

## Samuli Naamanka

Born 1969 in Kiiminki, Finland  
Lives and works in Espoo, Finland  
Löylytie 18, 02770, Espoo, Finland  
mail@samulinaamanka.com  
[www.samulinaamanka.com](http://www.samulinaamanka.com)  
Phone + 358 41 5282698



## Bio

Interior architect Samuli Naamanka (born 1969) is known as a versatile designer whose work combines carefully considered vocabulary of form with creative technical innovation. As well as product design and interior design, Naamanka specialises in environmental design. Amongst other things, he has carried out groundbreaking work in the development of concrete products.

The results of this have given rise, for example, to patent inventions for a graphic concrete patterning technology and for colouring concrete in several different colours. One of his most recent development is the seat of the COMPOS chair produced from 100% biodegradable natural composite fibre.

Samuli Naamanka's work includes the prize-winning Clash chair, exhibition designs, environmental works and public works of art. The works contain references to the history, nature and architecture of the places where they are located and symbols of them.

Samuli Naamanka was awarded the 2004 elevation building prize by the Julkisivyhdistys (the Finnish facade foundation) for developing graphic concrete, and the SIO Furniture Designer of the Year prize in 2005. His most recent awards are (Uni Chair) the 2008 Nordiska design prize and EcoDesign 1. Prize at Habitare 2010, the Bio-degradable Roll on lamp shade - judge by Ingo Maurer. He has also given The Arts Council of Finland 5-year artist grant.

## Education

1996 Denmark's Design School  
1993-2000 MA, University of Art and Design Helsinki, Department of Interior Architecture and Furniture Design, Interior architect. Year of graduation 2000.  
1991-1993 Art and Design School of Rovaniemi, Finland, Department of Graphic Design.  
1990 The Liminka school of Art, Liminka, Finland.  
1989 -1992 University of Oulu, Department of Physics.

## Experience

2002-2004 Art Director, Graphic Concrete Ltd.  
1996 Own company Design Office Reseptori Ltd. founded.  
1994 Working in West Finland Design Centre MUOVA, Vaasa

## Innovations and Research

1999-2004 The Graphic Concrete is a special technique for a patterned concrete surface ([www.graphicconcrete.com](http://www.graphicconcrete.com)), Naamanka Patented (EU, USA, Japan, Canada, S-Korea, S-Africa, China and Brasil.)  
2002- Rainbowconcrete (Sateenkaaribetoni), innovative material use for building, a method for coloring concrete, (under way) Naamanka Patented  
2006-2009 Natural Fibers research project for 3 dimensional mould system.

## Co-operation Clients (selection)

Parma Oy, Finland / Walki Wisa Oy / UPM – Kymmene, Finland / Him, Netherlands / Finnsementti Oy, Finland  
Graphic Concrete Oy, Finland **Furniture design** : Arktis Oy, Finland / Habitek, Finland / Po-Korhonen Oy, Finland  
Martela Oy, Finland / Avarte Oy, Finland / Selka Oy, Finland (2005) / Boknäs Oy, Finland (2005) / Parri, Italy (2002-03)  
Piiroinen Oy, Finland / Il Cantiere, Italy / Nikari Oy, Finland / Isku Oy, Finland **Industrial design**: Innojok, Finland / Mifuko, Kenya / Finland / Iittala Oy Ab, Finland / SunSauna Oy, Finland. / Opamuurikka, Finland / Brands scandinavian, Finland / Plastex Oy, Finland / **Textile design**: Svensson Markspelle, Kinna, Sweden / **Graphic design (selection)** : Arktis Oy, Finland / Piiroinen Oy, Finland / The Northern Ostrobothnia museum, Oulu, Finland / City of Helsinki, Helsinki info Jugendsali, Finland / Universities' extension studies, Helsinki, Finland / Concrete Associations of Finland / Fise Oy, Finland.

## Exhibition design

2012 Take Nord Shape Pavilion Triennale Garden Milan, Italy.  
2012 Arktis, Stockholm Furniture Fair, Sweden  
2010 Ecodesign exhibition Habitare, Finland  
2007 Martela by Naamanka and (Stefan) Lindfors in Milano, Gallery Arnaud, Fluori Salone International del Mobile, Milano, Italy.  
2005 Designpartners05 exhibition, the Cable Factory, Helsinki, Finland (Clients: Martela, Parma, Selka-Line and Designpartners05 organization)  
2000 Roots, 450 years of inhabitation in Helsinki, Jugendsali, Helsinki  
1999 Tieteen päivät 99 - Physics. Dreams and Future, Lasipalatsi, Helsinki  
1998 Suomenlinna 250-years old, an island in Helsinki. (with Timo Salli)  
1997 Urban design exhibition of the city of Helsinki, Finland. (with a design group of University of Art and Design Helsinki)  
1995 Ahlström, Package exhibition, Pac-tec-95, Messuhalli, Helsinki, Finland. (with a design group of University of Art and Design Helsinki)

