



Laila Susanna Kuhmunen

Sám:

Laila Susanna Kuhmunen (r. 1978) lea duojár, dáiddár ja universitehtalektor Sámi allaskuvllas Guovdageainnus. Son lea Johkamohkis eret, Ruota bealde Sámis, ja sus leat ruohttasat sihke julevsámi ja davvisámi kultuvrras. Su bearašhistorjá lea ahte sii bággehalle fárret Johkamohkkái measta čuodi jagi dás ovdal, vásáhus mii lea dehálaš oassi su dáidagiin.

Manjil go čađahii guovttejahkásaš duodjeoahpu Sámi oahpahušguovddášis Johkamohkis, de oaččui Kuhmunen mastergráda duojis Sámi allaskuvllas 2019:is. Áigodagas 2020-2022 son barggai dutkanveahkkin Sámi allaskuvllas ovtta professor Gunvor Guttormiin Arctic Indigenous Arts and Design Archives (AIDA) nammasaš dutkanprošeavttas. Prošeavttas suokkardalle ja čohkejedje duojáriid, designeriid ja dáiddáriid persuvnnalaš arkiivaid, ja makkár mearkkašupmi sis lea diehtogáldun.

Kuhmunena dáiddalaš praksisas son bargá sihke árbevirolaš máhtuin ja ođđaáigásaš dáiddalaš ovdanbuktimiin. Materiálaid, mitalusaš, báikkiid ja duddjoma bokte son guorahallá mo diehtu ovdána, rievdá ja gaskkustuvvo olbmuid ja buolvvaid gaskka.

Kuhmuna bargu lea čájehuvvon sihke Sámis ja riikkaidgaskasaččat, earret eará Sámi Dáiddaguovddášis Kárášjogas, Arctic Arts Summit Roavvenjárggas, Sámi Duodji Johkamohkis, Silvermuseet Árjepluovis, TRAFO Kunsthall Askeris ja Luleå biennálas. Son lea maid oassálastán riikkaidgaskasaš čájáhussii Arctic Highway, mii lea čájehuvvon earret eará Washington D.C:as, Kanadas ja USA:s.

Eng:

Laila Susanna Kuhmunen (1978) is a duojár, artist, and university lecturer at Sámi allaskuvla / Sámi University of Applied Sciences in Guovdageaidnu. She comes from Jokkmokk, on the Swedish side of Sápmi, and has roots in both the Lule Sámi and North Sámi cultures. Her family history is marked by the forced relocation to Jokkmokk nearly one hundred years ago, an experience that forms an important part of her artistic inquiries.

After completing a two-year programme in duodji at the Sámi Education Centre in Jokkmokk, Kuhmunen obtained a Master's degree in duodji from Sámi allaskuvla in 2019. Between 2020 and 2022, she worked as a research assistant at Sámi allaskuvla together with Professor of Duodji Gunvor Guttorm on the research project *Arctic Indigenous Arts and Design Archives (AIDA)*. The project focused on collecting and exploring personal archives of duojárat, designers, and artists, and their significance as sources of knowledge.

In her artistic practice, Kuhmunen takes duodji as her point of departure and works at the intersection of traditional knowledge and contemporary artistic expression. Through materials, stories, place, and practical making, she explores how knowledge emerges, changes, and is passed on between people and generations.

Kuhmunen's work has been presented both in Sápmi and internationally, including at the Sámi Center for Contemporary Art in Karasjok, Arctic Arts Summit in Rovaniemi, Sámi Duodji in Jokkmokk, Silvermuseet in Arjeplog, TRAFO Kunsthall in Asker, and the Luleå Biennial. She has also participated in the international touring exhibition *Arctic Highway*, presented in, among other places, Washington, D.C., Canada, and the United States.

Abstract:

Dán barggus guorahalan mo ovttasbargu sáhtta duddjot ja gaskkustit máhtu. Duojit Lydia árbiguoddi ja filbma *From One Woman to Another* lea oassi proseassas mas máhttu johtá nissonolbmuid, buolvvaid ja duodjeárbevieruid gaskka. Bargu hápmašuvai go barga dieđalaš assistentan AIDA-prošeavttas, mas barga dálá duojáriid arkiivamateriálaiguin. Solveig Labba arkiivvas gávden reivestallama ruottelaš dáiddáriin, mas soai movttiidahtiiga goabbat guoimmiska dáiddalaš bargguin. Dát movttiidahtii mu oaidnit ovttasbarggu máhttogaskkusteami vuohkin.

Mun ledjen ovdal juo deaivvadan Pia in oahppin go barga duodjeoahpaheaddjin Johkamohkis. Pia hálidii goarrut iežas gávtti, muhto su veaga duodjeárbevieru lei boatkanan. Mun válden oktavuoda Ingegerd Sjaggoin, guhte gullá seamma duodjeárbevieru go Pia ja Ingegerd šattai dehálaš oassin Pia duodjeoseassas. Seammás guorahallen Pia árbevieru arkiivvaid ja museačoakkáldagaid bokte. Doppe gávden materiála Lydia váinnis, ja gii gusto lei náitalan Piasa ádjá vieljain. Lydia veagas lei duddjon árbevieru doalahuvvon boatkkakeahtáelasin. Materialat Lydia manis šadde dehálaš gáldun Pia ja munnje fas šattai boadusin bázzi *Lydia árbeguoddi*. Filbma govve mo Pia vuosttaš geardde coggá iežas goarrun gávtti Ingegerd Sjaggo bagedettiin, dakkár dilis go ealli diehtu sirdojuvvo buolvvas buvii, ja mo boatkanan diehtu fas gavnada ealli dieđuin. Munnje čájeha bargu movt ovttasbargu sáhtta ráhkadit luottaid máhttosirdimii ja máhcahit máhtu mii lea boatkanan buolvvaid gaskkas.

In this project I explore how collaboration can create and transmit knowledge. The works *Lydia, the Bearer of Heritage*, and the short film *From One Woman to Another* are part of a process in which knowledge moves between women, generations, and duodji traditions. The project took

shape through my work as a research assistant at Sámi University of Applied Sciences, where I worked with archival material from contemporary duojárat among other things. In the archive of the acknowledged duojar Solveig Labba, I discovered a correspondence with a Swedish artist; they had inspired one another through their artistic work. This inspired me to view collaboration as a pathway for the transmission of knowledge.

When I worked as a duodji teacher, I had Pia as a student. She wanted to sew her own gákti, but her family's duodji tradition had been broken. I contacted Ingegerd Sjaggo, who belongs to the same duodji tradition as Pia and became a key part of Pia's duodji process.

At the same time, I began researching Pia's tradition through archives and museum collections. There, I found material belonging to the late Lydia, who turned out to be married to Pia's paternal grandfather's brother. In Lydia's family, the duodji tradition had remained alive and unbroken. The material she left behind became an important resource for Pia, and for me it took the form of the sculpture *Lydia, Bearer of Heritage*. The short film documents the moment Pia dresses in her finished gákti for the first time with Ingegerd Sjaggo's assistance, a moment where knowledge from a living tradition is passed on and a broken chain of knowledge is reconnected. The work explores how collaboration can create pathways for knowledge transfer and reconnect knowledge that has been lost between generations.