Clip Kino: Multicultural Screenings: Report 2011

Summary

During 2010 fifteen Clip Kino events were organised in total with different individuals and groups, including Finnish- and Swedish-speaking Finns, immigrant (1st & 2nd generation), returnee, refugee and international guests. Of this total, the majority took place in Helsinki, Finland, while four Clip Kino events were organised outside of Finland for the first time. Several cultural associations curated screenings, two workshop processes took place, and different venues hosted events. Social media platforms Facebook and Twitter were utilised for event promotions, and several published articles documented the activities nationally and internationally.

Workgroup

The 2010 programme was produced and facilitated by Andrew Gryf Paterson (applicant), however the workgroup at time of application was undetermined. Over the period of the year, the workgroup was formed by those who took up the invitation to curate a Clip Kino event, including myself:

Andrew Gryf Paterson /Scotland/Finland,

Nina Nordström /Finland,

Model Court [Sidsel Meineche Hansen / Denmark, Lawrence Abu Hamdan / Jordan, Lorenzo Pezzani / Italy, Oliver Rees / UK],

Sari Kivinen / Australia / Finland,

Katalyytti-clips rhymä [Petrus Ahola, Atte Collan, Karim Degheidy, Omar Fasolah, Mikko Pänkäläinen, Antti Ranta /all Finland],

Pispalan Kulttuuriyhdistys ry [Mikko Lipiäinen /Finland, Markus Petz /Germany/Finland], **Kultivator Wedding Guests** [Fiona Woods /Ireland, Luba Kuzovnikova /Russia/Norway, Gijs Frieling /Netherlands, Signe Pucena /Latvia, Wapke Feenstra /Netherlands, Adam Sutherland /UK, Thomas G. Bagge /Denmark, Randy Albright /US/Portugal, and Erik Sjödin /Sweden]

Batsirai Chivhanga /Zimbabwe,

Refugee Hospitality Club [Päivi Raivio /Finland & 13 Kallio Vastaanottokeskus clients /UN] **Jon Paludan** /Denmark/Germany,

Left Hooks Collective [TuoMás O Menos, Mika El Brunila, Miika Og, Perttu Iso-Markku, Jiri Sironen, /all Finland],

Jon Irigoyen /Basque/Finland,

Silver Lining Creation ry [Manoj Bhusal /Nepal, Som Pd. Chaulagai /Nepal, Lawin Khalil Mustafa /Iraqi Kurd/Finland]

Thai Netizen Network [Arthit Suriyawongkul /Thailand]

Distribution of awarded grant

Each invited organiser or group was given a 100€ share of the grant, except Päivi Raivio who received 360€ share for co-organising the Refugee Hospitality Club workshop at Kallio Vastaanottokeskus with myself, Thai Netizen Network raised their own funds, while Kultivator Wedding Guests and Katalyytti-clips group volunteered their time.

The majority of the Helsinki event curators were offered 100€ towards publicity costs, or hospitalities. A good proportion of them took up this opportunity to make posters, flyers, badges, banners or purchase food and drinks. Not all amounts were fulfilled, and surplus funds supported Andrew Paterson's costs in organising the Thai based events in December 2010.

Detailed account of 2010 Programme

Single Screening Events in Helsinki

In January 2010, Clip Kino project in Helsinki received its first sustained funding to produce events, via the Finnish Arts Council's multi-cultural arts fund, since the project began in 2008. As grant applicant, I proposed to re-start and support a new regular programme of Clip Kino events in Helsinki over the year, and explore further facilitation, supporting individuals and groups from different cultural and sub-cultural backgrounds to curate audiovisual content that they find interesting and online. Furthermore, different connections and associations of the hosting organisation or venue (as in the case of Ptarmigan, Kallio Reception Centre, Happi Youth Activity Centre¹) influenced the choice of 'guest-host' screening curators, brought in different agendas to the platform.

