Aalto Studios
A Creative Next-Generation Media Centre
Aalto Studios

What is it?
Aalto Studios is Aalto University’s media centre focused on education, research and product development related to visual storytelling and digital media as well as the digitalisation of education. We offer facilities and know-how for cinema, video productions, games, animations and virtual reality and augmented reality projects. The sooner you get in touch with us regarding your course work, lecture series or research project, the better we will be able to help you.

Our operations started in late 2016, when Mediakeskus Lume and Aalto Media Factory joined forces. We help education and research in the sector to keep pace with digitalisation. The completion of our new Otaniemi premises in 2023 will further emphasise our role as the next-generation media centre.

Who is it for?
Aalto Studios brings together both Finnish and international actors of the creative economy: film-makers, designers, engineers, youtubers, game designers, performing artists, creative sector students, educators, investors, public sector actors and other parties that wish to benefit from the opportunities offered by digital media.

How to access it?
Aalto Studios does not consist of only walls and equipment, but offers experts to facilitate the use of all the premises and services we offer. Get to know the Aalto Studios team better at studios.aalto.fi.
Studios for world class media education and production

Whether you are a filmmaker, a game industry developer or an engineer with motion tracking aspirations, our studio has what you need. It’s available for teaching and research for everyone at Aalto University and commercial projects for our partners.

Roihupelto Studio offers 230 m² of free floor space with fully covering blackout curtains and a large green screen with live virtual studio capabilities. For monitoring and live mixing, we have separate control rooms. Our facilities meet the latest needs of professionals of film and video productions, as well as any other projects that benefit from the space’s large size, robust rigging capabilities and the amazing precision offered by the motion capture and AV systems.

CASE STUDY

Aalto Studios offers top-end facilities and technicians for the use of the only university-level film school in Finland. The lecturers and professors of the Department of Film, Television and Scenography are internationally renowned film-makers and student film productions are done in cooperation with professional actors.

"Stress levels can get high when the camera is rolling. You are surrounded by a multitude of film industry professionals that you must get to work in unison. I feel that all of this prepares me well for real work life and helps to develop me as a film-maker by leaps and bounds." - Max Ovaska, Film Directing student, Department of Film, Television and Scenography (small image, bottom left-hand corner).
RESELLER AND SYSTEM INTEGRATOR FOR DIGITAL MEDIA PRODUCTION, DELIVERY AND MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT.
MediaSpace for digitalisation of learning

MediaSpace pilots new digitalisation of learning facilities and concepts from light board to podcasts. It has been developed in collaboration with Aalto Studios, LES and Aalto IT, with the aim of being a flexible and simple audiovisual production environment. Media Space enables all Aalto staff and students to create inspiring lectures, webinars and coursework – only your imagination is the limit. Commercial enquiries are also most welcome.

Self Service Studio
The space contains everything required to record high quality video and audio, including a camera, a microphone, dual monitors, studio lighting, curtains, a teleprompter, a presentation desk and some seats for interviews. Self Service Studio is designed for Aalto users, smaller groups, panel discussions, interviews, lectures and thesis presentations.

Mini Studio
This compact, 25-m² studio is a great option when a large studio is not necessary. Mini Studio is located centrally on the Aalto campus at the Harald Herlin Learning Centre. Like all Aalto Studios services, Mini Studio is available for everyone at Aalto University.

A Pod
A pod is an excellent choice when you need a small dedicated space for recording podcasts or video webcasts. You can invite people to call in and take part in a small teleconference, or just use it yourself to record a piece of narration.

VR Hub
A 35-m² VR Hub is a space allocated to learning about extended reality experiences, whether created at Aalto University or by the vibrant community around the world. Conveniently located at the Harald Herlin Learning Centre, it can be booked by anyone with an Aalto user account.
“Having Aalto Studios MediaSpace facilities in the learning centre has really made a difference for producing online learning content in Aalto University. Creating videos from scratch is hard, but with the help of Aalto Studios staff, spaces and key technologies like teleprompters the threshold is crucially lowered for our academics to dive into this area, and when they do, they usually find it to be a fun and impactful addition to their teaching arsenal.” - Yulia Guseva, Online course producer, Aalto University

CASE STUDY

Studio or location, concert hall or theatre
Lafoy offers delivery and installation of lighting fixtures, lighting control systems, trussing, rigging, curtains/curtain tracks smoke/haze machines, filters, tapes, grip equipment, using leading brands of the industry.

