

Marjo Poutanen

Rainbow Finland – A Colourful Exhibition Process

Rainbow Finland exhibition was held in Vantaa City Museum 11.5. –30.9.2007. The exhibition illustrated the history of sexual and gender diversity in Finland from the 17th century to the present day.

In this presentation I am going to discuss the special characteristics of the exhibition process from the point of view of a museum professional. What was the starting point of this exhibition and what kind of research was used during the process?

I will outline the challenges faced in preparing the exhibition and the script, also from a hands-on point of view. How to build a multifaceted exhibition on a subject of which secrecy is characteristic? What to exhibit if there is no "evidence", a lack of photographs and objects?

Finally I am going to relate what aspects of working with a difficult subject were in some ways easier than in any other exhibition process.

CV

Marjo Poutanen works as a Curator at Vantaa City Museum. She is responsible for exhibitions and public relations. Poutanen started her museum career in Vantaa in 2004. In addition to her current responsibilities she has also worked as a Curator of Education at the Museum. Poutanen has also worked as a copywriter and project manager at an advertising agency. Poutanen has a Masters Degree in History.

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