

## Curriculum vitae

### PETTERI SAARIO

Vanha Hämeenlinnantie 11  
06100 Porvoo, Finland  
Tel: +358 0400 705 524  
Email: [petteri.saario@wildfin.com](mailto:petteri.saario@wildfin.com)  
[www.wildfin.com](http://www.wildfin.com)

#### BIOGRAPHY

Petteri Saario (b. 1961) is a documentary maker, who has specialized to depict the endangered relationship between man and nature. Besides directing and producing he is also familiar with underwater and wildlife filming. Many of his films have been awarded both in Finland and abroad.

Before his present position he worked over ten years as a journalist of environmental affairs (for the Environmental News of YLE TV2 and the Environmental Information Service of YLE). In addition, he has worked in two nature conservation organizations (as an information officer and as a secretary general in the Finnish Nature League and as a campaign manager in the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation).

#### PRESENT POSITION

Taiga Films Ltd: manager, producer, director (1996-)  
DocArt: manager, producer, director (2002-)

#### FILMOGRAPHY

##### Long documentary films

##### **The Activist** (Aktivisti)

*A documentary about a determined young girl in Finnish Lapland who commences a battle against one of the world's largest mining companies.*  
58/90min. DocArt with YLE Co-Productions, ready 2016

##### **Arctic Desert** (Autiomaa)

*An aging geologist in an Arctic wasteland, armed with a rifle against marauding polar bears, looks for hidden evidence of climate change history. He ponders the motives that have brought him there and shaped his life as a scientist and a man.*  
76 min. Kinovid Production, 2011

##### **The Beckhams of Utsjoki** (Utsjoen Beckhamit)

*A documentary about the life of Saami people in Finnish Lapland*  
73 min, HDCAM, DocArt Production for YLE and NDR, 2010

##### **Sergei the Healer** (Sergei Verenseisauttaja)

*A documentary about the life in a small Russian Karelian village*  
103 min., S16 mm, Taiga Films production, co-produced by YLE Co-Productions and NDR, 2008

##### **The Nature of Finland** (Kansanluonto)

*A documentary film about the Finnish nature and the nature of the Finns during the period of the independency.*  
57 min, S16 mm, HDCAM, Digital Beta, DocArt Production, 2007

**Sven Quijote**

*A documentary about the disappearing farming culture on Gotland island 88'30"/ 58'41"/ 43'35", DocArt production, co-produced with NDR and YLE Teema, 2006*

**The Sisu Stone** (Sisukivi)

*A documentary about the year-round survival of a family living on Husö, a small outer island in the Åland Archipelago*  
63 min., Tekstivirta Production Company, YLE Teema, NDR, 2004

**When the Cod Ran Out** (Finnish Title: Kalavale; German Title: Die Fischer von Bornholm)

*A documentary film about the bankrupt of the fishery lifestyle*  
58 min., DocArt production co-produced with NDR and YLE Teema, 2004

**Village of the Sleeping Beauty** (Minne hepo sinne reki)

*A documentary film about self-sufficient way of living in Russian Karelia*  
53 min., Taiga Films Ltd in co-production with YLE TV1 and NDR, 2001

**Wild Wild Canary –The Last Whistle of the Guancho** (Guanchen viimeinen vihellys)

*A documentary film about the unique nature of the Canary Islands and the impact of mass tourism on it*  
53'51", Tekstivirta Production Company and YLE TV1, 2000

**Six Hundred kilos of Worms** (Kuusi tuhatta kiloa kastematoja)

*A documentary film about an organic farmer, a cow and a crane*  
60 min., Tekstivirta Production Company & YLE TV2, 1996

Documentary series

**Magic of the Wilderness** (Erämaan lumo)

*Documentary series about the wilderness areas of Finland, their nature and immaterial natural values.*  
6 x 30 min. HDCam, DocArt Production for YLE TV1, 2016

**Enclosed by Water** (Veden saartamat)

*Documentary series about the life on the most beautiful Finnish islands.*  
6 x 30 min. HDCam, DocArt Production for YLE TV1, 2013

**Lakes of Finland** (Järviemme helmet)

*Documentary series about the finest lakes in Finland*  
6 x 30 min. HDCam, DocArt Production for YLE TV2, 2012

**Frontier Life** (Rajankäyntiä)

*Documentary series about the border between Finland and Russia*  
6 x 30 min., S16 mm, HDCAM, Digital Beta, DocArt production for YLE TV2, 2009

**The Finest Rivers of Finland** (Jokiemme helmet)

*Documentary series about Finnish rivers.*  
6 x 30 min., DocArt production for YLE TV2, 2006

**Pearls of the Baltic Sea** (Itämeren helmet)

*Documentary series about the exceptional wildlife of the Baltic Sea islands and the historical change of the everyday life of the islanders*