The first scheduled event in March 2010, as part of the 'Herbologies/Foraging Networks' programme in Pixelache Festival², Nina Nordström and I curated an event at Ptarmigan on the subject of 'foraging': finding wild food in the country-side, and dumpster-divers in the city context. Professional and amateur documentaries of these subcultures shown in this event preluded discussion in a seminar in the Festival the week following, and Clip Kino served as an occasion for Nina Nordström to share her documentary, enthusiasm, and curiosity related to her own experience of dumpster-diving in the context of other clips.

In April, Ptarmigan's London-based artists-in-residence, Model Court, showed video-clip extracts of legal-themed movies, which inspired their practice of documenting and engaging with real-life court representations³. Model Court had often presented their work in the format of clips, and their experience and approach elicited an extended discussion about the context: how court proceedings and legal law is represented in film, with the background awareness that video materials from real-life courts are rarely made publicly accessible. From my perspective, Model Court's event fitted easily into their usual contemporary art practice and communications, to the point that the Clip Kino framework could be interpreted as a familiar curatorial framework or relation to negotiate.

Following in May, Sari Kivinen, an Finnish performance artist raised in Australia, currently living in Helsinki, explored in her Clip Kino event the theme of identity construction, imitation and 'copies of copies'. She shared an eclectically broad range of clips from soldiers dancing like Michael Jackson to art-performace Britney Spear parodies; from real-life journalism on 'Dog Girl' to Judith Butler's feminist critique of performance. She made an audio-visual thesis related to her own performance art practice, supported by her own investigations as a Performance Art master at the Finnish Theatre Academy. It turned out also to be her birthday party gathering, with friends turning up with cake and celebrations.

In the summer months, Pispala Cultural Association from Tampere organised and curated a Clip Kino event, themed on representations of the Boreal Forest. This selection included popular Hollywood film clips, activist promotions, machinima and even forest-workers' own recordings of their actions using forest industry machinery. This 'Forest 2.0' event uniquely had a jury invited to give comments and feedback to the selections, encouraging or sparking other comments from the audience. The process of selecting, and one machinima-clip in particular, became an inspiration for the organisation's 'SecondForest' project, a SecondLife model of a Finnish forest, and a virtual setting for South-Asian migrant labour berry-picking discussions.

Meanwhile, following onwards in August, Batsirai Chivanga, originally from Zimbabwe, but in recent years media researcher and doctoral student of Aalto TaiK, presented mobile video clips related to an EU-funded research media literacy project he coordinated called 'Mobileap', and also presented immigrant story clips that can be downloaded in mobile format from the 'www.digi-tales.org' platform.

The last three events in Helsinki during autumn took place in two new venues for Clip Kino:

Helsinki-based Left Hooks collective, who organise regular club events based on new cross-cultural and politically-themed music blog Multitunes⁴, made a screening event to prelude their DJ event at Club Mascot, Hakaniemi, with the theme "music as a tool for resistance". They opened the nomination process of clips to their Facebook fan page, and other members of the collective. The resultant selection included a mix of activist documentary of concerts, mashups, politically-conscious music videos, as well as choreographed labour rights actions in Californian hotels in tune with Lady Gaga.

Jon Irigoyen, artist and curator originally from Basque country and Barcelona, now resident in Helsinki, made his second Clip Kino event (following his 2009 event) following his multi-voiced and visual essays into subcultural natural-technological realities. While the first event in 2009 covered the subject of Cyberpunk⁵, his second event in Autumn 2010 that took place in Arkadia International Bookshop, Töölö, covered a subcultural perspective view on Shamanism. His videos ranged from traditional performance, quantum physics, psycho-chemistry, art and religion.

The last Helsinki event of the year took place also in Arkadia, hosted by non-profit organisation Silver Lining Creation ry, based in Jarvenpää and Helsinki, with title "Films by the people, for the people". As a social media organisation, they consist of mostly immigrant independent documentary makers, script writers, activists and students, focusing on Global South development issues. They introduced their activities, including their then new online TV channel⁶, and showed not only some of their own clips, but also others within their network which inspire them, from Pakistan, Tanzania, Nepal, and Bangladesh.