## Spaces architecture and interiors

2013-2014 Architecture: Artistic facade design 5. kimono designs to Senba center, Osaka, Japan (with Ishimoto architects)  
2012 Take Nord Shape Pavilion Triennale Garden Milan (with Sami Rintala, Dagur Eggertson)  
2008 Architecture: Summer house, Pudasjärvi, Finland.  
1998 Interior design: Parfymerie Meini, Helsinki, Finland.  
1998 Architecture: Factory re-building, Tasowheel Oy, Tampere, Finland (with Veikko Hirvonen)  
1996 Interior design: Summer restaurant Kuusisaari, Oulu, Finland (with Kari Kylmänen)

## Public Work

- 2009 Special design: Oulu art museum folding furniture, Oulu, Finland  
2009 Landscape art: Nousukierre, Parking tunnel Stockman, Kalevankatu, Helsinki, Finland  
2007 Landscape art: Laiturit (Jetties), in the area Arabianranta, Helsinki. (With group ARBA: Naamanka, Pesonen, Salonen), 2007  
2004 Landscape art: Muistijäljet (Engrams), in the area Falkulla, Helsinki, Finland (With group ARBA: Kiuru, Naamanka, Berry, Salonen)  
2005- Member of art project 485689 the history of the Hungarian Republic – 1848, 1956, 1989, with Söllösy, Barbara and Pyka, Zsolt, (client: secretary of state office, Hungary) (Project is not yet realized)  
2004 Fine art: Relief, Haapajärvi Comprehensive School, Finland  
2002 Fine art: Staircases, As Oy Helsingin Sini, Helsinki (with Päivi Kiuru)  
1998 Landscape design: Concrete park Pikkuhuopalahti in the city of Helsinki (with a design group of University of Art and Design Helsinki)

## Works in Exhibitions ( selection )

- 2014 Temporary Museum for New Design "Selected Objects" curated by Giulio Cappellini, Superstudio Piú, Milano Italy  
2014 EcoDesign and Upm Grada Triennale di Milano, Italy  
2013 Enduring Beaty, Taliinn, Estonia.  
2013 Meet my Project at Studio Next, Milano, Italy.  
2013 Nordic Cool, The Kenedy Center, Washington DC, Usa.  
2012 Radical Design Week Shanghai, China.  
2012 Sustainable Design from Finland, Venice, Italy and Helsinki, Finland.  
2012 Take Nord Shape, Samuli Naamanka, Sami Rintala, Dagur Eggertsson, Pavilion Triennale Garden Milan .  
2012 5x3 Design Visions: Pentti Hakala, Cecilie Manz, Samuli Naamanka, Fiskars, Finland.  
2011 Finnische Dunkelheit, Berlin, Germany.  
2011 Hirameki Design+Finland, Isetan Shinjuku Store, Tokyo, Japan.  
2011 Cantú meets Helsinki Triennale di Milano, Italy.  
2011 New Finnish design Scenarios, New York, USA.  
2010 Take Nord Shape, Samuli Naamanka, Sami Rintala, Dagur Eggertsson, the Jaroslav Fragner Gallery in Prague.  
2010 Hirameki Design+Finland, Living Design Center OZONE at Shinjyuku Park Tower, Tokyo, Japan  
2009 Take Nord Shape, Samuli Naamanka, Sami Rintala, Dagur Eggertsson, House of Art Brno, Czech Republic.  
2009 Piironen exhibition +Case Gallery 18-23 Oyama-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, Japan.  
2008-2010 Sámi Knife at Inari, Helsinki, St Etienne Design Biennale and Brussles LaFabrika.  
2008 Solo exhibitions Living Design Center OZONE Gallery 1 first floor at Shinjyuku Park Tower, Tokyo, Japan.  
2008 Solo exhibitions in Jyväskylä Alvar Aalto – museum by invitation, Finland.  
2008 Under the tree in Via Tortona 31, Milan 16-21.4 Martela exhibition, Fluori Salone International del Mobile, Milan, Italy.  
2008 Gallery Abitare Creativo c/o Spazio Pasubio, viale Pasubio 14, Milan 16-20.4. Avarte exhibition Fluori Salone International del Mobile, Milan, Italy.  
2007 Martela Design Event, Spiral Hall, Tokyo, Japan  
2007 Samuli Naamanka and Outi Martikainen, Proto ry exhibitons by invitation, Galleria 5, Oulu, Finland.  
2007 Martela by Naamanka and ( Stefan ) Lindfors in Milano, Gallery Arnaud, Fluori Salone International del Mobile, Milan, Italy.  
2006 Re – interpreting Nature, Design Forum Finland, Helsinki, Finland.  
2006 Martela Design Event Tokyo, Finnish Embassy, Tokyo, Japan.  
2005-2008 SAUMA Design as Cultural Interface, Graphic Concrete, Washington, New York, Los Angeles, Usa and Helsinki, Finland.  
2006 -2008 Cool Dozen - chair design and textile prints from Finland, Toronto, Canada, 24.1.- City Hall, Ottawa, Canada, 22.2.-, 2006, Shanghai, China, 9.10.-, 2006. Wuhan, China, Shenzen, China, 2007. Région Haute-Normandie, Rouen, France, 2008.  
2005 World EXPO in Japan, Clash chairs selected for the café in the Nordic pavilion, Japan.  
2005 Finnish design club ambulant, St. Petersburg, Russia.  
2005 Designpartners05 exhibition, the Cable Factory, Helsinki, Finland.  
2005 Inform, Design Forum Finland, Helsinki, Finland.  
2004 Dream Team, Design Forum Finland, Helsinki.  
2000 Pinewood objects, Puun Aika, Fiskars and Sibeliushouse, Lahti, Finland.  
2000 100-designers in Töölölahti, Helsinki.  
2000 Young Forum. Design Forum Finland, Sanomatalo, Helsinki; Glasgow School of Art, Scotland; Alvar Aalto -museum, Jyväskylä; Biennale Internationale de Design, Saint-Etienne, France; Maison de la Culture d'Arlon, Arlon, Belgium; Budapest Gallery, Hungary  
1998 Joint furniture exhibition (Lume-furnitures) in Into galleria, Helsinki.  
1994 Solo fine arts exhibition in Galleria Rannamatala, Oulu, Finland.  
1990-1992 Joint fine arts exhibitions: Art School of Liminka; Galleria Mannerheim, Kokkola; Galleria Rannamatala, Oulu; Pori Galleria, Pori, Finland.

