

Milla Lehtinen (artistic name: Milla Virtanen)

Rautatienkatu 16 C 34, 90100 Oulu, Finland - Date of Birth: 10/09/1978
+358505378537 - milla_virtanen@hotmail.com - www.millavirtanen.tk

Press Reviews

"Fresh, Slippery Cocktail"

"Volonté disturbs and interferes in a positive way. It provides stimuli and unexpected solutions, which causes pleasure of unforeseeing."

Kaleva newspaper, 19.1.2017, Finland

"Rituals Crowned by Surrendering"

"Poroporo is an installation of movement, sound, image and light, that takes the audience to the source of rapidly changing visions... Virtanen is a chameleon performer, who doesn't intrude narcissistically, but still gives a lot from herself to the audience... Poroporo is beautiful Nordic modern art... multidisciplinary piece that reflects resent time."

Kaleva newspaper, 12.4.2015, Finland

"Elegant Balancing"

"Particularly impressive is the captivating peace that fills the space. Within the peaceful space the truth giggles... Metaphors and layers peels off of the movement language, the soundscape, the light design as well as of the individual human body."

Kaleva newspaper, 18.1.2014, Finland

"Inner Journey"

"Volière combines dance theater, modern dance and animation art in an exiting way. It's a dance experience, a trip that fully captures the attention of the audience."

Kaleva newspaper, 20.6.2012, Finland.

"Ramona is a Woman Full of Past"

Milla Virtanen has admirably wide and reachable movement quality. She moves between theatrical drama and pure sensitivity... Virtanen has enjoyable presence. She confronts her audience, treats and plays with them."

Kaleva newspaper, 14.10.2012, Finland.

"Dance comes to the skin"

"On the Skin' performance is a perfect package... Milla Virtanen throws herself into wild and uninhibited movements. Her solo that was created to an unexpected music, Bach's first cello suite, was tuned intensely tight."

Helsingin Sanomat Newspaper, 31.1.2008, Finland

"Atmospheric experiments with Milla Virtanen"

"'99 Lashes and Six Months in a Can' is an exciting and atmospheric dance performance... The choreography and dance are nice and entertaining to watch, but where Virtanen really scores is the atmosphere. A great basis for Milla Virtanen to grow as a creator. "

TheaterCentraal, 03.10.2009, The Netherlands

"Burlesque Performance"

"Young choreographer Milla Virtanen kicks-off with a surprising performance, Taboo Boo and the Forbidden Lemonfruits... a powerful quartet that becomes a functioning ensemble."

8Weekly 10.2.2009, The Netherlands

"With Two Hands"

"Strong quartet moves on the stage fulfilling the fantasies, dreams and nightmares, of choreographers, who have moved to a new movement material. They perform with beautiful presence and admirable professionalism."

Helsingin Sanomat Newspaper, 05.10.2010, Finland

Dance Education

- 2005-2008 **BA degree at Fontys Dans Academie, Tilburg, Holland**
Specialization: Dance theatre with modern techniques.
- 2005 **Professional degree in Latin-American dancing, STOL, Finland**
- 1987-2004 **Latin-American and Ballroom dancing**
Telemark-Team and Salme Raukovaara dance school, Finland

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Work as a Choreographer

- 2017 **Volonté**, interdisciplinary collage for 5 performers, 11 performances in Finland
- 2016 **Blackpool**, dance theatre duet, dance and choreography: Milla Virtanen & Jaakko Toivonen
Performed in Finland and in the Netherlands
- 2015 **Poroporo**, dance theatre performance with animation and live-electronic music
Premiere 21.2.2015, 8 performances in Finland and Belgium
- 2014 **Varjakka**, siter-specific immersive dance theatre, assistant director: Milla Virtanen,
director: Pirjo Yli-Maunula, Varjakka island, Finland
- 2014 **5th Floor**, dance theatre performance for 5 female dancers, Finland
- 2013 **Lovesong**, a play for 4 actors, Oulu City Theatre, Finland
- 2012 **Ramona**, dance theatre, as a part of installation, Finland
- 2012 **Volière**, dance theatre / animation performance, Finland & Germany
- 2011 **It's All Over Now, Baby Blue**, dance theatre / animation performance,
28 performances in Finland, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, UK, South-Korea and Belgium
- 2011 **Jim Smythe and the Heartbreakers**, dance theatre performance, The Netherlands
- 2010 **Hysteria**, dance theatre performance, The Netherlands
- 2009 **99 Lashes and Six Months in a Can**, dance theatre, The Netherlands
- 2009 **Taboo Boo and the Forbidden Lemon Fruits**, dance theatre, de Nwe Vorst theatre, The
Netherlands and Finland
- 2008 **Iholla**, Latin dance theatre, Choreography: Jussi Väänänen and Katja Koukkula, Assistant
Choreography: Milla Virtanen, 7 performances in Finland
- 2007 **Yo-Yi**, dance theatre, 12 performances in Germany, The Netherlands and Finland