All under one and the same roof.
Audio Edits
Whether you need small sound edits or are looking for larger, professional high-end environments, Aalto Studios offers you a wide range of production and post-production facilities. Our facilities are available to all Aalto University users – we only require you to complete a ‘Post-Production Permit’ introductory course or demonstrate your experience in using similar systems. Even before acquiring Aalto Studios permits, you are welcome to start editing in our computer classrooms.

Video Edits
Aalto Studios’ video edits provide an environment for editing 4K and even higher resolution content: Avid Media Composer and Adobe Premiere CC, with 2.1 speakers for light-weight mixing guarantee a professional user experience. The units run macOS and Windows. For co-managing the production, we use Avid Interplay Access. Steenback 16mm film editing tables and a separate digitising unit also enable classic analog work.

Audio Foley Mixing Stage
If you want to create a professional audio environment for your production, we have everything you need. Completely soundproof, the 45-m² Foley Stage, along with a variety of props and sound floors, enable you to follow your characters’ footsteps everywhere they go. The 65” TV screen allows the Foley actor to seamlessly match the footage to the sound.

The stage is connected to an audio control booth equipped with Avid Pro Tools | Ultimate + HDX2 system on macOS, a 16-channel Avid S6 control surface, Blackmagic Design Intensity Pro video card, 2×2.7m projection screen and 9.1.4 speaker setup with Genelec speakers. This Premix facility can also be booked separately from the Foley Stage for just mixing and listening.

Audio Master Mixing Stage
For scoring, sound editing or both, our Mixing Stage facility, housed in a fully isolated acoustic environment, is equipped with an Avid Pro Tools | Ultimate + HDX2 System, an S6 Desk with a Surround Panner for control, a 11.1.4 speaker setup (Dolby Atmos) featuring Meyer Sound gear and a 4×2m projection screen. The surround environment can be used for immersive audio mixing and it’s also analogous to high-end cinema theaters.

Immersive Sound Studio
This studio has been designed particularly for the research of immersive sound and can be used for both recording and editing purposes. The studio is adjustable for customised needs but has a permanent acoustic environment and Genelec immersive speaker system. Contact us ahead of time and we will adjust it to be a perfect space for your project.

VR Studio
Virtual reality is created in this 45-m² space with five editing units. All of the units have dual screens and high-performance graphics cards. The workstations are equipped with NVIDIA GeForce GTX1080, NVIDIA Titan XP and NVIDIA Quadro P6000 24GB GPU, and HTC Vive and Oculus Rift Headsets and a large green screen background are included.

Three Aalto University students created “The Dead Are Speaking”, an audio drama playable with Google Home smart speakers, for the Finnish national broadcaster Yleisradio. In the game, the player starts to investigate the Tattarisuo mystery as a journalist in 1930s Helsinki. The story is based on an actual criminal case and rumours that surrounded it. The audio drama was nominated for the Prix Europa 2020. “The game is an internationally interesting pilot because there are still very few media products that rely on the opportunities offered by smart speakers, but interest in the field is constantly growing.” - Rauli Valo, director, Department of Media student (small image, left, top row).
Aalto Studios and Aalto Acoustics Lab are examples of our design. In addition, we have implemented thousands of design projects in Finland and abroad. Concert halls, theaters, studios, audio laboratories, business premises, residential buildings, and infrastructure.
Workshops for crafting real & digital dreams

When it comes to carrying out multidisciplinary projects, our staff in Aalto Studios is experienced and specialised in performative arts and digital fabrication.

Set Design Workshop
Whether you are working on film, TV or theatre, we have the facilities for your needs – and even for more. You can build an exhibition or any other event with our resources: the wood and metal workshops are supported by surface treatment facilities and a plaster room. You can also work with solvent-based paints and materials that require an ATEX certificate for small and large surfaces.

