

Ella Kiviniemi

PHOTOGRAPHY & FILM

Helsinki, Finland

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Ella Kiviniemi (b. 1991 she/they) is a photographer, film editor and camera assistant. Kiviniemi is about to graduate from the Master's Programme in Photography at Aalto University with a Minor in Film Editing. In still photography, Kiviniemi works both as a photojournalist and a visual artist, working for the press and developing her own documentary autobiographical projects on the side, about topics like mental health and climate change. Kiviniemi has participated in the visual development and photography of a non-fiction climate change book *Hyvän sään aikana* (Calm Before the Storm), published by Into in 2017, that was nationally awarded. Kiviniemi won the Finnish Press Photo of the Year in 2017 and Reportage of the year in 2021. Besides photography, Kiviniemi works as a documentary filmmaker, film editor and assistant camera (1., 2. and 3.) in film and music video productions.

Experience

Visual Journalist, Sound Design

Helsinki, Finland

Jun 2025 - Present

Uusi Juttu

Photographs, illustrations and sound design for long-form storytelling.

Visual Journalist

Helsinki

Jul 2024 - Aug 2024

Helsingin Sanomat

Photographer

Helsinki, Finland

Jun 2023 - Sep 2023

Helsingin Sanomat

1. Assistant Camera

Jan 2023 - Mar 2023

Aamu Film Company

First Assistant Camera / focus puller in Hannaleena Hauru's feature film Parvet, produced by Aamu Film Company.

Photographer

Jun 2021 - Sep 2021

Helsingin Sanomat

Video assistant

Sep 2021 - Oct 2021

Matila Röhr Productions

Video assistant, internship at drama series All the Sins (Kaikki Synnit), season 3.

2nd Assistant Camera, Film Editor, Still
Photographer

Uusimaa, Finland
Oct 2020 - Aug 2024

ELO Film School Finland

Editor, Assistant Camera and Still Photographer in a large number of ELO Film School films, both etudes and graduation films.

Assistant Camera, B-camera operator

Uusimaa, Finland
Oct 2020 - Oct 2020

Karina – 2000 and Eloa Collective (music video)

Assistant Camera in Karina's music video production. Video directed by Joona Möttö coming up in 2021. B-camera operator and still photographer in Eloa collectives upcoming music short film coming up in January 2021.

Cinematographer, Editor, B-cam, Colorist

Uusimaa, Finland
Sep 2019 - May 2020

Game Music Collective

I've made multiple music videos with Finnish game music initiative Game Music Collective for their Youtube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuDY3TdyceBcSCB3c3pp8nA>. I directed, filmed and edited music videos, did VFX and color grade, and worked as a B-camera operator and editor in their larger music video productions and live gig recordings.

Photographer

Helsinki, Finland
Jul 2020 - Sep 2020

Helsingin Sanomat

Photographer at the Finnish national newspaper Helsingin Sanomat.

Photographer, Photo Editor

Helsinki, Finland
Jun 2019 - Sep 2019

Helsingin Sanomat

Photographer and photo editor at the Finnish national newspaper Helsingin Sanomat.

Photographer, Photo Editor,

Helsinki, Finland
Jun 2018 - Aug 2018

Helsingin Sanomat

Photographer and photo editor at the Finnish national newspaper Helsingin Sanomat.

Photographer

Kokkola, Finland
Jun 2017 - Aug 2017

Keskipohjanmaa

Photographer at Keskipohjanmaa newspaper.

Photographer

Keskipohjanmaa

Photographer at Keskipohjanmaa newspaper.

Kokkola, Finland
Jun 2016 - Aug 2016

Photographer

Aamulehti

Photographer at Aamulehti newspaper.

Tampere, Finland
Jul 2015 - Aug 2015

Photographer

Aamulehti

Photographer at Aamulehti newspaper.

Tampere, Finland
Jun 2014 - Aug 2014

Photographer

Aamulehti

Photographer at Aamulehti newspaper.

Tampere, Finland
May 2013 - Aug 2013

Education

Master of Arts

Aalto University

Master's programme in Photography, minor in Film Editing and Documentary Filmmaking.

Helsinki, Finland
Aug 2017 - Present

Photojournalism I & II

Danish School of Media and Journalism

International photojournalism studies (60 ETC in total) in one of the leading photojournalism schools in Europe.

Aarhus, Denmark
Jan 2015 - Present

Bachelor of Social Sciences

University of Tampere

Student in the Photojournalism programme, minor in French.

Tampere, Finland
Sep 2011 - Jun 2017

Grants

Patricia Seppälä Investigative Journalism Grant, 2025

10 000 € for the working group of journalist Jussi Konttinen and photographer Ella Kiviniemi for the realization of a journalistic non-fiction book on the Russian minority in Finland.

Finnish Film Foundation SES, 2024

2000 € for the script writing of Salattu näytös short docuffiction.

Finnish Cultural Foundation SKR, 2024

4000 € for the working on a non fiction book on the making process Antti Rannanjärvi's famous Härmä knives.

Finnfoto ry, 2023

3000 € for the printing costs of the photo book Men with No Mountains by Ella Kiviniemi and Elias Lahtinen

Patricia Seppälä Foundation, 2023

2000 € for the artistic working the photo book Men with No Mountains.

Reportage 2023

Photo series about tropical warm nights in Helsinki was awarded as the reportage of the year 2021.

Press Photo of the Year 2017

Photograph of the frozen winter ptarmigan, also on the cover of the science book Hyvän sään aikana, was awarded the Press Photo of the Year.

Finlandia Prize in Science Literature (nomination)

The book Hyvän sään aikana (Calm Before the Storm) was nominated for Finlandia prize in Science Literature in 2017. Kiviniemi is one of the two photographers and photo editors of the book. The book builds an overview of how climate change changes Finland.

Kanava prize in Science Literature

The book Hyvän sään aikana (Calm Before the Storm) won the Kanava prize in Science Literature in 2017. Kiviniemi is one of the two photographers and photo editors of the book. The book builds an overview of how climate change changes Finland.

College Photographer of the Year, Small Team Multimedia, Silver

The web documentary Evidence, realized by Ella Kiviniemi (FI) and Romina Vinci (IT) won silver in Small Team Multimedia Category in the annual College Photographer of the Year - competition.

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