## Grants, awards and scholarships

2009 -2013 The Arts Council of Finland 5-year artist grant.  
2012 A dozen journalists 2012 Habitare Furniture Fair award, ( Sade chair )  
2011 Best Material 2011 at the Material Xperience in Utrecht, The Netherlands. ( Graphic Concrete )  
2010 1. prize. Awarded EcoDesign Prize at Habitare 2010 ( the Biodegradable Roll on lamp shade - judge Ingo Maurer )  
2009 Aarre M Mattien Foundation, ( Graphic Concrete )  
2009 A dozen journalists 2009 Habitare Furniture Fair award, ( Jiella chair )  
2009 The Habitare Collection 2009 by the Finnish Fair Corporation and the Design Museum, ( Graphic Concrete )  
2008 Forum´s 1+award ( Uni chair )  
2008 The Arts Council of Finland  
2007 Finnish Cultural Foundation regional fund of Uusimaa.  
2007 Ornamo Foundation  
2007 Arts Council of Helsinki Metropolitan Region  
2006 Finnish Cultural Foundation  
2006 The Arts Council of Finland - Grants and support for promoting and developing design  
2005 Furniture Designer of the Year, SIO, Finland  
2005 1. prize for talents as a designer, Habitare Furniture Fair award 2005, Finland  
2005 The Arts Council of Finland - Grant and support for promoting and developing design  
2004 1. prize: Grand Prix Mobitex, Czeck ( Clash chair )  
2004 1. prize: ADEX Platinum, USA ( Clash chair )  
2004 The Arts Council of Finland - Grants and support for promoting and developing design  
2004 Finnish Cultural Foundation  
2003 1. prize: FX – international Interior Design Awards, best product for office interiors, England ( Clash chair )  
2003 Scholarship, Karin and Erik Bryggman Fund  
2003 Scholarship, K. and J. Vuorinen Fund ( Graphic Concrete )  
2000 Scholarship, Runar Bäckström Fund ( Graphic Concrete )  
1999 Scholarship, Einar Kahelin Fund ( Graphic Concrete )

