAGES

Media inquiries: press@aalto2.museum More information on the Rantasipi exhibition: Johanna Rekonen Museum of Central Finland <u>johanna.rekonen@jyvaskyla.fi</u> +358 50 313 9743

More information on the Visibly Invisible exhibition:

Mari Murtoniemi Alvar Aalto Museum <u>mari.murtoniemi@alvaraalto.fi</u> +358 40 355 9162