Fablab - dot it yourself
FabLab earned its title – whatever design you have in mind, this is the place to actualise your ideas. We enable your aspirations with computer-aided design, digital fabrication, electronics and programming. The staff will help you to use 3D-printers, CNC milling machines, laser cutter and many other machines and tools. The facility is for the Aalto students and staff but also for the entire community outside university. We also have memberships for companies, designers and artists.

Costume Workshop
With these resources you can produce and modify costumes, materials and accessories. We offer for your use a Sewing Studio, Dyeing Studio, Wardrobe and Laundry facilities. With strong experience in stagecraft and film production, we provide consultation and spaces for working with colours and surface elaboration for costumes and textiles. We are most familiar with dyes, ageing techniques and direct painting, but won’t turn down the chance for experimentation. Our Dyeing Studio / Wet lab enables various Bioart experiments.

"Naturally Dramatic" project by Urs Dierker and the BiCMat research group at Aalto Chemistry (Photo by Eren Öztekin).
“The Naturally Dramatic exhibition showcases five textile groups and different materials and techniques, from dyeing with bacteria and growing mycelium on textiles, to 3D scanning, CNC milling and 2.5D printing, mixed with traditional natural dyes, some of them found in the Finnish woods. The textiles represent a variety of techniques used in costume design to create character costumes.”

- Urs Dierker, Textile Artist & Researcher (small picture, bottom left).
**Services for you, with you**

We provide consultation, equipment, spaces, people and subcontracting for your media productions.

**Takeout Equipment**
Aalto Studios Takeout Equipment office enables your audiovisual projects. Our broad selection of equipment varies from simple and user-friendly cameras and recorders to professional, high-end devices, used typically in film and XR productions. For more information, visit takeout.aalto.fi.

**AV Production Service**
We all started as beginners and know the value of information and advice. Aalto Studios’ production service is for you – we want to help you to bring your idea to a finalised product. We can offer personal guidance throughout your project: planning, pre-production, production, postproduction and final review. We have space and facilities for you and your team to spend a day, brainstorm ideas and get inspired.

**Web Studio**
Are you planning to set up a web site, developing software or perhaps wondering which social media channels would work best for you? Aaltos’ own internet consultancy is here for you, as well as all Aalto people, whether you are a student, staff or faculty. We offer personal guidance for you throughout your project: design strategy, purchasing planning, implementation detail and review – you name it! Our co-working office provides enough space and facilities for you and your team to hang out, exchange ideas and feed your imagination.
WE ARE A COMPANY FOCUSED ON SOLUTIONS AND SERVICES FOR MEDIA INDUSTRY

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SUPPORT SERVICES

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Research Facilitation
Whether you are planning a transdisciplinary research project, want to explore the possibilities of digital media solutions or the potential of virtual reality in your research field, Aalto Studios’ expertise, connections and digital media technologies are for your use. Aalto University is recognised and appreciated internationally – therefore we are frequently approached by researchers and consortiums around the globe that we try to connect with the right people in Aalto and Finland. If your project would benefit from more intense Aalto Studios participation in terms of facilities and personnel, we may also be able to help you with your application drafts. Please contact us and share your research interests.

Hello, we are Angel Films
– one-stop film equipment rental company since 1992.
We are here to help you get your production come to life. From our huge inventory you will find everything you need. From grips to cranes, trucks to lights, staff to cameras and state-of-the-art studio facilities – we got you covered.
Visit our website at www.angelfilms.com #filmmakersheaven
New facilities

All of our current facilities and new openings will be on the Otaniemi campus by the end of 2023. A 600-m², 16-metre free height film stage will be renovated into the distinctive High Voltage hall at Otakaari 5, transforming it into the centre of film education in Finland. In addition to this spectacular renovation project a brand new construction will raise on the campus centre at Otakaari 2A. Our facilities will be part of this new digital complex designed to inspire transdisciplinary research with creative technologies, digitalization learning and exhilarating Aalto events.

Are you talented and driven person?
Interested in technology and solutions for media industry?

Want to work with the best in the industry? Join our Team ➢ rekry@tvtools.fi
Aalto University
School of Arts, Design and Architecture

studios.aalto.fi