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SELKONEN (2017)

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The images of the Selkonen-series are based on video shot in the area around Taivalkoski, in Northeastern Finland. The area is famous for locations of the literary worlds evoked by late author Kalle Päätalo, and the word Selkonen (wilderness, outback or remote land) recur in his literary works.

The Selkonen-series is inspired by the way imaginary and fictional worlds are entangled with concrete geographical locations, and the images of the series consist of interweaved visual layers that have been transmuted using digital and analog techniques.

Everything from light reflections to the limitations of various file for-

mats have left media-specific traces and influenced the transmutation process of the images, hereby making the interplay between enhancement and distortion intrinsic to the series. The technique was formerly used for the earlier series *In Praise of Other Places* and has been developed since then.

The images are called "non-locations", since each image is built on video material coming from separate geographical sites in Northeastern Finland, video that is layered, composited and then captured as a single frame that is the point of departure for the final image. Non-locations can be seen as a conceptual extension of the displacements of artist Robert Smithson's "non-sites" and the transience of anthropologist Marc Augés "non-places". They evoke associations and provoke the onlooker to imagine specific places that do not exist. They become part of an imaginary geography of the area in Northeastern Finland referred to as Selkonen.