Len Murusalu. Peregrina

3.07-20.07.2026
FOKU Gallery, Väike-Karja 10, Tallinn

“Peregrina” is an exhibition about being on the journey as a ritual. Inspired by the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, the project follows the act of walking as a repetitive, rhythmic movement that records moments, allowing the landscape to unfold both as an external space and an inner state. In this way, an image begins to emerge of what a person carries with them, what they release along the way, and how the journey shapes the traveller.

Characteristic of Murusalu’s practice, the exhibition brings together memory, the perception of time and repeated documentation, transforming a personal journey into a broader reflection on belonging, impermanence and hope. The journey is not only a state of being on the road, but also a way of noticing the layers of time and making visible the changes that take place both within a person and in the world around them. “Peregrina” combines photographs from the pilgrimage, poetry and the lifelong video installation “Search for the Golden Age”, initiated in 2011.

The first part of the exhibition’s public programme, taking place on 9 July at 18.00, is a discussion on the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela with the Estonian Society of the Friends of St James Way. Dedicated to current and future pilgrims, the meeting will open up pilgrimage as a journey and offer an opportunity to ask practical questions. Those who are still planning their own journey are especially welcome and may find encouragement in the discussion to take the first step.

The second part of the public programme, taking place on 16 July at 18.00, presents Murusalu’s short film “Inherited Memories” (15 min), which premiered in 2019 at Aesthetica Short Film Festival in the United Kingdom. The film serves as an introduction and a kind of compass for Murusalu’s feature-length autobiographical documentary “Third Choice”, currently in development. The screening will be followed by a conversation moderated by anthropologist and documentary filmmaker Terje Toomistu. The conversation will explore the pilgrimage's influence on the forthcoming film and consider the journey as both an inner and a physical movement in today’s climate of war anxiety and uncertainty.

Len Murusalu is an Estonian artist and filmmaker. She holds an MA in Contemporary Art Practice: Moving Image from the Royal College of Art in London and a BA in Fine Arts from the University of East London. Murusalu’s long-term, research-driven projects move between art and documentary, focusing on memory, the perception of time, belonging and marginalised histories. Her works have been presented in exhibitions, screenings and film festivals in Estonia and internationally, including Whitechapel Gallery, Kunsthalle Helsinki, Freies Museum Berlin, the Estonian Contemporary Art Museum, Internationale Kurzfilmtage Oberhausen, Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia and Aesthetica Short Film Festival. In 2018, Murusalu founded the production studio ChronoLens, dedicated to auteur film in both cinema and gallery contexts. She is an alumna of UnionDocs and the Oberhausen Seminar, has served on the board of the Estonian Documentary Guild, co-curated the artists’ film programme of Tallinn Photomonth and created the expanded cinema programme for the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival.

The exhibition is supported by the Estonian Cultural Endowment.

Additional information: https://www.lenmurusalu.com/peregrina/