



LANUPUISTO PARK

The Olavi Lanu sculpture park is located within Kariniemi park, in the midst of nature. As the artist had planned, his works blend into the scenery. This is especially so in summer-time, when the lush greenery of the trees and shrubs covers the sculptures. In winter, the snow-covered sculptures blend into and become part of the surrounding landscape.



Lanu's themes are his pairs of humanoid figures embracing or kissing, or natural forms such as rocks, willows, and twisted trees. The sculptures have gradually developed a coat of moss, which despite their great size makes them blend in very well with their surroundings. The original versions of many of the sculptures were created at the artist's summer residence in Punkaharju. The sculptures were then cast in concrete in a gravel pit in Renkomäki. Lanu was helped in the laborious and physically demanding casting work by students from Lahti Art Institute. Although each piece is an artwork in its own right, the park's sculptures also form a coherent whole.



The works have been placed in the forest as natural elements, making them parts of nature than one can simply come across in wandering through the forest. The grey colour and soft and simplified forms of the sculptures help them to merge with their surroundings. Some have become covered with moss, which was indeed the artist's intention. As environmental art, they meet in their own distinctive way the traditional criteria for public artworks: they remind us of who we are, where we have come here from, and where we belong. The sculptures of Kariniemi forest grove are a popular attraction due to their positivity, inspired details, and warm humour and sensitivity.

LANU-SCULPTURES

A / Willow, 1991

This piece, made for the Venice Biennale, was sculpted from natural materials in their actual size. The surface of the concrete nicely replicates the surface structure of the pines.

B / Pile, 1989

The original work was made with an actual anthill for a summer house in the forest in Punkaharju. Another version of it was exhibited at the Venice Biennale in the 1970s.

C / Stump, 1989

The inspiration for this work was a tree growing on rock. Lanu made the first version in Kaitasuo in Punkaharju.

D / Through a Grey Stone, 1992

The original was made by joining two figures in natural stone. The horizontal parts were the most difficult to cast.

E / Grey January, 1989

The working model for this piece was made by freezing water on top of a fibreglass mould. Flowing water shaped the contours of the sculpture.

F / Logpile, 1990

This sculpture was cast from a fibreglass form that was shaped around logs. If you examine the work closely you can see the saw marks from the logs.

G / Arc, 1991

The inspiration for this sculpture was a bent pinetree in Saimaa that had grown into the shape of an arch.

H / Two Stones, 1990

A fibreglass version of this work was entered in the Venice Biennale in 1978. In the Kariniemi version, however, the hands are placed on the torso to avoid them getting broken off.

I / Large Rock, 1990

This work was made specifically for Kariniemi. The models were Lanu's students from the costume design department of Lahti Art Institute. This is the heaviest sculpture in the park, weighing 37 tonnes.

J / Support, 1991

The original version of this work was made in Punkaharju, with Lanu's first wife as the stone supporting structure. The rock was originally larger than the figures, whereas in the Kariniemi version they are almost the same size.

K / Spiralling tree, 1992

The inspiration for this sculpture was a silver willow in the yard of a neighbour of Lanu's. Several people stood in as models for the new branches.

L / Gentle Stone, 1992

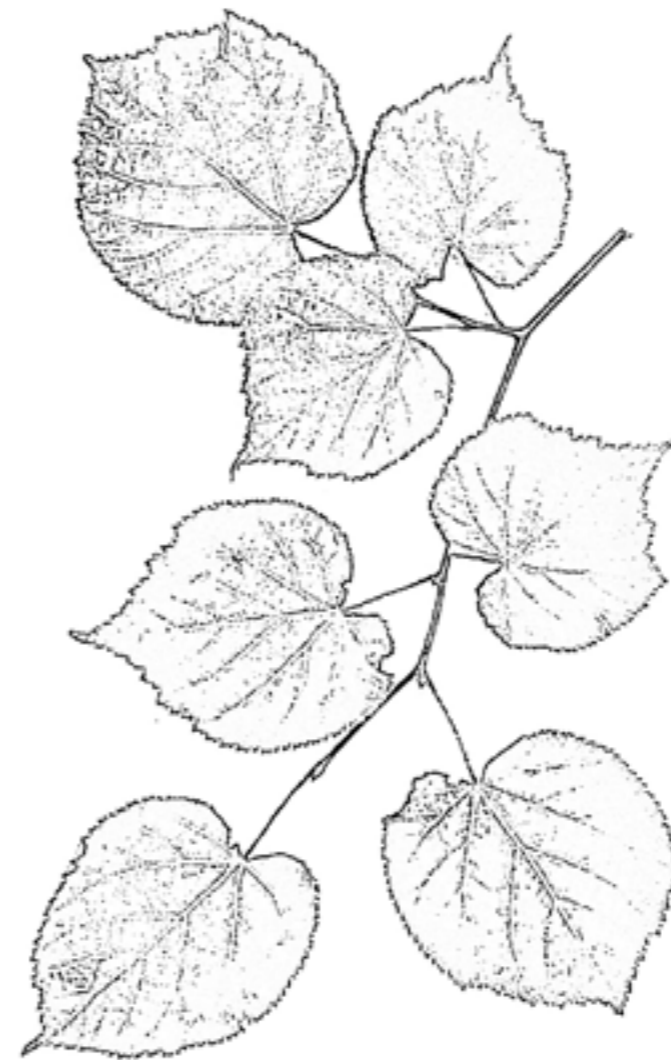
A fibreglass version of this work is on display in an art centre in Louisiana in the United States. It was created as an entry for a sculpture competition.

