

Finland's most known Drag Show-artist Mega-Paula began her career already at the age of 18 in 1979 with performances at the Centrum Restaurant in Vaasa. As in those days the Drag Show concept was relatively new and unknown in Finland, Mega-Paula proceeded with her shows perhaps a little slowly in the beginning, but at the same time making progress surely. As a result, the interest and popularity grew, and in the middle of the '80s she had her first big wave of success in the city of Tampere.

The audiences were captivated by several charming characters in the shows, but right from the beginning it was the Paula Koivuniemi character (Finland's top female artist for over 4 decades) that became the most successful in Mega-Paula's shows. The best bits experienced by the audiences are when Paula herself has appeared on stage to 'perform' alongside Mega-Paula, and Paula has even pre-recorded her stage comments in studio for 'Mega' to use in her performances.

Living and working in Tampere until 1989, Mega-Paula kept touring around her home town, as well as all over Finland from small pubs to the biggest hotels in the country.

After a couple of years away in Spain and Greece, 'Mega' returned back to Helsinki Finland in the middle of the '90s and continued entertaining the audiences with her amazing Drag Shows. By this time Drag Shows had become more known in Finland, and as a result Mega-Paula's popularity grew heavily and she started to tour around the country again.

This was also the time when media became very interested in Mega-Paula and soon she began receiving invitations to perform at high end VIP parties, and Paparazzi started to follow her career and every move. In addition to stage shows, performances on many TV and Radio programmes keep Mega-Paula regularly busy these days.

The start of the new Millennium handed Mega-Paula new challenges and new glamorous work opportunities such as:

- Arranging & hosting Finland's annual Drag Queen competitions which have led to great success among the audiences, VIP guests, artists, as well as the media in both Finland and Sweden.

<http://www.dragkilpailu.com>

- Celebrity supporters of the children's hospital in Helsinki asked Mega-Paula to join forces with them to co-host many of their charity events.

- At the time of the Eurovision Song Contest 2007 in Helsinki, Mega-Paula hosted the VIP and Club events which took place during that week, as well as hosting the ESC 2007 finals VIP After Show Party.

- Nokia, Nordea and other big international organisations' regularly require Mega's shows at their customer events.

- She has entertained audiences on many different cruises around the Baltic.

- New York was calling for Mega-Paula in October 2008, and she performed in the famous Sherry Vine show at Bar Barracuda in Manhattan.

- As a result of her NY success, the following year, in 2009, 'Mega' performed at Las Vegas Club Kravé on the Las Vegas Boulevard.

- November 18th 2009, Mega-Paula celebrated her 30th Anniversary Gala Show to mark her amazing Drag Show-artist career. Big stars from Finland - Paula Koivuniemi, Merja Larivaara - lined up to perform as guest artists, and they were joined by two wonderful stars from New York; Sherry Vine and Dorothy Bishop.

<http://www.megapaula.com/megapaula30v>

Perhaps the highest acknowledgement of her wonderful career that Mega-Paula has received is from Paula Koivuniemi and Ilkka Vainio from Edel- record company, and that is the Gold Disc of Paula's 'Timantti'- album ('Diamond'). The disc's golden plate has a text saying "Congratulations to the Diamond Artist Mega-Paula, 30 years of first class performances".

In 2012, Mega-Paula began appearances with his show in Alanya, Turkey, in Rhodes, Greece and in Playa del Ingles, Spain, twice a year for the Finnish audience.

2013 Mega-Paula was sent by the City of Helsinki Tourism and Convention Bureau to do Helsinki Tourism Marketing for Sweden during Stockholm Pride 2013.

At the main event of the week at the Pride Park, Mega-Paula gave a "Welcome to Helsinki" speech to some 15,000 happy celebrators.

Also at the QX Gay Gala in Stockholm, Mega-Paula has been involved for several years and has been featured on the red carpet for the press.

Iceland and Reykjavik Pride Week invited Mega-Paula to their 2017 Pride week with Helsinki marketing office and Icelanair and represented Helsinki in several events, including the opening ceremony of Pride Week, which also included Icelandic President.

In 2016, Mega-Paula started co-operation with Westerback and Kultajousi hosting their Wheel of Fortune - events all over Finland.

At the turn of the year 2017-2018, Mega-Paula was flown to a private gig in Pattaya, Thailand, by a Finnish millionaire birthday celebrations.

With 2019 coming to Mega-Paula's 40th anniversary of the artist, let's see what kind of celebration ...

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