

Finland 001/2001/6

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The Finnish artists and the Culture Centre of ANC have had connections through Pand International, for example. The Artists' Association of Finland has decided to join to this cooperation. The Association represents all Finnish visual artists (painters, graphics, sculptors) and is a member of the International Artists Association IAA.

The Finnish artists are aiming at strengthening connections between African and Finnish cultures, and at helping the working connections of artists in southern Africa. As one possible project, we have discussed about equipping a graphic workshop in the ANC Cultural Centre in Dakawa, Tanzania. The workshop could consist - for example - of a graphic press, papers, colours, chemicals etc. In the first years, the Finnish artists could also help the local artists to work with the equipment. An example of this kind of collaboration is the workshop held by Sirkka-Liisa Lonka a year ago, and next autumn in Zimbabwe and Botswana.

Our plans to cooperate with ANC are, of course, preliminary. We wish that we could begin the negotiations about the subject as soon as possible. To the very first, we hope to hear the opinion of ANC in beginning the cooperation, and proposals of the most urgent first steps. The above mentioned graphic workshop is only one possibility, and we are prepared to discuss on any other possible ideas and projects if you see them more acute and suitable.

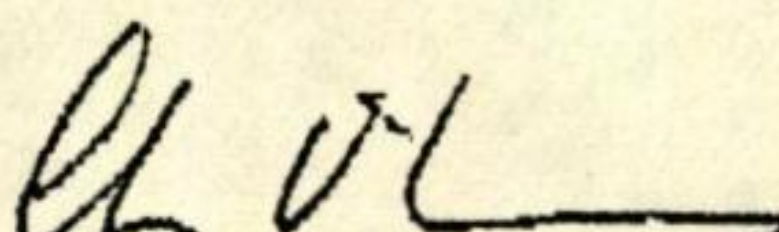
Painter Sirkka-Liisa Lonka is coming to Zimbabwe and Botswana next autumn and we have planned to send a two-three persons group of artists at the same time to, for example, Dakawa or Lusaka in order to discuss further on the cooperation. The Artists Association of Finland is working together with Pand and Peace Education Institute of Finland. We have applied financial funds from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

We wish to begin a good and deepening cooperation with the ANC Department of Arts and Culture, and to hear from you soon. And if everything goes well, to have a negotiation on the project next autumn, possible in October-November.

Helsinki, 9.2.1990

The Artists' Association of Finland

Jarmo Mäkilä
chairman


Esko Vesikansa
secretary general