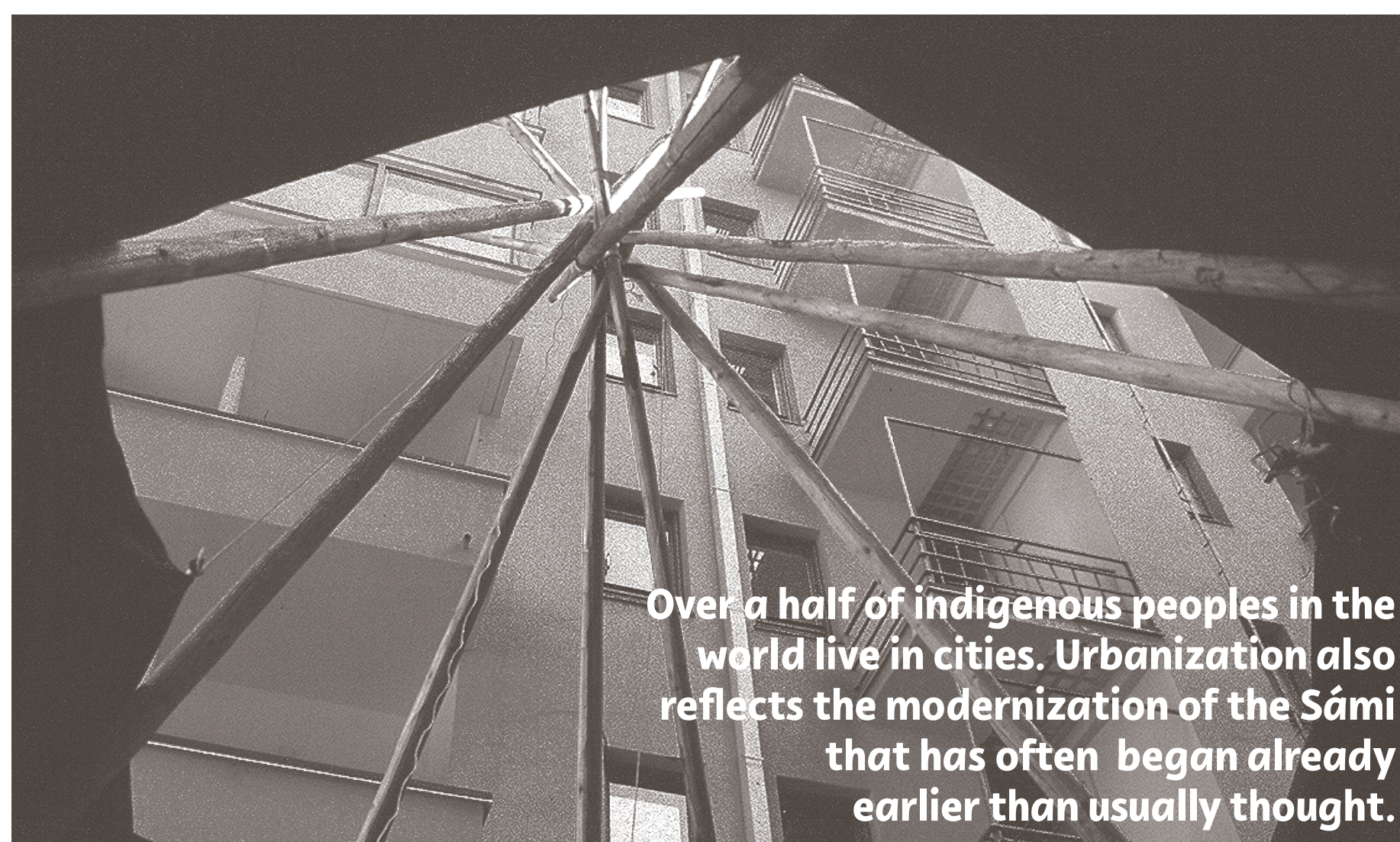


In our joint project of two Northern universities, University of Oulu and University of Lapland, we will benefit the concept of domestication launched by Alasuutari & Qadir (2014), referring to taming and adopting global trends to the national and local contexts. World-wide models are seldom just "copied", but rather instituted at the own will and desire of indigenous and national leaders and decision makers.

In political terms the Sámi are citizens of their respective home-countries, but culturally they belong to Sápmi, a cross-national symbolic and cultural entity, which has not been officially recognized by the nation states or international organizations. To compensate the lack of power in local and national levels, Sámi politicians have already for decades invoked international norms especially by United Nations and the discourses of indigenous peoples' networks to support their claims.

