

## **SANTERI TUORI / Statement**

### **Forest Prints and Sky Prints**

The Forest series has been filmed on the remote island of Kökar in the archipelago of Åland during the past seven years. Certain landscapes have been chosen and they have been filmed and photographed over and over again from the exact same spot. The series is divided into prints and moving images. In Forest Prints photographs from the same landscape have been superimposed on top of each other. The result is a layered image with black and white and colour images blending into one. The image is layered also in the sense that images taken in different time periods or even years come together in the same landscape. Time in these images cannot be counted, not in years, not in split seconds. Time just is.

The moving images in the Forest series combine black and white photographs with colour video. The superimposing is done either by projecting the video on a photograph or with the help of an editing program. The result is a layered image, which contains the sharpness and richness of a photograph and the movement and time of a video. As much as the viewer is in front of a forest, he/she is confronted with photography and the questions surrounding it.

Sky is part of the landscape series. We are accustomed to seeing the sky always in reference to ground, water or vegetation. Sky is an attempt to show the sky as a valuable landscape on its own. The Sky prints are a combination of several photographs taken at different times. The photographs that the series currently consist of are taken during one year. In the process of making these images, some parts of the used images are enhanced and some are erased. Some layers are given more weight, while others remain just as a gentle touch. The layering of B/W and colour photographs creates a special feeling. The works are clearly photographs, but they move on the thin border of painting and photography. In the end it is not so important that the images are photographs, they appear just as images.

Many of my previous works have been dealing with photography and the traditions of portraiture. The Forest and Sky series are clear continuations of that and they refer to different subject matters; for these works traditions of visual arts are just as important as the traditions of photography.