

Mia Makela (SOLU) is finnish media+live cinema artist, teacher, investigator and curator.

Her trajectory has led her from shamanistic studies to art. From art to media art and design. From media art to organization of events and workshops on contemporary digital culture. As part of fiftyfifty.org collective (until 2002), she organized Hacker Techniques workshops, Gameboy Sound Lab and Playtime event amongst other activities.

Since 2001 she has performed live cinema, under the artist name SOLU, around the globe: ARS ELECTRONICA (Linz), SONIC ACTS (Amsterdam), SONAR (Barcelona), TRANSMEDIALE (Berlin), BANFF CENTER (Banff), ZAGREB BIENNALE OF MUSIC, CIMATICS (Brussels), AVIT (Birmingham), MAPPING (Geneve), TRANSIT_MX (Mexico City), Live Cinema Nights (San Jose), Pixelache (Helsinki), BYTEME (Perth), MONKEY TOWN (NYC), STATE OF IMAGE (Arnhem), FESTIVAL POMLADI (Ljubljana), LARM (Stockholm), NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WOMEN IN THE ARTS (Washington D.C) etc. She has collaborated with many experimental musicians including Mia Zabelka, ARBOL, Heidi Mortenson, Dj Rupture and worked with theaters (Conservas, Dani Panullo Dance theater)

Her work has been described as "A dark delirium of images, a disintegrated vision on a complex world - a digital version of William Blake's poetry". Her style ranges from minimal abstractions to multilayered compositions following a dreamlike narrative audiovisual journey. She processes her visual material with MAX/MSP/JITTER, Isadora and Modul8.

She has given lectures and written articles on various themes including live cinema, VJng, robots, audiovisual and digital culture and tactical sound. In 2006 she published her thesis on LIVE CINEMA language and elements, (Media Laboratory, Helsinki University of Art and Design) which gathers her experience on real-time visuals. The following year she edited widely distributed special issue on LIVE CINEMA for a:minima publication. Her latest workshop on live cinema took place in Canada, Mexico, Spain, Germany, Belgium, Holland and Finland.