

## (KATRI) JOHANNA MANNINEN: LETTER TO THE DEAN

Dear Dean Anna Valtonen,

I would love to join the faculty of Aalto University as a Professor of Screenwriting (Artistic Practices).

Ever since I started my screenwriting studies at the former University of Art and Design in 1998, I've known that at some point of my career I want to become the Professor of Screenwriting. During my studies I often envisioned all the ways our film school could become better. I even wrote a chapter about it in my MA thesis.

My goal is to make the screenwriting program at ELO to be known as one of the most innovative, exciting and up-to-date screenwriting programs in the world.

I want to help our industry to thrive amidst the rapid technological and cultural changes.

I would love to co-create with ELO faculty a culture that encourages the students become true game changers: to be exceptional collaborative artists who can write both feature films and serial drama. Who'll test the limits of visual storytelling, take full advantage of the emerging technologies and make a difference with their films and series.

I'm a working screenwriter who has collaborated with many of Finland's top directors on an exceptionally wide range of projects – both feature films and serial dramas. I'm currently working on a 10-episode political thriller series set in 1955-56 with the award winning director AJ Annala and have my next feature film in development.

I have international experience, too. One of my scripts has been remade in Germany. I've participated in several international screenwriting courses and lived two years in Los Angeles, CA networking in the local filmmaker community. I have friends, family and former classmates working in the film and television industry around the world.

My academic credits aren't as strong as my writing credits, but please don't mistake that for disinterest for research or disregard for academia. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to do cross-disciplinary research on storytelling in the brave new digital world.

I'm studying pedagogy online at Jyväskylä University this fall. I'd be thrilled to have an opportunity to take special pedagogy classes at Aalto University as well.

I love new challenges and solving problems with others. I'm looking forward to shaping a better future for all of us by joining relevant committees and other project groups in the Aalto University and to collaborating with other art universities around the world.

I kindly ask you to consider me for the Screenwriting Professor (Artistic Practices) position.

August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in Mäntsälä



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