

PRESS RELEASE

ULLA POHJOLA

textile artist

member of TEXO (Textile Artists' Association), ORNAMO (The Finnish Association of Designers) and Tampere Artists' Association

Ulla Pohjola has become known for her skilful embroideries of high artistic quality. Soon after she graduated from the University of Art and Design in Helsinki, she was elected The Young Textile Artist of the Year 1996. The nomination was made on the account of her graduation exhibition called Bone Orchard, which was kept in the Museum of Applied Arts in Helsinki. There she exhibited 48 small textile works embroidered by hand or with a sewing machine.

Ulla Pohjola concentrates mainly on artistic work and has kept dozens of private exhibitions in addition to various group exhibitions both in Finland and abroad. Her works are included in collections such as Sorlandets Kunstmuseum in Norway, Museum of Finnish Handicrafts in Jyväskylä, Museum of Applied Arts in Helsinki, Art Museum of Lönnström in Rauma, the art collection of Wihuri Fund, Saastamoinen Foundation and the art collection of the State of Finland.

The memories of Ulla Pohjola's own life are embroidered in her works. She sees her textile works as paintings and thus works like a painter by experiencing the working process as it goes along and following the paths the work sets for itself. In embroidery the closeness to the work itself and the touch of material is tangible. The memories of hands are conveyed by touch to the works, tips of fingers give out the message of life in the past. This intimate way of working can be experienced also in a more universal level. People in general share the same feelings, although their experiences may be different. Ulla Pohjola's embroideries are icons of everyday life painted by a needle and thread. The small size of works and stitches create richness and magnitude in her works.