

**MoMA PRESENTS EIJA-LIISA AHTILA GALLERY INSTALLATION AND RELATED THEATRICAL FEATURE**

**Media Artist's Works Deal with Issues of Alienation and Realms of Fantasy**

***THE WIND***

**October 25, 2006- February 5, 2007**

**The Yoshiko and Akio Morita Gallery, second floor**

***LOVE IS A TREASURE***

**October 25-30, 2006**

**The Roy and Niuta Titus Theaters  
and through February 5, 2007**

**NEW YORK, October 12, 2006**—The Museum of Modern Art presents two related moving image works by Eija-Liisa Ahtila (Finnish, b. 1959), a media artist who creates installations and films that deal with issues of alienation and realms of fantasy. MoMA's presentation of her three-screen installation *The Wind*, in The Yoshiko and Akio Morita Gallery from October 25, 2006 to February 5, 2007, is the first exhibition of Ahtila's media work in a New York museum. The 14-minute *The Wind* is adapted from her 35mm feature-length film *Love Is a Treasure* (2002), which will have a one-week theatrical run in The Roy and Niuta Titus Theaters from October 25 through 30. Both the gallery exhibition and the screening are organized by Laurence Kardish, Senior Curator, Department of Film and Cara Starke, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Media.

Occupying the intersecting realms of film, video, and installation art, Ahtila creates works that explore the intriguing landscape between actuality and fantasy. The two works on view investigate the emotional anxieties and uncertainties of women who, under emotional stress, perceive their environments as alien.

In *The Wind*, a three-screen broken narrative adaptation of a portion of *Love Is a Treasure*, a woman whose depression liberates her from reality invites a strong wind into her apartment to mirror the interior chaos she experiences.

*Love Is a Treasure*, from which *The Wind* is drawn, is based on interviews with women whose psychosis has fractured them from reality. The film depicts the imagined, fantastic, and dangerous world envisioned by women whose perceptions have been distorted by strong emotions.

**ABOUT THE ARTIST**

Eija-Liisa Ahtila is a visual artist and filmmaker who produces photographs and video or film installations that fill and subvert gallery spaces. She studied film at the London College of Printing (Film and Video Department), the American Film Institute, and UCLA and lives and works in Helsinki. Shooting most of her work in Super 16mm and then

blowing it up to 35mm, she combines the objectivity of a documentary maker with the imaginary visualization of a psychologist. Details of daily living and evidence of states of mind are drawn together in her projects. She is the recipient of the 2006 Artes Mundi prize.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE FOLLOWING PRESS EVENTS:**

**Thursday, October 12**

**10:00 a.m.**                    ***Love is a Treasure* (55 min.)**  
**The Roy and Niuta Titus 2 Theater**

**Wednesday, October 25**

**9:30-10:30 a.m.**        **Preview of *The Wind* (14 min., looped)**  
**The Yoshiko and Akio Morita Gallery, second floor**  
**(Artist present)**

**10:30 a.m.**                    ***Love is a Treasure* (55 min.)**  
**The Roy and Niuta Titus 2 Theater**

**No. 103**

**Press Contact:**            Paul Power, (212) 708-9847, or [paul\\_power@moma.org](mailto:paul_power@moma.org)

For downloadable images, please visit [www.moma.org/press](http://www.moma.org/press)  
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**Public Information:**

**The Museum of Modern Art**, 11 West 53rd Street, New York, NY 10019

**Hours:**                        Wednesday through Monday: 10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Friday: 10:30 a.m. –8:00 p.m.  
Closed Tuesday

**Museum Admission:**    \$20 adults; \$16 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; \$12 full-time students with current I.D. Free, members and children 16 and under. (Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs)

**Film Admission:**         Target Free Friday Nights 4:00 p.m. –8:00 p.m.  
\$10 adults; \$8 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D. \$6 full-time students with current I.D. (For admittance to film programs only)

**Subway:**                     E or V train to Fifth Avenue/53rd Street

**Bus:**                            On Fifth Avenue, take the M1, M2, M3, M4, or M5 to 53rd Street. On Sixth Avenue, take the M5, M6, or M7 to 53rd Street. Or take the M57 and M50 crosstown buses on 57th and 50th Streets.

The public may call (212) 708-9400 for detailed Museum information. Visit us at [www.moma.org](http://www.moma.org)

**LOVE IS A TREASURE**

**SCREENING SCHEDULE**

**Wednesday, October 25**

**6:00** *Rakkaus on aarre (Love Is a Treasure)*. 2002. Finland. Written and directed by Eija-Liisa Ahtila. With Amira Khalifa, Ulrikka Koskela, Marjaana Kuusniemi. Ahtila portrays the marvelous intersection of fantasy and reality in the lives of five women who slip in and out of the here and now. In Finnish, English subtitles. 55 min.

*Acquired through a generous grant from Harvey S. Shipley Miller and The Judith Rothschild Foundation.*

Also screening:

Wednesday, October 25, 7:30  
Thursday, October 26, 8:00  
Friday, October 27, 5:30  
Saturday, October 28, 8:30  
Sunday, October 29, 6:00  
Monday, October 30, 8:30

Single screenings of the film will also take place at various locations throughout the Museum in November, December, and January, for the duration of the gallery exhibition.

***The Wind***

Written and directed by Eija-Liisa Ahtila  
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