Workshop processes

The multi-cultural agenda of supporting many points of view, was also applied in two workshop processes in Helsinki during 2010, one in a youth centre with teenage Finnish guys, some of whom were of mixed background, and another with asylum-seeking residents of an inner-city refugee reception centre.

The first process was a three month workshop and screening series called Katalyytti-clips, which explored media culture online with 8 Finnish older-teenage guys, as seen and found in video-sharing websites⁷. My objective and ambition in this work with Nuorten Toimintakeskus Happi (Happi Youth Activity Centre), as a paid freelance youth worker, was to find video cultures that could catalyst and spark new youth media programmes and workshops. This process followed a similar path to the 'Seeders N Leechers' workshop in New York, 2008. However, it focused searches and sharing of mash-up clips, animations, machinima-clips, and those related to pirate and copy-culture. Two events resulted from the workshop at the youth centre: One screening event called Hapen Hevijamit (Happi's Heavy Jam) took place on initiative of one of the group, Antti Ranta, who was organising a live music event at the Centre. In the interludes between young heavy/black metal bands from Helsinki region playing on stage, video-clips were shown in a seating area, literally, 'on the side' of the event. The videoclips were chosen to represent the young emerging musicians' idols and musical heroes, for example Raised Fist, Suffocation, Morbid Angel, Children of Bodom, Stam1na and such like. The second 'Katalyytti-clips' event selected favourite content found in workshop sessions, content generically popular with teenagers, including mash-ups, absurd humour, flash- and extreme- loops, 'films-in-5-seconds' genres, and so on. With a huge pizza order, and a visiting teenage group to the youth centre from Tallinn, Estonia, the second 'Katalyytti-clips' event became cross-national exchange of appreciations, enthusiasms and 'one-up-manship' on the worst music video ever.

The second workshop took place over a shorter period of one week, in Helsinki's Kallio neighbourhood-based Refugee Reception centre, where mostly men in their 20s were housed before their Finnish asylum or refuge applications were processed; and before being moved to another municipality in Finland or another country. Unfortunately there has been negative mainstream press on the topic, but the conditions are not as bad as in some other parts of Europe. Special in the Finnish context, over the past year and half there has been an loose volunteer network in Helsinki, facilitated via Facebook, called 'Refugee Hospitality Club'8. This 'club' offers occasional activities and goods to residents in the inner-city refugee reception centres. Myself and friend Päivi Raivio are both members. We offered a Clip Kino workshop and screening event as a social activity offered by the Club to the residents during start of October 2010. The staff agreed with our small-scale ambition to spend time in local library with residents looking up videos, making an internal screening event which was for entertainment sake, and maybe a public event, showing the choices to other members to those following posts on the Refugee Hospitality Club and Clip Kino webpages. Attending three times in the week to the local library, we met 13 men resident in the centre, who came variously from Kurdish Iraq and Iran, Afghanistan, Senegal, Gambia, Somalia, Russia and Kosovo. Some only turned up once, and a few over more than one session. They shared with us ,and each other, a selection of music (traditional, pop, ethic and global), museum memories and postcard videos from homelands; or funny sketch clips such as Laurel and Hardy, sleepybut-fierce 'babushka' or fighting stick men. We got the impression that the group we met enjoyed the time watching music videos and showing them off to their friends. Despite our communication limitations between us (english was the working language, although residents spoke and shared among themselves in other languages), we managed to share laughs and appreciation of the choices.

International developments

Upon invitation to the Swedish artist-farmer group Kultivator's 'Wedding Between Art & Agriculture' event⁹, I proposed to offer a 'wedding gift' of a Clip Kino event, inviting international guests (artists and curators from Nordic & further locations) to suggest 'engagement videos' between the subjects of art and agriculture. These were offered remotely by email in advance and downloaded to a laptop. The venue was end of a cow shed that had been transformed into the party venue for the one night of wedding ceremonies. The audience watched videos, art projects and cartoons laying in the piles of straw, with a laptop and projector beam through the dust onto the barn side wall.