M / Three figures, 1994

Humanoid figures in stone.

N / Natura morte, 1989

O / On stone, 1994



ARBORETUM & LANUPUISTO PARK



KARINIEMI'S ARBORETUM AND LANUPUISTO PARK

The Kariniemi tree path, with many tree species, consists of the Pikku-Vesijärvi arboretum and the hilly Kariniemi forest grove, with lush vegetation formed from a wide variety of plant species. This is an important recreational area between central Lahti and the shore of Lake Vesijärvi.



Pikku-Vesijärvi is an English-style arboretum that was made in the 1950s on Lahti Manor land. The park has many species of trees, and over the years has become Lahti's most important greenery area. A wide variety of events are held in the park, including the Kariranta summer theatre. The park is also home to the largest water organ in the Nordic countries.



Kariniemi is a hilly wooded area that is mostly open to outdoor activities and recreation. The area has an extensive network of paths, making it easy to get around without harming the surrounding vegetation. The northern slope of Kariniemi hill, and part of the southern slope, have been designated by the local authorities as protected areas. This measure, along with regular upkeep, is intended to preserve this valuable natural environment. Rare plant species also grow elsewhere in the area.

Kariniemi is also of cultural interest, since on top of the hill are several giant sculptures by Olavi Lanu, one of Lahti's most celebrated artists.

KARINIEMI'S ARBORETUM AND LANUUISTO PARK

TREE SPECIES IN THE ARBORETUM

1. *Malus Baccata*, SIBERIAN CRABAPPLE
2. *Acer platanoides*, NORWAY MAPLE
3. *Pinus Sylvestris*, SCOTS PINE
4. *Betula pendula*, SILVER BIRCH
5. *Tilia cordata*, SMALL-LEAVED LIME
6. *Betula pubescens*, DOWNY BIRCH
7. *Abies sibirica*, SIBERIAN FIR
8. *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, DOUGLAS FIR
9. *Larix sibirica*, SIBERIAN LARCH
10. *Prunus padus*, BIRD CHERRY

11. *Tsuga canadensis*, CANADIAN HEMLOCK
12. *Alnus incana*, GREY ALDER
13. *Populus tremula*, ASPEN
14. *Sorbus aucuparia*, ROWAN
15. *Picea abies*, COMMON SPRUCE
16. *Picea engelmannii*, ENGELMANN SPRUCE
17. *Salix caprea*, GOAT WILLOW
18. *Picea omorika*, SERBIAN SPRUCE
19. *Juniperus communis*, JUNIPER
20. *Salix pentandra*, BAY WILLOW

21. *Ulmus glabra*, WYCH ELM
22. *Quercus robur*, COMMON OAK
23. *Larix decidua*, EUROPEAN LARCH
24. *Salix alba* var. 'Sibirica', WHITE WILLOW
25. *Populus 'Rasumowskiana'*, POPLAR 'RASUMOWSKIANA
26. *Aesculus hippocastanum*, HORSE-CHESTNUT
27. *Populus x berolinensis*, BERLIN POPLAR
28. *Picea pungens*, BLUE SPRUCE
29. *Pinus cembra*, SWISS PINE
30. *Quercus rubra*, RED OAK

31. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*, RED ASH
32. *Fraxinus excelsior*, ASH
33. *Populus balsamifera 'Elongata'*, BALSAM POPLAR
34. *Tilia x vulgaris*, COMMON LIMETREE
35. *Picea pungens 'Glauca'*, BLUE SPRUCE
36. *Populus trichocarpa*, BLACK COTTONWOOD
37. *Populus tremula 'Erecta'*, ASPEN 'ERECTA'
38. *Betula pendula* var. *carelica*, CURLY BIRCH
39. *Sorbus intermedia*, SWEDISH WHITEBEAM
40. *Abies balsamea*, BALSAM FIR

41. *Abies concolor*, WHITE FIR
42. *Populus nigra 'Petrowskiana'*, PETROWSKIANA POPLAR
43. *Betula pubescens f. rubra*, RED BIRCH
44. *Pinus peuce*, MACEDONIAN PINE
45. *Alnus glutinosa*, BLACK ALDER

The tree species to be found in each area are marked on the map with numbers. After this outing, you are sure to remember Lahti as the city of trees!

The sculptures by Lanu to be found in Kariniemi forest are marked on the map with letters.

LANU-SCULPTURES

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| A / Willow, 1991 | I / Large Rock, 1990 |
| B / Pile, 1989 | J / Support, 1991 |
| C / Stump, 1989 | K / Spiralling tree, 1992 |
| D / Through a Grey Stone, 1992 | L / Gentle Stone, 1992 |
| E / Grey January, 1989 | M / Three figures, 1994 |
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| G / Arc, 1991 | O / On stone, 1994 |
| H / Two Stones, 1990 | |

Follow the park routes marked on the map, and discover the natural beauty right next to Lahti's central.

