



MEDIA RELEASE

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Ice Cool Finland is hyping up for international events in 2004 and 2005

Finland is in the centre of hype in the coming year as international celebrities such as Sting, Ozzy Osbourne and Shania Twain are visiting the Nordic capital Helsinki early in the year. Various winter celebrations i.e. The Snow Show 2004 in Lapland which brings together internationally recognized artists and architects such as Yoko Ono, Ice hockey Games and the International Ice Sculpture competition are warming up the Finnish winter months. Helsinki is also preparing itself for the IAAF World Athletic Championships in 2005.

The Snow Show 2004 opens to the public from February 12th until the end of March 2004 in Kemi and Rovaniemi in Finnish Lapland. Various exciting international artists and architects pair up to design experimental works that can include video, sound, light and traditional art media, and architectural construction materials in addition to the arctic elements of snow and ice. The artists taking part in 2004 include Yoko Ono, Anish Kapoor, Zaha Hadid and Juhani Pallasmaa. Visit <http://www.thesnowshow.net>

The Helsinki Zoo International Open Ice sculpture competition is held across two weekends in January – the 16th and 18th, and the 23rd and 25th. The first weekend focuses on exhibiting technical skills and features a miniature sculpture competition, and the second weekend features large sculptures. The general theme for the 2004 competitions is: *Something Small – Something Big*. For further information please visit www.korkeasaari.com/ice_sculpture.htm

Disney on ice – 100 Years of Magic January 22-25,2004 presents Fairytale on Ice in Hartwall Arena in Helsinki.

One of the best Ice hockey games you can see in Finland. Check out the best team in Helsinki; Jokerit in action. Games are played weekly during January and April at Hartwall Arena in Helsinki.

Ozzy Osbourne in concert January 28, 2004

Heavy-metal legend Ozzy Osbourne first made a name for himself as front man for classic '70s band Black Sabbath. Venue Hartwall Arena, Helsinki

Shania Twain in concert March 16, 2004

Country pop mega-star Shania Twain has sold no less than 34 million copies of her album 'Come On Over'. Born in Canada and currently living in Switzerland, the singer also includes Latin and Eastern exotic influences in her music. Venue Hartwall Arena in Helsinki.

Sting starts in Finland April 28, 2004

Sting will be starting his European tour in Helsinki, Venue Hartwall Arena, Helsinki.

IAAF World Athletic Championships in 2005

In 2005, Helsinki will be hosting the 10th IAAF World Athletic Championships. Between August 6 and 14, over 3000 of the world's best athletes from over 200 countries are expected to participate. Also, 3000 volunteers, 3500 media representatives, and 20000 foreign tourists are expected to attend this event – the largest in the world in 2005. Helsinki Olympic Stadium is the main venue for the Championships. Visit <http://www.helsinki2005.fi>

For more information on Finland, visit www.visitfinland.com. For further information of the events in Helsinki please visit <http://www.hartwall-arena.com>.