Work as a dancer

- 2016 **Blackpool**, dance theatre duet, dance and choreography: Milla Virtanen & Jaakko Toivonen
Performed in Finland and in the Netherlands
- 2015 **Poroporo**, dance theatre performance, Choreography: Milla Virtanen, Finland, Belgium
- 2013 **Apple Thief**, contemporary dance theatre, Choreography: Kira Riikonen, Finland
- 2013 **Re-Touch**, contemporary dance, Choreography: Johanna Nuutinen, Jarkko Lehmus, Finland
- 2012 **Ramona**, dance theatre, as a part of installation, Finland
- 2012 **Vimmaa**, dance theatre, Choreography: Satu Tuomisto, Finland
- 2012 **Volière**, dance theatre performance, Choreography: Milla Virtanen, Finland & Germany
- 2011 **It's All Over Now, Baby Blue**,
dance theatre / animation performance, Choreography: Milla Virtanen, 9 countries

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- 2010 **WHO TOO**, dance and theatre, Choreography: Maarten van der Put, 22 performances in the Netherlands, Belgium and in France.
- 2010 **Puppy in the Window**, Choreography: Maarten van der Put, the Netherlands
- 2010 **Kaksin käsin**, Latin contemporary dance, Choreography: Jussi Väänänen and Katja Koukkula, 5 performances in Finland
- 2010 **Mur Perce**, Contemporary dance project. Choreography: Eddy Becquart, Belgium
- 2009 **99 Lashes and Six Months in a Can**, dance theatre, Choreography: Milla Virtanen, the Netherlands
- 2009 **Soma**, contemporary dance, Choreography: Jaakko Toivonen, Company Koorts, 6 performances in Romania and in the Netherlands
- 2009 **Taboo Boo and the Forbidden Lemon Fruits**, dance theatre, Choreography: Milla Virtanen, the Netherlands and in Finland
- 2008 **Villit Vuodet**, dance theatre, Hämeenlinna City Theatre
Director: Heikki Paavilainen, Choreography: Jouni Prittinen
102 performances in Finland
- 2008 Dance project **MIXED EMOTIONS**, Theaterwerkplaats Generale Oost
Choreography: Jaakko Toivonen and Kinga Lazlo. The Netherlands
- 2008 **Iholla**, Latin dance theatre, Choreography: Jussi Väänänen and Katja Koukkula, Assistant Choreography: Milla Virtanen, Finland
- 2008 **Noord**, dance theatre, Choreography: Eddy Becquart, the Netherlands
- 2007 **Hotel Coko**, dance theatre, Company Koorts, Choreography: Jaakko Toivonen, Netherlands
- 2007 **Melancholia Drinkingwater**, dance theatre, Choreography: Eddy Becquart, Netherlands
- 2007 **Here / After**, dance theatre, Choreography: **Pia Meuthen**, Netherlands and Belgium
- 2007 **Yo-Yi**, dance theatre, 12 performances in Germany, The Netherlands and Finland
- 2006 **Dedicated to L.M**, dance theatre, Choreography: Eddy Becquart, Belgium and Netherlands
- 1987-2004 I've performed in hundreds Latin-American and Ballroom dance competitions around the world. Highlights:
- 2004 Third place at Millennium Competition in Singapore
- 2001-2003 Three-time Latin-American dance Finnish Champion

Dance Movies

- 2007 **Foggy Andiary**, Director and choreographer: Milla Virtanen
- de NWE Vorst theatre, **Tilburg, the Netherlands**
- BUTFF, film festival **Breda, the Netherlands**
- Loikka, dance film festival, **Helsinki, Finland**
- Blue November, film festival, **Seattle, USA**