Our project grasps the concrete activities and possible frictions and tensions in constructing the Sámi political subjects. Many crucial layers of modern Sámi society are represented in our project from recent ethno-political history and the role of women in Sámi policies to Sámi participation in many levels of local, national and international politics. Sámi reindeer herding and repatriation processes, for instance, are introduced as examples of controversies between Sámi and Finnish institutions. The research project, funded by the Academy of Finland in 2015-2018, is led by the professor of Sámi culture at the University of Oulu, Veli-Pekka Lehtola.



Jorma Lehtola

Domestication of Indigenous Discourses? Processes of Constructing Political Subjects in Sápmi

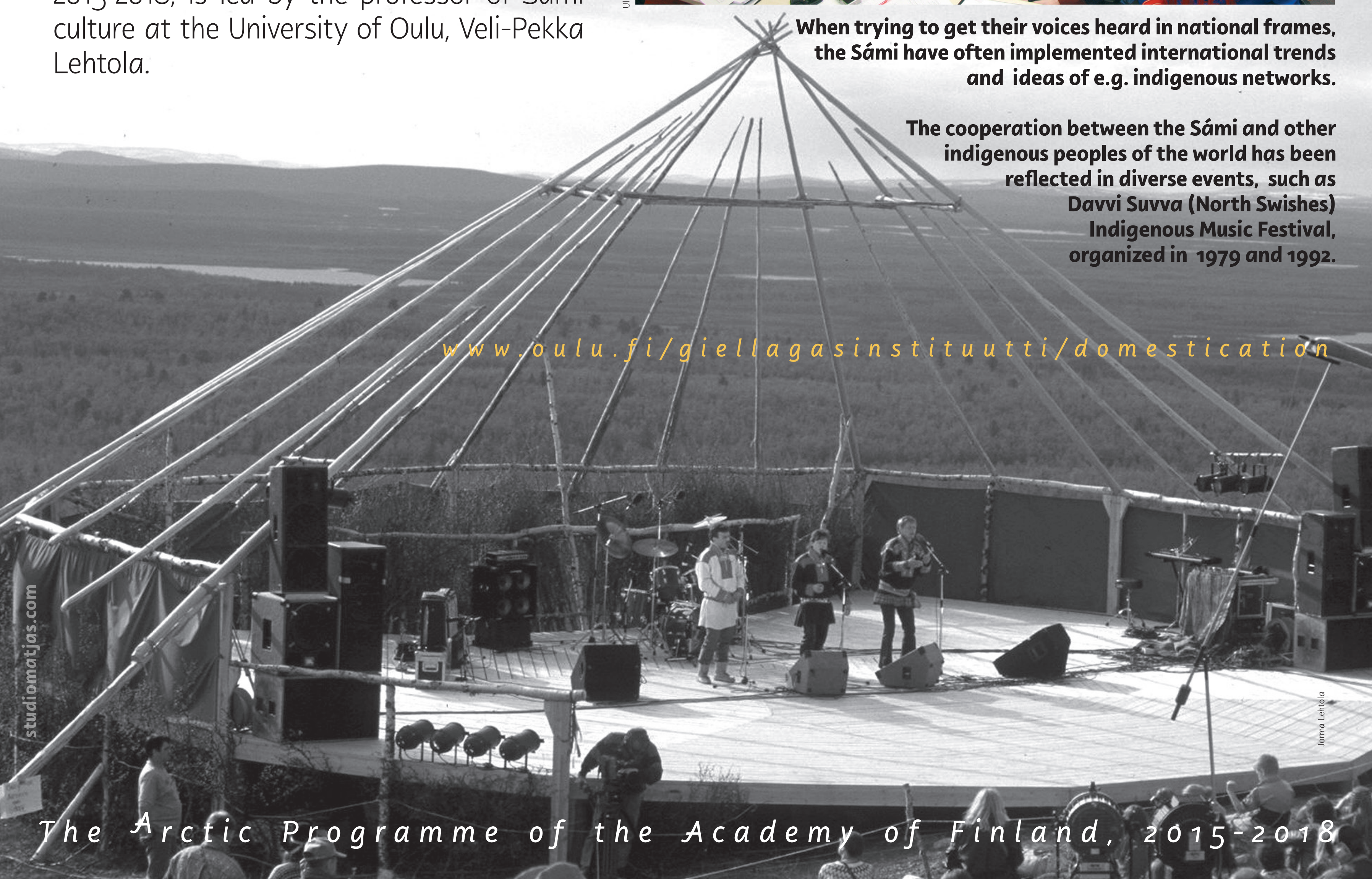


Ulla Aikio-Puoskari

When trying to get their voices heard in national frames, the Sámi have often implemented international trends and ideas of e.g. indigenous networks.

The cooperation between the Sámi and other indigenous peoples of the world has been reflected in diverse events, such as Davvi Suvva (North Swishes) Indigenous Music Festival, organized in 1979 and 1992.

www.oulu.fi/giellagasinstituutti/domestication



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Jorma Lehtola

The Arctic Programme of the Academy of Finland, 2015-2018