

State Art Commission

Competition Jury

**Open art competition for the new building of the Oulu Central Police Station and Oulu Prison, 15.1.-15.4.2025**

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Date and time: Thursday 8.5.2025 from 12:00–16:00

Venue: Ateneum Art Museum, conference room Kolmio, Kaivokatu 2, Helsinki

Present: State Art Commission  
Riitta Ojanperä, Chair  
Jari Auer (TEAMS)  
Pirjetta Brander  
Marja Helander  
Heli Hiltunen  
Ari Pelkonen  
Kirsti Saarikorpi  
Mika Savela

Eija Aarnio, jury secretary  
Heli Ahmio, competition contact person

Experts consulted 14:00–15:30

Head of Development Team Harri Karjula, Account Manager Mika Kemppainen, Account Manager Matias Koponen, Head of Account Management Team Petri Porkka (representing Senate Properties); Senior Architect Timo Tynysmaa, (representing UKI Architects Ltd); Architect Laura Sorri (representing Lukkaroinen Architects Ltd); District Judge Ahti Kontturi (representing Oulu District Court) (TEAMS)

1. Legality and quorum

The Chair noted that the meeting was duly convened and quorate.

2. Review of competition rules and competition brief

The competition rules and brief were reviewed.

3. Submissions

It was noted that a total of 81 proposals had been registered as submitted by the deadline, under the following aliases (see Annex 1).

4. Satisfaction of competition criteria and disqualifications

It was noted that 6 entries were disqualified for failing to meet the requirements set out in the competition brief: Entries no. 017, 041 and 071 had the author's name visible. Entries no. 072, 073 and 075 were not in the required language and also had the author's name visible. (see Annex 1)

5. Consultation of experts

The jury heard expert assessments of the submissions. It was concluded that no conditions or constraints could be observed in any of the upper-category entries that would affect the selection or implementation of the works in terms of the architecture, safety, operation and/or intended use of the site.

The experts consulted were Head of Development Team Harri Karjula, Account Manager Matias Koponen representing Senate Properties; Senior Architect Timo Tynysmaa

representing UKI Architects Ltd; Architect Laura Sorri representing Lukkaroinen Architects Ltd; and District Judge Ahti Kontturi representing Oulu District Court.

#### 6. General assessment

The State Art Commission, which is attached to the Finnish national Gallery, had organised an open art competition in cooperation with Senate Properties to gather ideas for a work of art to be installed as part of the new building of the Oulu Central Police Station and Oulu Prison at Johdintie 15, Oulu.

The assessment focused on the artistic quality of the proposals as well as their feasibility and development potential. Following the conclusion of the competition, the State Art Commission will decide which proposal will become subject of further development and implementation.

The jury considered the upper category entries to be of a high standard, quality and feasibility. The ease of maintenance and reasonable lifecycle costs of the work had been taken into account in the entries. The entries were carefully executed, and took into account the architecture of the new building of the police station and prison, its functions and security requirements. The main entrance brickwork with its recesses had presented challenges in some entries, but had served as a natural platform for the artwork in others. Not all entries had succeeded in turning existing constraints to their advantage.

#### 7. Assessment of works in the upper category

The jury selected the following five entries for the upper category, and noted the following assessments:

##### No. 001 Luottamus

An unobtrusive work that nonetheless spreads harmoniously across the façade. Based on the illustration, it brings a sense of airiness and movement to the geometric building volume. The question remains whether the gold will ultimately stand out from the wall, and how soon it will darken to the point where the concept no longer works.

##### No. 003 Läpinäkyvyys

A beautiful work made from glass, a material rarely used in façade artworks. The glass reflects different light conditions beautifully and also casts lively shadows on the wall. The reference to stepping stones crossing a river is elegant. Locality and sustainability are also present: the material is handmade glass from Finland.

##### No. 035 Labyrintti

The symbolism of a labyrinth relates thematically to the function of the building. The execution is elegant. The work makes interesting use of recycled materials.

##### No. 058 O

The proposed work is three-dimensional, projecting from the wall not unlike a relief. The interplay of reflections and shadows creates a monumental impression. Its simple form complements the building well.

##### No 078 Tiilenpäät

The work makes discreet and materially considered use of the existing façade motif. Its simple and cohesive lighting design lends a distinctive identity to both the setting and the building complex.

#### 8. Decision on the winners

1st prize, entry no. 003, Läpinäkyvyys, prize sum: €7,000.

2nd prize, entry no. 035, Labyrintti, prize sum: €4,000.

3rd prize, entry no. 058, O, prize sum: €3,000.

Two recognition awards, each worth €500, were presented:

no. 001, Luottamus

no. 078, Tiilenpäät

The prizes are tax-free.

No honorary mentions were awarded.

#### 9. Determination of further measures

The jury decided to proceed with the further development and implementation of the winning entry. The need for any safety-related improvements to the work will be assessed if necessary. A maximum budget of €100,000 (VAT 0%) has been allocated for the implementation of the piece. The aim is to complete the work during 2025–2026.

#### 10. Disclosure of aliases

The names of the artists of the awarded entries were as follows:

1st prize no. 003, Läpinäkyvyys, artist: Sini Majuri

2nd prize no. 035, Labyrintti, artists: Pekka Niittyvirta and Jari Silomäki

3rd prize no. 058, O, artist: Jyri Tartia

Artists of the recognition prize entries:

no. 001, Luottamus, artist: Otto Karvonen

no. 078, Tiilenpäät, artists: Teo Rinne and Leena Kouhia

#### 11. Publication of result and decision regarding online exhibition

The result of the competition will be published on 29.5.2025 on the State Art Commission website. The winning and recognition prize entries and the Jury Report will be on view online 29.5.2025–1.1.2026 on the competition website at

<https://www.valtionaideteostoimikunta.fi/Oulupoliisi-taidekilpailu>. Unawarded entries with their identifying data will be destroyed six months after the resolution of the competition.

#### 12. Closing of the meeting

The Chair closed the meeting on Thu 8.5.2025 at 15:43.

In witness of the above

Riitta Ojanperä, Chair

Jari Auer

Pirjetta Brander

Marja Helander

Heli Hiltunen

Ari Pelkonen

Kirsti Saarikorpi

Mika Savela

Eija Aarnio, jury secretary