

Stages of Flower Power/s

# DER BLUMENGARTEN

Vincent Roumagnac



**TURKU BOTANIC GARDEN 14.11.-26.2. 2026**

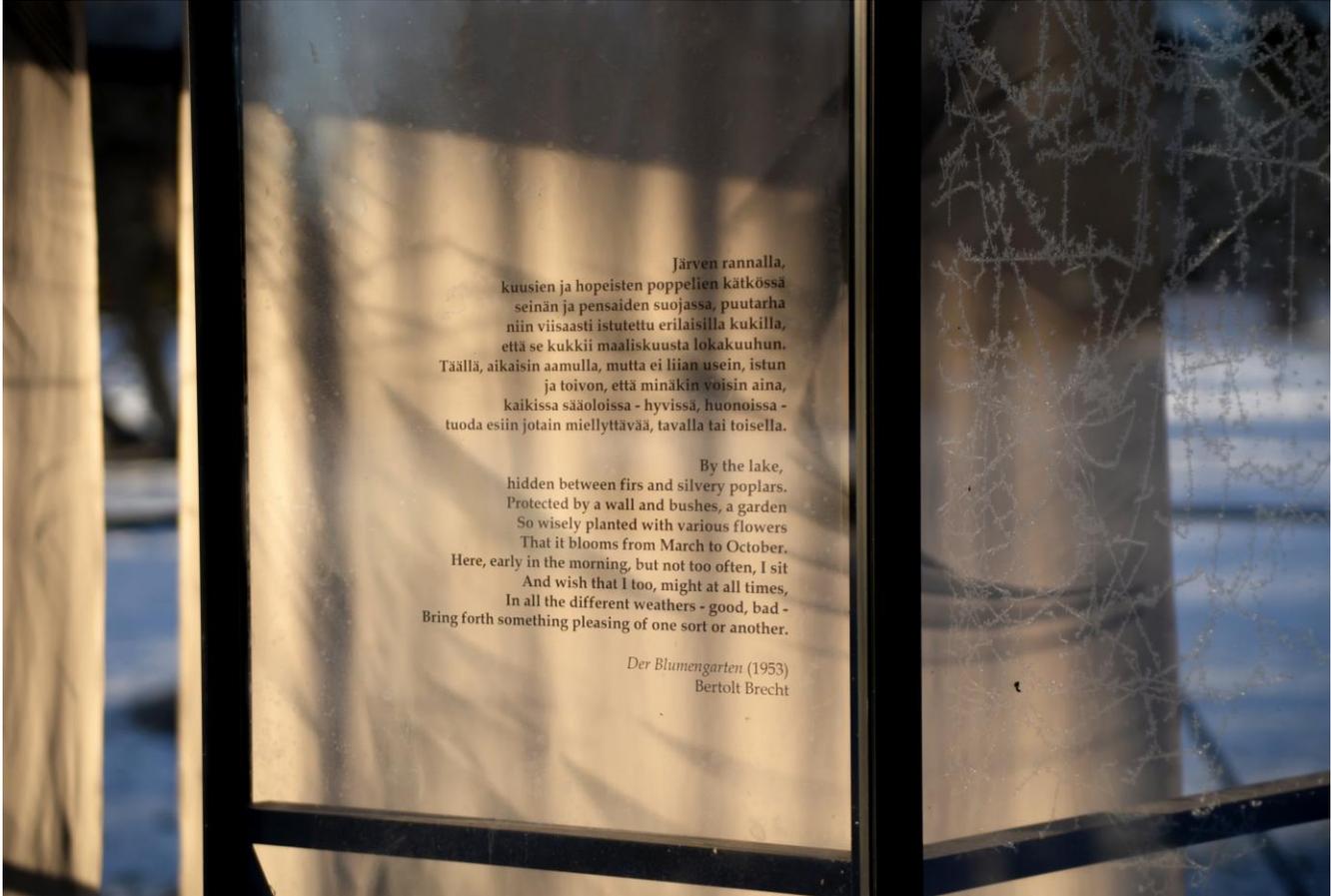
*Outdoor gardens / Free access*

In winter, the small greenhouse of the Turku University Botanic Garden stands empty. Around it, the garden lies dormant. Will it bloom again? Will spring return? Behind a curtain, however, a ghost-flower blossoms, an AI-composed pop song, accessed through a QR code. Inspired by Bertolt Brecht's epic theatre, the work stages a spectral garden: alluring, synthetic, and untethered from season. Yet these charming e-blossoms carry an invisible cost. The data centres that sustain them consume vast amounts of energy and water, fueling climate change, biodiversity loss, and human labour exploitation. *Der Blumengarten* invites visitors into this tension, between pleasure and awareness, between the promise of machine learning's creative potential and the peril of its seductive, eco-toxic chant.

*Der Blumengarten* is the second installation by Roumagnac at the Turku University Botanic Garden, following the earlier work – *Reacclimatizations (Garden 2)* – presented on the same site. Both are part of Roumagnac's ongoing artistic research project, *Stages of Flower Power/s*.

Der Blumengarten (1953)  
Bertolt Brecht

By the lake, hidden between firs and silvery poplars.  
Protected by a wall and bushes, a garden  
So wisely planted with various flowers  
That it blooms from March to October.  
Here, early in the morning, but not too often, I sit  
And wish that I too, might at all times,  
In all the different weathers - good, bad -  
Bring forth something pleasing of one sort or another.



Järven rannalla,  
kuusien ja hopeisten poppelin kätkössä  
seinän ja pensaiden suojassa, puutarha  
niin viisaasti istutettu erilaisilla kukilla,  
että se kukkii maaliskuusta lokakuuhun.  
Täällä, aikaisin aamulla, mutta ei liian usein, istun  
ja toivon, että minäkin voisin aina,  
kaikissa sääoloissa - hyvissä, huonoissa -  
tuoda esiin jotain miellyttävää, tavalla tai toisella.

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hidden between firs and silvery poplars.  
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So wisely planted with various flowers  
That it blooms from March to October.  
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