

Jaanus Samma

education

2005–2009 Estonian Academy of Arts, MA Fine Art
2007 University Paris 8 Saint-Denis
2006 École Supérieure des Arts et des Industries Graphiques, Paris
2001–2005 Estonian Academy of Arts, BA Graphic Arts

solo exhibitions

2026
Kolga elajad / Creatures of Kolga, Temnikova & Kasela, Tallinn - upcoming

2024
Elisarion, with Elisar von Kupffer, Kumu Art Museum, Tallinn

2023
Iron Man, Contemporary Art Museum of Estonia, Tallinn

2022
Still Lives on National Motives, Estonian Museum of Applied Art and Design, Tallinn

2021
Otherness, Desire, the Vernacular, with Carlos Motta, Temnikova & Kasela, Tallinn
Museum Display, CFAlive, Milan
Pattern, Tartu Art House
Folklore, Robert Grunenberg, Berlin

2018
Outhouse by the Church, curated by Eugenio Viola, Nomias Foundation
Messages, The Aine Art Museum, Tornio

2017–2018
Dialogue. Mare Vint and Jaanus Samma, curated by Anu Allas, KUMU Art Museum, Tallinn

2017
[Divider](#), Temnikova & Kasela, Tallinn

2016
Three Works at a Canteen, ex-canteen factory Kalibr, Minsk
Not Suitable For Work. A Chairman's Tale, Museum of Occupations, Tallinn

2015
Unrest, Gotlands Konstmuseum, Gotland
NSFW. A Chairman's Tale, Estonian pavillion at the 56th Venice Biennale

2014
The Hair Sucks Sweater Shop, Tallinn Art Hall Gallery

2013
Chairman. The Opera, Kunstraum B, Kiel

2011
AAFAGC (Applied Art for a Gay Club), März project space, Tallinn

2009
In a Park, Draakoni Gallery, Tallinn

2008
War, Vaal Gallery, Tallinn

2005
Swimming-pool, EKA Gallery, Tallinn

selected group exhibitions

2025-2026

Spiegel im Spiegel. Encounters Between Estonian and German Art from Lucas Cranach to Arvo Pärt, Kumu Art Museum, Tallinn

Utopia. The Right to Hope, Curated by Andreas Beitin, Sebastian Mühl, Dino Steinhof, Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Germany (forthcoming)

The Tree of the World, Curated by Eugenio Viola, 24th Paiz Art Biennial, Guatemala

2025

Spiegel im Spiegel. Encounters Between Estonian and German Art from Lucas Cranach to Arvo Pärt, Die Kunsthalle im Lipsiusbau, Dresden State Art Collections, Dresden

Utopias of the present, together with Maciej Nowacki, curated by Romuald Demidenko, Krupa Art Foundation, Wrocław, Poland

2024

BWA Warszawa — GOSSIPMONGERS, Warsaw

Still Lives of National Motives, Estonian National Museum, Tartu

As Though We Hid the Sun in a Sea of Stories, HKW, Berlin

2023

Biennial of Textile Art (BAT), Santiago

Ljubljana Biennale of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana

Kaunas Biennale, Kaunas

Survival Kit, Latvian Centre of Contemporary Art, Riga

Momentum 12: Together as to Gather, gallery F15, Moss, Norway

Art in the Age of the Anthropocene, Kumu Art Museum, Tallinn

In loving hands, Combining the Past and the future, Vana-voromaa kultuurikoda, Voru

IMAGINE 10 Unrealized Projects, Robert Grunenberg, Berlin

2022

The Latvian Collection, Malmö Art Museum

Growing Out? Growing Up? Contemporary Art Collecting in the Baltics, Zuzeum Art Centre, Riga

