



# THE **SP**IRIT OF PARADISE

EL **ESP**ÍRITU DEL PARAÍSO  
PARATIISIN **PI**RINÄÄ

MARKKU PIRI

# THE EXHIBITION | EXPOSICIÓN | NÄYTTELY

**MADRID 24.11.2011–11.1.2012**

Instituto Iberoamericano de Finlandia

**BARCELONA 4.2.–25.3.2012**

Artesanía de Catalunya

**LISBOA 3.–24.4.2012**

Instituto Camões

**BERLIN 9.5.–3.7.2012**

Gemeinschaftshaus Felleshus der Nordischen Botschaften

**WASHINGTON, D.C. OCTOBER 2012**

Embassy of Finland



**IN CO-OPERATION WITH | EN COOPERACIÓN CON | YHTEISTYÖSSÄ**

The Finnish embassies in Madrid, Lisbon, Berlin and Washington DC

The Finnish consulate in Barcelona

The Finnish Institute in Madrid

Artesanía de Catalunya and Instituto Camões

Zeeland Oy

Embajadas de Finlandia en Madrid, Lisboa, Berlín y Washington DC

Consulado de Finlandia en Barcelona

Instituto Iberoamericano de Finlandia

Artesanía de Catalunya | Instituto Camões

Zeeland Oy

Suomen suurlähetystöt Madridissa, Lissabonissa, Berliinissä ja Washington DC:ssä

Suomen konsulaatti Barcelonassa

Suomen instituutti Madridissa

Artesanía de Catalunya | Instituto Camões

Zeeland Oy

Lasismi osuuskunta | Vallila Interior Oy | Finnmirror Oy | CHS Expo Freight | Antalis Oy

Karisto Oy | Suomen käsityön museo | Tampere-talo

The curator of the exhibition | Comisaria de la exposición | Näyttelyn kuraattori

Ritva Röminger-Czako

The exhibition entity may vary from place to place.

El contenido de la muestra puede variar según el emplazamiento expositivo.

Näyttelykokonaisuus saattaa vaihdella paikasta toiseen.

# MARKKU PIRI – EARTHLY PARADISE

The touring exhibition (including Madrid, Barcelona, Lisbon, Berlin, and Washington), focusing on printed textiles and art glass, presents the newest production of Markku Piri (b. 1955). Piri has over 30 years of experience in interartistic design and is famous for effortlessly switching between different materials.

A look into the exhibition provides a representative sample of both the current work of the artist and his use of forms and colors as well as of the starting point and sources of inspiration for his artistic work. On display there are fantastic printed textiles from the last few years and colorful glass objects that are special in that they allow themselves to be combined in lots of different ways. An evening dress and jewelry designed for the opera singer Karita Mattila serve as an example of Piri's work as costume designer in the exhibition.

Markku Piri enjoys his work, and he takes bringing out the beauty and joy of life in the world for granted. What's notable is that he wants to fill the everyday life with as much aesthetics as possible. He has a sharp and sensitive eye for observing forms and colors – both in the urban setting and in nature. His eyes examine the world with analytical sharpness on the one hand and with the joy and curiosity of a child on the other. He is fascinated by the details that pass unnoticed for many, which can be seen in the countless photos he has taken both home and on trips.

Markku Piri devotes his entire soul to each one of his design projects. He masters the big lines of design but also at the same time the smallest details to precision. Depending on the product he alternates between idioms from baroque style luxuriance to graphical, geometrical lines. Both elements can also coexist in one product.

The excellent, sensitive eye for colors is one of the foundations of Markku Piri's work, and colors really mean the world to him. What is typical of his works are combining of colors in a bold manner and stark contrasts but also sophisticated play of different shades of just one color.

Markku Piri is a lone wolf and a man with solid expertise and boundless appetite for creativity. His innovative and refreshingly abundant production is a considerable contribution to the overall picture of Finnish design.

A 140-page book presenting Markku Piri's production is released as a by-product of the exhibition.

Ritva Röminger-Czako

The curator of the exhibition  
Bonn

---

## CONTACT AND FURTHER INFORMATION:

[luisa.gutierrez@madrid.fi](mailto:luisa.gutierrez@madrid.fi) | [markku.piri@piri-piri.fi](mailto:markku.piri@piri-piri.fi) | [www.piri-piri.fi](http://www.piri-piri.fi)



## **THE SPIRIT OF PARADISE**

Markku Piri is a multi-talented designer from Finland, who finds his inspiration from many different cultures and the beauty of the world. Piri observes the world with enthusiasm and moves with mastery between material and genre: textiles, art glass, theater costumes, interiors, jewelry, ceramics, shoes... even cakes!

## **EL ESPÍRITU DEL PARAÍSO**

Markku Piri es un versátil diseñador finlandés cuya fuente de inspiración proviene de diferentes culturas y de la belleza del mundo en general. Piri contempla su entorno con gran optimismo y en su faceta de diseñador se mueve con maestría en diversas áreas: telas, arte en vidrio, vestuario teatral, decoración, joyería, cerámica, zapatos,... ¡incluso tartas!

## **PARATIISIN PIRINÄÄ**

Markku Piri on monipuolinen muotoilija Suomesta, joka ammentaa inspiraationsa monista kulttuureista ja maailman kauneudesta. Piri tarkkailee maailmaa innostuneesti ja liikkuu muotoilijana suvereenisti materiaalista toiseen: tekstiilejä, taidelasia, teatteripuvustuksia, sisustuksia, koruja, keramiikkaa, kenkiä... jopa kakkuja!