6 x 45 min., Tekstivirta Production Company, YLE TV2, 2004

TV-documentaries

**Call from Usambara** (Kutsu Usambarasta)

*A documentary film about one of the most valuable tropical forests in the world*

30 min., Tekstivirta Production Company, The Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, YLE TV2, YLE-Teema, 2002

**How Green is Your Banana?** (Halvan herkun kallis tie)

*A documentary film about the dark side of banana production in Costa Rica*

43'03'', Tekstivirta Production Company, YLE TV2, Finnida, 1997

**The Whitebacked Gentleman** (Valkoselkäinen gentleman)

*A documentary film on the life and protection of the rarest forest bird in Finland, the whitebacked woodpecker*

41'01'' min., Taiga Films Ltd & YLE TV2, 1997, with Juha Taskinen

**Aatelisluostarin aamusoitto**

*A documentary film about Konevitsa Island, Ladoka Lake and a monastery*

30 min., Tekstivirta Production Company & YLE TV1, 1996

**Beef**

*A documentary film about beef business*

International co-production (YLE and George Weiss Filmproduktion), Shootings in Finland, 1996

**The Traitors** (Isänmaanpetturit)

*A documentary film about the environmental movement, media, forestry and international network*

30 min., Diart & YLE TV2, 1995, with Ismo Tuormaa and Kari Rissa

**French Heels** (Ranskalaiset korot)

*A documentary film about the author and intellectual Jussi Kylätasku*

30 min., YLE TV1, 1995, with Pertti Rönkkö

**Kuumat paikat**

*A documentary film about the future's advanced energy resources*

30 min., Diart & YLE TV2, 1995

**Yhden hevosvoiman monitoimikone**

*A documentary film about an old-time lumberjack and a Finnish horse*

26 min., Tekstivirta Production Company & YLE TV2, 1994, with Ismo Tuormaa

Short Films

**Nature Wonderland**

*Short film about the Finnish National Parks*

DocArt, Metsähallitus, 2015

**Kingdom of Four Seasons**

*Short Film about Oulanka and Paanajärvi National Parks*

DocArt, Metsähallitus, 2014

**Ice Canyon 1-3****The Stream of Life 1-5**

*Short films for the Finnish Nature Centre Haltia*

DocArt, Metsähallitus, 2013

Käsikirjoittaja, ohjaaja, kuvaaja, leikkaaja, tuottaja

**The Myth**

*Trailer for the Finnish Nature Centre Haltia* ([www.haltia.com/vieraile-haltiassa/nayttelyt/](http://www.haltia.com/vieraile-haltiassa/nayttelyt/))

DocArt, Metsähallitus 2013

**Visit Finland**

Short films for the Official Travel Site of Finland: Lapland – The North of Finland, Lakeland and Coastal Areas and Archipelago

<http://www.visitfinland.com/>

DocArt, Finnish Tourist Board, SEK&Grey, 2012

**Child of the Ice Age**

Short film about the Archipelago National Park

DocArt, Metsähallitus, 2004

**The Incredible Baltic Sea**

*Short film for children*

DocArt, Metsähallitus, 2004

**Metsähallitus at Sea**

*Short film about the marine nature conservation work of Metsähallitus*

Tuotantoyhtiö DocArt, Metsähallitus, 2004

**Place in the Sun**

*A film about solar energy in different countries*

Tekstivirta Production Company, NAPS, 1997

## Music Videos

**Meri mieltäni ajaa**

*Trio Suo's music video. 2010*

## Magazine Programs

**Noah's Arc (Nooan Arkki)**

*Wildlife program series about the Finnish nature*

18 X 30 min, Tekstivirta Production Company, YLE TV2, 2002-2005

**Pinnan alta**

*6 programs about the underwater life in Finland, 6 x 30 min.*

Tekstivirta & YLE TV2, 1996

## Other Artistic Film Work

**Heritage of Water**

*Stage work blending cinema, live contemporary dance and live folk music*  
2013

**Nature of Finland Cinema Concert**

*A cross art work blending cinema and live music, produced for the celebrations of Finland's 90<sup>th</sup> year of independence.*

DocArt, YLE, Sitra, Finnish Ministry of Environment, SYKE, MMM, OPM. 2007

## AWARDS, MERITS, FESTIVALS

Wildlife Vaasa International Nature Film Festival 2016, **2<sup>nd</sup> Prize** in the category of Nordic Films for *Magic of the Wilderness: The healing Power of Nature*

Matsalu Nature Film Festival 2016, **Higly Commended Diploma** for *Magic of the Wilderness: The healing Power of Nature*

Barents Ecology Film Festival 2016, **Best Short Documentary** for *Magic of the Wilderness: The healing Power of Nature*

Wildlife Vaasa International Nature Film Festival 2014, **Best Finnish Nature Film** for *Enclosed by Water*

*Heritage of Water* –short film screened at Frankfurt Book Fair 2014

Matsalu Nature Film Festival 2014, **1st Prize for the Best Photography** for *Enclosed by Water*

Porvoo Art Association. **Cultural Achievement of the Year 2013**

Wildlife Vaasa International Nature Film Festival 2012, **2nd prize** in the category of Finnish nature films for *Lakes of Finland*.