## Rewards, competitions

2008 1.prize: Nordic design prize, Stockholm, Sweden, , ( Uni chair )  
2005 Honorary mention: Façade of 2004 in Finland - Graphic Concrete technique, Finland  
2002 1. prize: Idea competition for innovative material use for building, a method for coloring concrete, Finland  
2001 2. prize, Furniture competition 2000, Finnforest Oyj and Lahden Messut Oy, Finland  
1999 Finalist, Habitare-99 Furniture Fair's competition  
1998 3. prize, Wood objects, Puun Aika, Finland  
1997 Finalist, Habitare-97 furniture fair's design competition  
1997 Lahti highways sound barrier competition for students in Helsinki 1997 (With Jani Martikainen) Position in the top  
1995 Idea competition of Oulu airport, shuttle highway area ( With Ari Ylitalo ) Position in the top  
1994 Sound barrier at Vaasa highway ( With Ari Ylitalo ) Position in the top

## Other professional activities ( selection )

2010-2012 Board member - in Finnish Association of Interior Architects Sio  
2007-2008 Design contract member of committee - in Finnish Association of Interior Architects Sio.  
2006-2013 University of Art and Design Helsinki, Furniture design, thesis seminar,examinator, Helsinki,  
2006 University of Oulu, Department of Architecture, lectures, Oulu, Finland  
2006 University of lapland, Department of Industrial Design, Lectures, Rovaniemi, Finland  
2006 Baltic Design & Interior Network, jury member, , Tallin, Estonia  
2006 Lahti Polytechnic Institute of Design., Furniture design, thesis seminar,examinator, Lahti, Finland  
2004-2005 Jury member of committee - Membership in Finnish Association of Interior Architects Sio.  
2005 Karis Adult Training center, cooperation with furniture designers and carpenters, formpressing vaneer mould making, teaching, Karjaa, Finland  
2004 Finnagora, center of Finnish culture, research and business in Hungary, lecture for designers and architects, Budapest, Hungary  
2002-2003 Member of design network project: Conzorzio Casa Toscana, Italy – working with company Parridesign  
2000- Memberships : Finnish Association of Designers, Ornamo Association of Interior Architects, Sio, Ecia, Ifi. Concrete Associations of Finland

## Publications press / selection

**2000:**3\_Betoni / **2001:**2\_Betoni / **2003:** 2\_Betoni / 4\_Tekniikan\_Näköalat / anna\_No39 / ElleDeco\_No68 / Keski\_Keskintösäätiön / **2004:** 3\_Betoni / Octogon / **2005:** 5\_Lakaskultura / 6\_100%\_office / 9\_23\_Helsingin\_Sanommat / 9B\_avotakka / 10\_8\_Washington Post / 12\_md / **2006:** 1\_Forum / Finnish\_Design\_Yearbook / **2007:** / 1\_betoni / 4\_Interni\_No4 / Amc / **2008:** / 2\_21\_Helsingin\_Sanommat / 3\_11\_Keskisuomalainen / 3\_Betoni / 4\_Interni / 11\_1\_Helsingin\_sanomat / 11\_5\_Nikkei\_Marketing\_Journal / 11\_15\_Furniture\_News\_jp / Finnish\_Design\_Yearbook / Interior\_World\_Vol72 / Tokyo\_Designers\_Week / Casa Britus vol4 / Helsingin Sanomat17\_4 / Landskape design vol64 / Kindai Kagu 11 / Real Design 02 / Hokuo Style Winter / 2\_Scandinavian Design / Studiovoice\_1 **2009:** 1\_Rakentavasti / Forum24\_No10 / 3\_Aarre / 3\_Betoni / 4\_17\_Helsingin\_Sanommat / Kamppi\_Eira\_No12 / Töölöläinen\_No14 / ArkitekturM\_vol1 / era5\_09 / 7\_Divaani / vihreä\_lanka\_No36 / Tokyo\_Designers\_Week / 10\_au / 12\_31\_Helsingin\_Sanommat Caras\_Decoracao\_142 / 9\_Eco\_Design / **2010:** 1\_2\_Helsingin\_Sanommat / 1\_15\_Tekniikka&Talous / 1\_md / IdealesHEIM\_April / 3\_art4d / 4\_Deco / ddFREEn\_07 / Suomalaisen\_designin\_uudet\_mielentilat / **2011:**Rajaton Muotoilu / **2012:** 2\_Betoni / 04\_01\_Interni / 04\_01\_Interni\_kingsize / 04\_01\_Ville&Casali / 4\_21\_Helsingin\_Sanommat / 05\_01\_Bravacasa / 05\_01\_Cosecasa / 06\_01\_Interni / 06\_01\_Bravacasa / 06-01\_ddn / 6\_16\_Gioia / 2012\_Triennale / **2013:** 04\_01\_Interni\_Kingsize / Wallpaper /