Statecraft, National Museum of Contemporary Art, Athens

My Bitter Sweet Frankenstein Body, Titanik gallery, Turku

2020

[On Adornments](#), Temnikova & Kasela with Ivan Gallery, Spike Berlin

[Roots and Ruins](#), curated by Rael Artel, Temnikova & Kasela, Tallinn

II Riga International Biennial of Contemporary Art (RIBOCA), Riga

Wunderkammer, Latvian Museum of Photography, Riga

2019

Body Works, curated by Romuald Demidenko and Gosia Golinska, State Art Gallery, Sopot

De stad, de stad, curated by Bas Hendriks, Garage, Rotterdam

[Post Winter Mixtape](#), Temnikova & Kasela, Tallinn

2018

Based on a True Story, MeetFactory, Prague

The State is not a Work of Art, curated by Katerina Gregos, Tallinn Art Hall

There and Back Again, Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma, Helsinki

2017

Queerly Classed, curated by Yevgeniy Fiks and Olga Kopenkina, Franklin Street Works, Connecticut

Dedication, Exploitation & Haute Collaboration, curated by Tobias Kaspar, Silberkuppe, Berlin

Failure/Afterlife, curated by Annika Toots and Merilin Talumaa, Tallinn Photomonth, Telliskivi Creative City, Tallinn

2016

You Talkin' to Me?, curated by Barbara Seiler, Barbara Seiler Gallery, Zürich

Conservatism and Liberalism, Sculpture Quadrennial Riga

Masters Peasants Peasants Masters, BWA Sokól, Nowy Sącz

Kunstnerbøger – Vildt Voksende, Den Frie Centre of Contemporary Art, Copenhagen

Kilometre of Sculpture, curated by Anna Virtanen, Rakvere

2015

XX Mänttä Art Festival

2014

Feeling Queezy?!, Contemporary Art Museum of Estonia, Tallinn

Side Effects II, Ancien Musée de Peinture de Grenoble, Grenoble

Is This The Museum We Wanted?, Tartu Art Museum

2013

Pebbles in the Mouth, Gallery Augusta, Helsinki
Köler Prize 2013 Exhibition of Nominees, Contemporary Art Museum of Estonia, Tallinn
Afterlives of Gardens, KUMU Art Museum, Tallinn

2012

SVEART, St Vincent, Valley d'Aosta
Corporal Punishment, Contemporary Art Museum of Estonia, Tallinn
The Exotic, Tallinn Art Hall

2011

Untold Stories, Tallinn Art Hall

2010

Rauma Biennale Balticum 2010, Rauma

2009

Luleå Art Biennial

2008

Exposition d'Art Contemporain Balte De trop de réalité, Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris
Plaisirs de l'imagination, Château de Tours
Doings or Not, Ljubljana City Museum

2007

14th Tallinn Print Triennial Youth exhibition Seapainters Club, Tallinn
Biennale de la Jeune Création Européenne, Montrouge

2006

Hämarus/Twilight, V&V Gallery, Vienna; GSLI, Florence

books and catalogues

2024

Flow of Patterns. Works of Jaanus Samma, co-published by Lagemik, Tallinn & Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther und Franz König, Köln

2022

Still Life of National Motives, published by Estonian Museum of Applied Art and Design

2018

Outhouse by the Church, published by Mousse Publishing

2017

Artists' Spaces. 16 studio visits, edited by Annika Toots and Merilin Talumaa, published by Estonian Academy of Arts Press

2016

Toilet Posters, published by Officin, Copenhagen

2015

NSFW. A Chairmans's Tale, published by Center for Contemporary Arts Estonia & Sternberg Press

2014

Hair Suck!, published by Lagemik

2013

Köler Prize 2013, edited by Hanno Soans, published by Contemporary Art Museum of Estonia

2010

AAFAGC, Jaanus Samma & Alo Paistik

residencies

2024

The DAAD residency, Berlin

awards and mentions

2022

Visual and Applied Arts Endowment Annual Awards

2016

Kristjan Raud Art Prize

2013

Köler Prize 2013: Grand Prix, Köler Prize 2013 & Public's Choice Award

2012

Tallinn 6th Applied Art Triennial: Prize of the Estonian Artists' Association