The private apartment event in Neukölln, Berlin, coincided with the launch of a art-games research/residency platform initiated by Danish artist Jon Paludan. Under the name 'Play with them'¹⁰, he invited Clip Kino (and myself, Andrew) to be a collaborator in the process. Paludan made the inaugural event, selecting examples of video clips which explored the theme of online and offline game-play, and notions of public and private activity. Hosting a public event in a private apartment added to the complexity of the event, and was followed by interactive 'Wii' gaming by the audience after the screening.

Clip Kino Thailand remote development process began already in August, but was initiated with events in person in December 2010¹¹. As an alternative to contacting Thai groups in Helsinki, it seemed important to start the process of engaging with pertinent issues in Thailand. In collaboration with Arthit Suriyawongkul of Thai Netizen Network (advocacy group against net censorship in Thailand), based in Bangkok, and Michel Bauwens of P2P Foundation (research impact of peer-to-peer technology and thought in society), based in Chiang Mai, a new branch of Clip Kino was developed outside of Finland in Thailand. Thai language translations & links were added to the english and finnish already existing on the main Clip Kino webpage (www.clipkino.info).

Using other supporting funds raised separately from Aalto TaiK, I (Andrew) travelled to Thailand in December to support the initiative, presented an initial awareness-raising event in filmSPACE venue of Chiang Mai University, and Suriyawongkul organised a second event in collaboration with The Reading Room space in Bangkok. This event began with an extended panel discussion on the topics related to online media: accessibility and distribution issue, the question of public/private nature of these media, censorship/self-censorship issue in contemporary social and cultural context of Thailand¹². Several participants were invited to bring video clips with them to share and discuss with one another, which included visual evident of shootings from April 2009 during the democracy protests, as well as more light-hearted remix and mashup videos.

Project sustainability

Beyond these narratives described above, pragmatically-speaking, the multi-cultural award gave sustainability to the project throughout the duration of 2010. It gave some minimal amount of financial support remunerating my (Andrew) time facilitating others to organise events (360€ per month). It offered also a modest fee for 'guest-host' curators of Clip Kino events (100€ per event), and a small budget per event to print flyers, or posters publicising when and where appropriate (up to or on occasions over 100€). Importantly in the background of events, it supported the extra time necessary to work with groups of people who were not part of my own social/professional network, and facillitate presenting their choices and selections from the audio-visual Internet to a public of some sorts. Gradually over the year we have used social networking sites Facebook (facebook.com/clipkino) since April 2010, and Twitter (@ClipKinoFI) since November, to accumulate a list of people who followed the event info. The ubiquitous usage of Facebook for organising events in Finland is undoubted, but the it's effectiveness for people on seats is still open to question.

However, the continuity of practice has successfully supported the negotiation of new venue options in Helsinki. New sites emerging later in the year were a bar-club (Cafe Mascot, supporting left-field live music) and a second-hand bookshop (Arkadia International Bookshop, presenting various presentation and performance events). In the future, when Clip Kino events are planned, and potential guest-curators are consulted in Helsinki, it is possible as a facilitator to offer a variety of Clip Kino -friendly venues, which have different profiles of attendees, audiences and publicity.

The project was also recognised as a significant artist-activist contribution to research about online video, with the publishing of my essay on the development of Clip Kino in Finland, within the 'Video Vortex Reader II: Moving Image beyond YouTube', published by the Institute of Network Cultures, Amsterdam in March 2011. Furthermore, locally Juhana Lindström made an interview and short article for Ruotuväki magazine, and Thai Netizen Network, who organised the Clip Kino Bangkok event in December 2010, published a transcription of their multi-voiced discussion event on public and private media which went into critical depth on the local media and government censorship issues currently in Thailand.

Future Activity

There have been several individuals in other locations than Thailand who have expressed interested in organising Clip Kino events: In Turku (Åbo), where another facilitator-producer (other than myself) proposed in December to initiate a Clip Kino programme with cultural management students. Related to my own networks, newly established cultural venue Ptarmigan Eesti in Tallinn¹³, and IdejuTalka/DoTalk project in Riga¹⁴ have also expressed interest. Although these initiatives have not yet began, as an organically-developed, open and evolving project, I have been waiting and hoping for such 'forking' of Clip Kino activity to happen.

