Press release 4 December 2012

Susanna Pettersson appointed as the director of the Finnish Institute

Susanna Pettersson, Ph.D., has been appointed as the new director of the Finnish Institute in London starting from I March 2013. Susanna Pettersson is currently the director of Alvar Aalto Foundation in Finland. Before that she held the position of the development director of the Finnish National Gallery.

"The Finnish Institute in London is an important channel for the arts and social sciences in the UK, Ireland and Finland. All great projects emerge from the inspiration and innovation of individual people. The Institute, at its best, is generating opportunities for these ideas to become reality," Susanna Pettersson says.

Susanna Pettersson is a seasoned professional in the cultural field with extensive leadership experience. Her employment history covers performing and visual arts, architecture and design. She has a Ph.D. in museology at the University of Jyväskylä and teaches at the Reinwardt Academy in Amsterdam. She has strong professional networks internationally and holds positions of trust in several different cultural organisations.

"We chose Susanna Pettersson as the new director because of her background in both arts and social sciences as well as her leadership experience in organisations similar to the Institute. She also has strong networks in the UK and Finland in the relevant fields", says Tapio Markkanen, chairman of the board of the Institute.

The director of the Institute, Raija Koli, has been appointed as new director of the Finnish visual arts organisation, Frame Foundation.

More Information: Animaya Grant, Head of Communications animaya.grant@finnish-institute.org.uk +44 (0)207 404 3309