



American Resource Center Newsletter
U.S. Embassy Helsinki
August 2016, Issue 6

In the Land of the Finndians on August 11th

Welcome to join us for an evening with the authors of the new book "Fintiaanien mailla" Katja Kettu, Meeri Koutaniemi, and Maria Seppälä. They are accompanied by one of the main characters of the book, Lyz Jaakola, who is an Anishinaabe musician, educator, and tribal member from the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe. Dr. Riku Hämäläinen from [Suomen intiaaniyhdistys](http://suomenintiaaniyhdistys.fi) will open and moderate the event.

Finndian is a term used for the descendants of Native Americans and Finnish migrants. The ARC wrote a column about Finndians and about the new book in Suomi-USA magazine earlier this year, and it is available at http://photos.state.gov/libraries/finland/788/pdfs/sayl_1_2016.pdf.

More information about the event is available at http://photos.state.gov/libraries/finland/788/pdfs/In_the_Land_of_the_Finndians.pdf

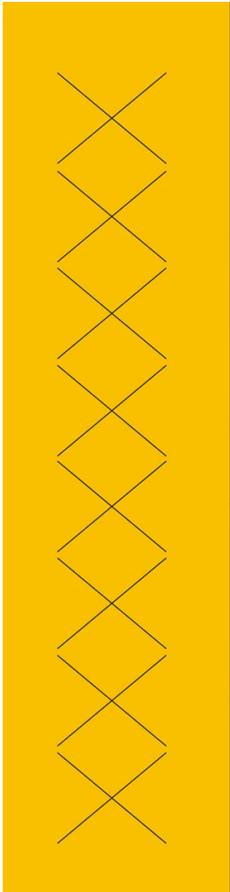
WELCOME!

IN THE LAND OF THE FINNDIANS

WITH AUTHORS KATJA KETTU,
MEERI KOUTANIEMI &
MARIA SEPPÄLÄ,
ANISHINAABE MUSICIAN
LYZ JAAKOLA, AND
DR. RIKU HÄMÄLÄINEN

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 11,
AT 4 PM**

KAISA LIBRARY AUDITORIUM,
FABIANINKATU 30 (7TH FLOOR)



FINTIAANIEN MAILLA

WSOY



WebPicks

collected by the ARC staff

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American Life

'Hamilton' Creator Lin-Manuel Miranda: The Rolling Stone Interview by Mark Binelli. Rolling Stone, June 1, 2016.

"This election is no more bizarre than the one in 1800," says Pulitzer Prize winner. "Jefferson accused Adams of being a hermaphrodite."
<http://www.rollingstone.com/music/features/hamilton-creator-lin-manuel-miranda-the-rolling-stone-interview-20160601>

Is Gentrification Really a Problem? by Kelefa Sanneh. The New Yorker, July 11&18, 2016.

What the American ghetto reveals about the ethics and economics of changing neighborhoods.
<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2016/07/11/is-gentrification-really-a-problem>

Pulp Friction by Alex Shephard, New Republic, June 20, 2016.

If Barnes & Noble goes out of business, it'll be a disaster for book lovers. Barnes & Noble is essential to publishers of literary fiction—the so-called "serious" works that get nominated for Pulitzers and National Book Awards. Without the initial orders Barnes & Noble places, and the visibility its shelves provide, breakout hits by relative unknowns—books like Anthony Doerr's *All the Light We Cannot See* or Emily St. John Mandel's *Station Eleven*—will suffer. <https://newrepublic.com/article/133876/pulp-friction>

Student Debt: Lives On Hold. Consumer Reports, June 28, 2016.

Millions of Americans who went to college seeking a better future now face crushing debt from student loans—while the industry makes a handsome profit. How a broken system landed so many in this mess. <http://www.consumerreports.org/student-loan-debt-crisis/lives-on-hold/>

The Taming of the Wild by David Gessner. The American Scholar, Summer 2016.

As we celebrate the centenary of the National Park Service, a meditation on "the best idea that America ever had."
<https://theamericanscholar.org/the-taming-of-the-wild/#.V3E2fqLW-OY>

Economy & Politics

Basic Income: A Sellout of the American Dream by David H. Freedman. MIT Technology Review, June 13, 2016.

Schemes for giving everyone a guaranteed income are gaining momentum in Silicon Valley and throughout Western Europe. It's a great idea, until you look closely.
<https://www.technologyreview.com/s/601499/basic-income-a-sellout-of-the-american-dream/>

Google's Bold Move to Reinvent Every Device on the Planet by Miguel Helft. Forbes, June 15, 2016.

New CEO Sundar Pichai is a brainy product guy who aims to reinvent the world's second-most-valuable company - and pretty much every digital experience - with a heavy dose of artificial intelligence.
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/miguelhelft/2016/06/15/google-is-about-to-change-everything-again/#1559694b3f1e>

How American Politics Went Insane by Jonathan Rauch. The Atlantic, July/August 2016.

It happened gradually—and until the U.S. figures out how to treat the problem, it will only get worse.
<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2016/07/how-american-politics-went-insane/485570/>

Just How 'Smart' Do You Want Your Blender to Be? by Jacob Silverman, The New York Times Magazine, June 14, 2016.

The intelligence given to these devices really serves twin purposes: information collection and control. Smart devices are constantly collecting information, tracking user habits, trying to anticipate and shape their owners' behaviors and reporting back to the corporate mother ship. Data is our era's most promising extractive resource, and tech companies have found that connecting more people and devices, collecting information on how they interact with one another and then using that information to sell advertising can be enormously profitable.
http://www.nytimes.com/2016/06/19/magazine/just-how-smart-do-you-want-your-blender-to-be.html?_r=0

The 'Right to Be Forgotten' and Other Cyberlaw Cases Go to Court by Robert Levine. Bloomberg Businessweek, June 23, 2016.