Reflections on Multiculturalism

The topic of multiculturalism, for myself (Andrew), as a Scottish resident of Helsinki, Finland, is understood holistically: I hold several identities that are interchangeable (Scottish, from a particular region, British, European, EU immigrant to Finland). Although I originate from a particular set of cultures that has contributed strongly to global culture, and international english language hegemony, I am aware that in Helsinki, Finland, this has been to my advantage, rather than disadvantage. As an immigrant artist from these identities mentioned, associated with different higher education institutions and cultural associations, I am rather privileged, although I am still handicapped with poor local (Finnish) language ability. Despite this, in facilitating and developing a multi-cultural Clip Kino programme, I aimed and hoped to acknowledge the many multiple cultures at different levels which exist, and may be represented via audio-visual video-clips: Mainstream and sub- cultures, political and developmental cultures, ethnic and language cultures, practice and research cultures, global and migrant cultures, indigenous and transitory cultures.

- Andrew Gryf Paterson, 06.4.2011.

[This report was made originally as requirement for grant awarded by Finnish Arts Council / *Taiteen Keskustoimkunta*: 2010 grants for promoting multiculturalism, application #2009/797/1711]

Schedule of events

Further info for each event: http://clipkino.info/archive.html/

Clip Kino Helsinki Archive [2010]

Torstai/Thursday 17.03. klo 19.00-21.00, Ptarmigan, Nilsiänkatu 10 Nina Nordström (FI) and Andrew Paterson (SCO/FI) presents.. Foraging!

Keskiviikko/Wednesday 07.04. klo 19.00-21.00, Ptarmigan, Nilsiänkatu 10 Model Court (DK/JO/IT/UK) presents..

Keskiviikko/Wednesday 19.05. klo 19.00-21.00, Ptarmigan, Nilsiänkatu 10 Sari Kivinen (AU/FI) presents.. Copies of Copies

Perjantai/Friday 04.06. klo 17.00-21.00, Alakerta (1.kr), Happi, Sörnäisten rantatie 31 Katalyytti-clips (FI) presents.. Hapen Hevijamit Mix

Maanantai/Monday 07.06. klo 18.00-20.00, Narri (3.kr), Happi, Sörnäisten rantatie 31 Katalyytti-clips (FI) presents.. Selections, Reflections & Projections

Keskiviikko/Wednesday 28.07. klo 19.00-22.00, Ptarmigan, Nilsiänkatu 10, Helsinki Pispalan nykytaiteen keskus (FI) presents.. Forest 2.0

Keskiviikko/Wednesday 18.08. klo 19.00-22.00, Ptarmigan, Nilsiänkatu 10, Helsinki Batsirai Chivhanga (Zimbabwe) presents.. Rediscovering the Art of Digital Storytelling

Keskiviikko/Wednesday 13.10. at 18.00-20.00, Kallion Kirjasto (Satulinna, 3kr), Helsinki Refugee Hospitality Club (UN/FI) presents.. Kallio Reception Centre Selections

Perjantai/Friday 15.10. at 20.00-20.00, Cafe Mascot, Nerljäs Linja 2, Helsinki Left Hooks Collective (FI) presents.. Music as a tool of resistance

Torstai/Thursday 28.10. klo 18.00-, Arkadia Int. Bookshop, Pohj. Hesperiankatu 9, Helsinki Jon Irigoyen (ES/FI) presents.. Shamanism in our global society

Maanantai/Monday 29.11. klo 18.00-, Arkadia Int. Bookshop, Pohj. Hesperiankatu 9, Helsinki Silver Lining Creation ry (FI) presents.. Films by the people, for the People

Clip Kino Helsinki Outside Finland Archive [2010]

Lördag/Saturday 24.07. kl 21.00, Kultivator, Dyestad, Öland, Sweden Kultivator wedding guests (UN/SE) presents.. Engagement videos between Art and Agriculture

Freitag/Friday 08.10. at 19.00-21.00, Fuldestr. apartment, Neukölln-Berlin, Germany Jon Paludan (DK) presents.. Public and Private Play