Green Vision Festival 2011, St. Petersburg. **Best film in the Baltic Region** for *Frontier Life, Episode 1, Oil on the waves*

Matsalu Nature Film Festival 2010, Estonia. *Frontier Life, Episode 1, Oil on the waves*:

- **Grand Prix**
- **Special Prize** of the Estonian Greens
- **Special Prize** of the Estonian WWF
- **Special Prize** of the Haapsalu Town

Wildlife Vaasa International Nature Film Festival 2010. **Best Nordic and Finnish Nature Film** for *Frontier Life, Episode 4: Hidden Paradise of Russian Karelia*

International Wildlife Film Festival (IWFF) 2010, Missoula, USA. **Merit Award** to *Frontier Life, Episode 4: Hidden Paradise of Russian Karelia*

YLE TV2: **Partner of the Year 2009** –award

Moscow International Film Festival 2009. *Sergei the Healer* selected to the Free Thought Documentary Program

**The Silver Horn Award** at Krakow Film Festival 2009 for *Sergei the Healer*

The World of Knowledge, IV International Film Festival of Popular Science Films, St.Petersburg 2009. *The Nature of Finland* won the **Special Jury Prize and diploma for the best camera work**

Festival de Cine Ecologico y de la Naturaleza de Canarias, Spain, May 2009. *Sergei the Healer* in the competition category

Dialektus Festival, March 2009, Budapest. *Sergei the Healer* was selected to the final competition in the category of Human Stories

DocPoint 2009, Helsinki. *Sergei the Healer* was selected to the category of New Finnish Documentary Films

Prix Europa 2008, Berlin. *Sergei the Healer* was selected to the **final competition in the category of the Best TV-documentary**

**Merit Award** for Beauty and Humanism at XII International Environmental Film Festival Green Vision 2008 in St. Petersburg for *the Nature of Finland*

**The Porvoo Citizen of the Year 2008**, awarded by Porvoon Nuorkauppakamari, the Junior Chamber International Porvoo

**Highly Commended** at Matsalu International Wildlife Film Festival in 2007 for *The Finest Rivers of Finland, Episode 2 - Oulanka*

**The Culture Prize of Porvoo Town** in 2006

**The Best Film Made by Environmental Friendly Company** at Wildlife Vaasa Terranova Nature Film Festival in 2006 for *Metsähallitus at Sea*

**Second Prize** in the Category of the Best Finnish Film at Wildlife Vaasa Terranova Nature Film Festival in 2006 for *Pearls of the Baltic Sea, Episode 1 - Åland*

**Merit Award for Original Storytelling** at the International Wildlife Film Festival (IWFF) in Missoula, Montana in 2006 for the *Sisu Stone*

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize** in Category "Man and Nature" in Matsalu Wildlife Film Festival in 2005 for *Pearls of the Baltic Sea, Episode 5 - Hailuoto*

**Honourable Mention** of Koura Foundation for the best television programs broadcast in Finland in 2004 for the *Pearls of the Baltic Sea* –documentary series

**Jury's Special Award** in Terranova Nature Film Festival in Vaasa in 2004 for the *Sisu Stone*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize** for *the Sisu Stone* in Vera film festival in Mariehamn, Finland, in 2004.

**Grand Prize** at the biggest nature film festival in Asia, the Japan Wildlife Festival in 2003 for *Village of the Sleeping Beauty*

Prix Europa festival in Berlin 2002: *Village of the Sleeping Beauty* was selected to the final competition and it was ranked to the **Top5 list of European tv-documentaries**

**Honourable Mention** in the category of documentaries in Barents TV Festival in 2002 for *Village of the Sleeping Beauty*

**Pärnu VISU Prize** in the 16<sup>th</sup> International Documentary and Anthropology Film Festival in Estonia in 2002 for *Village of the Sleeping Beauty*

**Special Prize of the Jury** in Wildlife Europe Film Festival in Sundsvall in 2001 for *Village of the Sleeping Beauty*

**Best Environmental Documentary** for *Wild Wild Canary – The Last Whistle of the Guanche* in EcoTourIndFilm Festival in Romania in 2001

**Best Documentary Film** by SIYAD (Cinema Critics Associations) for *Wild Wild Canary – The Last Whistle of the Guanche* in 5<sup>th</sup> International Environmental Film Festival in Istanbul in 2001

**The Finnish Prize of The Henry Ford European Conservation Awards** in 1997 for the *Whitebacked Gentleman* –documentary

**The Finlandia Prize of Environmental Merit** (Ympäristö-Finlandia) in 1993 for *Environmental News*