From copyright to privacy, courts have become the front line of cyberlaw.
<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-06-23/the-right-to-be-forgotten-and-other-cyberlaw-cases-go-to-court>

Global Challenges

The U.S. is the Chair of the Arctic Council from May 2015 through May 2017. We will be highlighting Arctic issues in the WebPicks through the chairmanship.

Arctic Issue: **From Playboy to Polar Bears: A Fashion Photographer's Journey to Document Climate Science in Northernmost Alaska** by Melissa Wiley. Smithsonian.com, July 28, 2016.

Florencia Mazza Ramsay traveled to Barrow, the northernmost town in the United States, to document life and research on the front lines of climate change.

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/barrow-alaska-northernmost-climate-change-photojournalism-featured-photographer-180959655/#CQvyOh5GmXGTpywi.99>

Health Technology in Emerging Global Epidemics: An African Policy Perspective by Tom Achoki. Georgetown Journal of International Affairs. July 22, 2016

Despite tremendous technological advances in detecting and treating infectious diseases, curbing the global health threat posed by these diseases is increasingly complex. This is particularly worrisome given globalization trends characterized by extensive international trade and travel. In a vastly globalized world, diseases can easily spread through travel and trade routes, affecting populations and economies in other parts of the world. <http://journal.georgetown.edu/health-technology-in-emerging-global-epidemics-an-african-policy-perspective/>

Arctic Issue: **The Obama Administration Just Made Arctic Drilling Hard to Do — But Not Impossible** by Chris Mooney and Brady Dennis.

The Washington Post, July 7, 2016.

The Obama administration finalized rules that will require companies to have strict safety and environmental protection plans in place before they drill for oil or natural gas in the Arctic Ocean.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2016/07/07/the-obama-administration-just-made-arctic-drilling-hard-to-do-but-not-impossible/>

Refugees and the Technology of Exile by David Lepasca. The Wilson Quarterly, Spring 2016.

Apps, real-time translation services, and other online tools are helping Syrians and other refugees in Turkey forge new lives for themselves. <http://wilsonquarterly.com/quarterly/looking-back-moving-forward/refugees-and-the-technology-of-exile/>

The Surprisingly Bright Future of America's Forgotten Renewable Energy Source: Water by Chris Mooney & Brady Dennis.

The Washington Post, July 26, 2016.

We have so many such dams that hydropower last year remained our fourth largest source of electricity overall and our single largest renewable source, providing 6 percent of Americans' electricity. Yet it's rarely talked about and lacks the excitement attached to other renewables.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2016/07/26/the-surprisingly-bright-future-of-americas-overlooked-renewable-energy-source-water/>

International Relations

As Anti-ISIS Forces Close In on Mosul, Coalition Leaders Focus on What's Next by Kevin Baron. Defense One,

July 20, 2016.

Before they begin the long-anticipated push to liberate Mosul, a battle many expect to mark the final chapter of the Islamic State's reign in Iraq, military leaders of the "counter-ISIS" coalition say they need more planning for what happens next.

<http://www.defenseone.com/threats/2016/07/anti-isis-forces-close-mosul-coalition-leaders/130089/>

The Dangers of Using Cyberattacks to Counter Nuclear Threats by Andrew Futter. Arms Control Today,

July/August 2016.

Top military and defense officials in the United States are currently contemplating plans to use cyberattack capabilities against enemy missile and command-and-control systems as part of a new push for full-spectrum missile defense.

https://www.armscontrol.org/ACT/2016_07/Features/The-Dangers-of-Using-Cyberattacks-to-Counter-Nuclear-Threats

Don't Scrap America's Alliances. Fix Them by Elbridge Colby and Jim Thomas. The National Interest, June 29, 2016.

Inertia and sentimentality are no justifications for policies that risk American lives and wealth. But the reality is that U.S. alliances continue to serve as an enduring source of strategic advantage.

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/dont-scrap-americas-alliances-fix-them-16788>

Obama and Israel: Military Aid and Diplomacy by Eytan Gilboa. Georgetown Journal of International Affairs, July 18, 2016.

During the final chapter of the Obama Administration, two challenging, interrelated key issues related to U.S.-Israeli relations remain: a new military aid agreement and Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. The current U.S.-Israel military aid agreement expires in 2017. Negotiations to renew the agreement for another ten years began in late 2015. The Obama administration linked the aid package to diplomacy as related to both the Iran nuclear deal and the Palestinian conflict—the two most controversial issues in recent U.S.-Israeli relations.

<http://journal.georgetown.edu/obama-and-israel-military-aid-and-diplomacy/>

Welcome to Generation War by Paul R. Pillar. The National Interest, July 4, 2016.

An entire generation has come of age with America perpetually at war, and with nothing to show for it.

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/welcome-generation-war-16831>

Ian Hatcher: "Apps and Code: New Forms of Poetry"

**Wednesday August 24
at 15:30 - 17:00**

**Kaisa Library Auditorium
Fabianinkatu 30, 7th floor**

Welcome!

Ian Hatcher is a text/sound/code artist, author of Prosthesis (Poor Claudia 2016), and developer of the poetry app Abra. His code-inflected vocal performances have been presented widely in the United States and Europe. He lives in Brooklyn.



Did You Know?



The first American Resource Center newsletter was delivered to your inbox in January 2010. 63 issues later of spreading the word about all things Americana, we have come to the end of one journey, and are starting a new one. This will be the last ARC newsletter in this format. In October you will receive our completely revised online newsletter. Your address will be automatically added to our new service, so stay tuned - you will be hearing from us soon!



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