

ILKKA SUPPANEN
CURRICULUM VITAE

1968 Born in Kotka, Finland
1995 Studio Suppanen Helsinki
2017 Studio Suppanen Milan

Education

1988-1994 Architecture at Technical University of Helsinki
1989-1993 Interior and Furniture Design at University of Art and Design in Helsinki
1994 Gerrit Reitveld Academie in Amsterdam

Selected awards

2024 Ulrica Hydman Vallien Foundation Prize, Sweden
2020 Kaj Franck Design Prize, Finland
2019 ADI Index Award, Italy
2018 Good Design Award, Chicago, USA
2017 Good Design Award, Chicago, USA
2015 Torsten and Wanja Söderberg Prize, Sweden
2015 Finnish Cultural Foundation Prize, Finland
2015 Ilmari Tapiovaara Prize, Finland
2013 Interior Innovation Award, IMM Cologne, Germany
2012 Red Dot Design Award, Best of the Best, Germany
2008 Good Design Award, USA
2008 Fennia Prize, Finland
2006 Bruno Mathsson Award, Sweden
2001 Avotakka Award, Finland
2001 Young Designer of the Year Prize, with Harri Koskinen, Finland
1998 Nominee of Dedalus Prize, nominated by Ettore Sottsass, Italy
1998 Young Designer of the Year, Architektur & Wohnen-prize, awarded by Ingo Maurer, Germany
1998 Finnish National Award for Young Art, Finland
1995 Habitare Prize, 1st Prize at student competition, Alessandro Mendini as jury, Finland

Selected exhibitions

2026 Tusen sjöars glöd, Galleri Glas, Sweden
2026 Solo exhibition Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France
2024 Bruno + 35 Mathsson Prize Winners, Sven-Harrys Konstmuseum, Sweden
2024 Universo Satellite, Triennale Milano, Italy
2019 Points of View, solo exhibition, Gallerie Forsblom, Finland
2017 Solo exhibition Galerie Maria Wettergren, France
2017 Solo exhibition, Maison Louis Carré, France
2016 Solo exhibition, Design Museum Helsinki, Finland
2015 Solo exhibition, Röhsska musseet, Sweden
2013 Èclat, solo exhibition Galerie Maria Wettergren, France
2012 Broken, solo exhibition, Gallerie Forsblom, Finland
2010 Hirameki, Ozone Living Design Center Tokyo, Japan
2008 Hardcore – Contemporary Finnish Design, Finnish Cultural Institute in New York, USA
2006 Ilkka Suppanen + Harri Koskinen exhibition, Design Museum Helsinki, Finland
2005-2007 SAUMA, Washington DC, New York City, Los Angeles, USA
2003 The Q exhibition in Tokyo, Japan

2001 Workspheres, MoMA, USA
2000 Hothouse, Biennale Interieur Kortrijk, Belgium
1998 Modern Finnish Design, Bard Graduate Center, USA
1997 Snowcrash, Milan Design Week, Italy
1992 5th International Exhibition of Architecture, La Biennale Di Venezia, Italy

Represented in

Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
Design Museum, Helsinki, Finland
Indianapolis Museum of Art, USA
MoMA, New York, USA
Nasjonalmuseet, Oslo, Norway
Nationalmuseum, Stockholm, Sweden
Röhsska museet, Gothenburg, Sweden
Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Ilkka Suppanen (b.1968 Finland) is one of the world's best known contemporary Finnish designers. Suppanen studied architecture at the Technical University of Helsinki, Interior and Furniture Design at the University of Art and Design Helsinki, with one year at Gerrit Reitveld Academie in Amsterdam. In 1995 he founded Studio Suppanen in Helsinki. Suppanen's illustrious career was launched at the Snowcrash exhibition in Milan in 1997, the groundbreaking design group widely recognised as the re-inventors of Scandinavian design. The following year Suppanen designed the now iconic Flying Carpet Divan (1998) for Cappellini. Since then, his work has expanded across various sectors including architecture, product- and furniture design, from coin design to radical concepts for the automobile industry, as well as projects for the castless in India and the homeless in Sao Paolo. In recent years, his collaborations with traditional glass craftsmen in Murano Venezia have resulted in the creation of unique glass pieces. Suppanen's work has received numerous international design awards, been exhibited worldwide at institutions such as the Venice Architecture Biennale, MoMA in New York, and are in the permanent collections of museums such as Centre Pompidou in Paris. For this his contribution to the Scandinavian design scene, Suppanen has been awarded two of the largest Nordic design awards: Torsten and Wanja Söderberg Prize (2015), and Kaj Franck Design Prize (2020).

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