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The Didrichsen Art Museum celebrates its 60th anniversary throughout the year

September 1, 2025 will mark the 60th anniversary of the opening of the Didrichsen Art Museum. The museum will be celebrated throughout the year. In addition to the exhibition programme, the anniversary year is full of events and glimpses into the history of the museum.

In 2024, the Didrichsen Art Museum saw an all-time record number of visitors – more than 90 000. The record is a great kick-off to the museum's 60th anniversary year 2025. The anniversary programme will run from January to December. The exhibitions highlight themes that are important to the museum – from artist collaboration and support for the arts to the Didrichsen collection's dialogue with contemporary collections.

On Helsinki Day, 12 June 2025, the Didrichsen Art Museum will celebrate the opening of the exhibition *Didrichsen Art Museum 60 years* and unveil a new artwork in the museum's sculpture park. The name of the artist behind the sculpture is revealed during the ceremony, and the artist will be present at the event. The project, carried out in collaboration with foreign partners, has been years in the making. The goal is to create a landmark for the museum's home island, Kuusisaari, in Helsinki. The work will pay tribute to the museum's founders, Gunnar and Marie-Louise Didrichsen's efforts in support of the arts.

From private collection into a museum

Gunnar (1903–1992) and Marie-Louise (1913–1988) Didrichsen founded the Didrichsen Art Museum in 1965. The couple, who shared a passion for art, built up an important art collection from the 1940s onwards. Their art acquisitions illustrated the couple's evolving taste in art and reflected changes in the art scene. The idea of establishing an art foundation emerged in the 1960s – to ensure the collection's continuity and accessibility. The Didrichsen Art Foundation was established in 1963 and the Didrichsen Art Museum opened two years later.

The exhibition programme features experiences in nature, modernism and sculptural contemporary art

8.2.–1.6.2025 *On the World's Shore – Reidar Särestöniemi 100 years*

On 14 May it will be 100 years since the birth of Reidar Särestöniemi. The spring at the Didrichsen Art Museum will open with a much-anticipated Särestöniemi exhibition, which showcases the artist's work through his special relationship with nature. Särestöniemi identified with animals, lived firmly with the seasonal cycle and supported environmental conservation efforts. The artworks in the exhibition are from the collection of the Didrichsen Art Museum and from Finnish public and private collections.

12.6.–28.9.2025 *Didrichsen Art Museum 60 years*

The summer anniversary exhibition showcases modernism within the Didrichsen Art Museum's collection. The exhibition reflects the central role of international and Finnish modernism in the collection. Represented in the cross-section are artists such as Alexander Calder, Yves Klein, Wassily Kandinsky, Henry Moore, Ahti Lavonen and Helene Schjerfbeck. The works in the collection are accompanied by a selection of art loans from foreign and domestic modern art collections. They are placed in dialogue with Didrichsen's works – the collection is seen as an engaging part of the story of art.

17.10.–25.1.2026 *Pro Arte – Antrei Hartikainen*

Last autumn, the Didrichsen Art Museum awarded the Pro Arte prize for a young artist to master carpenter, designer and artist Antrei Hartikainen (b. 1991). The solo exhibition *Pro Arte – Antrei Hartikainen*, which opens in October 2025 and is included in the award, is part of the anniversary programme. Hartikainen is known for his sculptural wood and glass works.

Stories and conversations

The museum's history will also be explored through lectures, thematic guided tours, podcasts and the museum's social media. The aim is to engage with the public in a diverse way and inspire people to join in the celebration of Didrichsen Art Museum's 60th anniversary.

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Opening hours

Reidar Särestöniemi
8.2.2025–1.6.2025
Tue–Sun 10–18
Mon closed

12.6.2025–25.1.2026
Tue–Sun 11–18
Mon closed

Tickets

16 / 14 / 10 €

Free admission for children under 18

Museum Card

Free admission to the Sculpture Park

Guided tours

Reidar Särestöniemi

8.2.2025–1.6.2025

In Finnish Sat and Sun 1pm and 3pm, Wed 3pm.

In Swedish Sun at 12 noon

In English every first Saturday of the month at 12 noon.

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Exhibitions

7.9.2024–26.1.2025 *Carl-Henning Pedersen*

8.2.–1.6.2025 *On the World's Shore – Reidar Särestöniemi 100 years*

12.6.2025–28.9.2025 *The Didrichsen Art Museum 60 years*

17.10.2025–25.1.2026 *Pro Arte – Antrei Hartikainen*