



Press release

Helsinki, 23rd of July 2020

EMBARGO / FREE TO PUBLISH on Saturday 25th of July at 19.00.

The winners, along with the justifications of their choice, will be announced on Saturday 25th of July 2020 during the Ropecon Gala. Releasing information about the winners is allowed only after the winners have been announced or after the Gala has concluded. The virtual Gala begins at 18.00 and ends by 19.00 on Ropecon's YouTube channel.

ropecon.fi / 24th - 26th of July 2020

#ropecon2020 #ropecon

The 18th Golden Dragon Award to be given out during Ropecon Gala on Saturday

The Golden Dragon is an annual award given out by Ropecon. It was established in 2003 and is awarded for long-term contributions in the field of role-playing games, miniature wargames, card games or board games, or for other distinguished work towards developing or advancing the field of non-digital gaming.

The 2020 winners of the Golden Dragon Award are Laura Kalli and Katri Lassila. Kalli and Lassila are merited for their long-term contributions in live action role-playing games. They have been active in the live-action role-playing game scene as both game organisers and as players. Kalli has had a long career as the Editor-in-Chief for the Larppaaja magazine, through which she has had a significant impact on the Finnish live-action role-playing game scene. Lassila's work as a photographer has impacted the documentation of live-action role-playing games. Lassila has, for example, written games for Heureka, the Finnish Science Centre, and for an art festival. She has also received a grant from the Finnish Cultural Foundation for the development and execution of a live-action role-playing game focusing on the autoimmune disease SLE.

Kalli and Lassila have been the pioneers of furthering gender equality in live-action role-playing games and they are known for their unique style of game development, named adventure-romantics. Their style of game development is known for transforming the power structures of gender towards a more equal standing, and focusing on the action, humour and adventure aspects of play instead of the more traditional play-to-win mentality.

The 7th Deed of the Year Award to be given out during Ropecon Gala on Saturday

The Deed of the Year Award is an annual award given out by Ropecon for a distinguished project, activity, publication or other significant contribution in the field of non-digital games. The Deed of the Year award was first given out in 2014.

The 2020 Deed of the Year Award is awarded to Tuomas Puikkonen for his photography exhibition “From Other Realities” on live-action role-playing games. Tuomas Puikkonen has been photographing live-action role-playing games, also known as larps, since 2010 and has been involved in documenting about 70 games over the years. His interest in larp photography was sparked by the need for documenting the games and thus providing the players with a more fun and memorable experience. Puikkonen’s pictures highlight the players’ interaction with one another during the game, successfully drawing the viewers’ attention towards this as well.

Inclusivity and diversity are central in Puikkonen’s work and he wants to ensure that everyone participating in larps are photographed equally. As an advocate for diversity, Puikkonen also finds it essential to photograph a wide variety of live-action role-playing games, from games with international recognition funded by grants to larps produced by a team of volunteers on a smaller budget – the most important thing is that the game is created with love for the hobby.

Tuomas Puikkonen’s “From Other Realities” photography exhibition is open from 9th of June 2020 until 23rd of August 2020 at the Finnish Museum of Games. More information on the exhibition can be found here: <http://vapriikki.fi/en/nayttelyt/from-other-realities-tuomas-puikkonen-as-a-larp-photographer-2010-2020/>

Ropecon 2020

Ropecon, the largest non-commercial role-playing game convention in Europe organised entirely by volunteers, will be held for the 27th time. This year the convention will be held online from the 24th to the 26th of July 2020 as the first ever Virtual Ropecon. The three-day online event offers a variety of interesting programme and brings together both enthusiasts as well as professionals in the field of role-playing games.

The convention is organised by Ropecon ry, a non-profit association which aims to develop and promote the role-playing game, card game, board game and miniature wargame hobbies in Finland.

Web page: <https://2020.ropecon.fi/>

Press page: <https://2020.ropecon.fi/press-page/>

Programme: <https://2020.ropecon.fi/opas/>

Photo gallery: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ropeconmedia/albums/72157662048730757>

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