Clip Kino Thailand Archive [2010]

วันเสาร์ที่/Sat. 11.12. 15.30-18.30 น, filmSPACE, CMU, 239 Nimmanhemin Rd., Chiang Mai Andrew Gryf Paterson (SCO/FI) presents.. Selections from Finland

าันเสาร์ที่/Sat. 18.12. 16.00-20.00 น, The Reading Room, 2 Silom Soi 19, Bangkok Clip Kino Bangkok (TH) presents.. Talk and Screening

Clip Kino Selected Event Documentations



Top left: Venue during Kultivator's 'Wedding between Art & Agriculture', Dystad-Öland, SE. Top right: Pispala Cultural Association's 'Forest 2.0' event, Ptarmigan, Helsinki, FI. Middle left: Silver Lining Creations ry. in Arkadia International Bookshop, Helsinki, FI. Middle right: Thai Netizen Network event in The Reading Room, Bangkok, TH. Bottom left & right: End of workshop 'Katalyytti-clips' in Happi Youth Centre, Helsinki, FI.

Clip Kino Selected Posters/Flyer documentations







(I) Clip Kino Thailand screening by

Andrew Gryf Paterson (Scotland / Finland)

Selection of video-clips from Clip Kino Finland, featuring forest clips, music. humour & internet youth culture. Audience is invited to participate. Free entry.

www.facebook.com/clipkinothailand | @ClipKinoTH www.clipkino.info (239 N

filmSPACE ห้องออดิทอเรียม อาคารสื้อศิลปะ และการออกแบบสื้อ (Media Arts and Design) เห มหาวิทยาสบับซียงใหม่ (239 Nimmanhemin Rd.)

This event is supported by a multi-cultural grant from Arts Council Finland & Thai Nelizen Networ Organised in collaboration with The Epundation for P2P Alternatives (www.p2pfoundation.net)



Ke 18.8. klo 19.00 - 22.00
Ptarmigan, Nilsiänkatu 10, Vallila, Helsinki Ilmainen pääsy/free entry
Clip Kino screening curated by
Batsirai Chivhanga (Zimbabwe)

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- 1. Nuorten Toimintakeskus Happi (2009-), Helsinki, http://happi.nettiareena.fi/.
- 2. Herbologies/Foraging Networks in Pixelache Festival, Helsinki, http://www.pixelache.ac/helsinki/herbologies-foraging-networks/.
- 3. Model Court, Artists-in-residence at Ptarmigan, April, 2010. http://www.ptarmigan.fi/artists/7
- 4. Multitunes Project, Helsinki/Copenhagen. http://www.multitunesproject.com/
- 5. Jon Irigoyen, 'Cyberpunk' Clip Kino event, Ptarmigan, 19.11.2009.
- 6. Global South Development TV, http://worldtv.com/gsdtv
- 7. 'Katalyytti-clips' wikipages, Nuorten Toimintakeskus Happi wikpages, Helsinki, http://happi.nettiareena.fi/wiki/index.php/Luokka:Katalyytti-clips.
- 8. Refugee Hospitality Club Facebook page, Helsinki, 2009-, http://www.facebook.com/#!/group.php?gid=104158903532
- 9. Kultivator, 'Wedding between Art and Agriculture' event, 24.7.2010, Dystad, Öland, Sweden, http://kultivator.org/archive/the-wedding-between-art-and-agriculture
- 10. Jon Paladun, 'Play With Them' residency platform, Neukölln-Berlin, Germany, http://playwiththem.info/
- 11. Clip Kino Thailand, Chiang Mai/Bangkok, Thailand, http://clipkino.info/thailand/ | http://facebook.com/clipkinothailand/
- 12. Clip Kino Bangkok transcription of panel discussion, The Reading Room, 18.12.2010, Bangkok, Thailand, PDF available here: http://thainetizen.org/node/2591
- 13. Ptarmigan Eesti, Tallinn, Estonia, http://ptarmigan.ee/
- 14. IdejuTalka/doTalk group in Riga, Latvia, https://www.facebook.com/idejuTalka