

Erkki Lappalainen
TTT

NTAMO

T T T

Erkki Lappalainen

T T T

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“I had been thinking about how poets don’t have ways to make use of time in their work – unlike, say, composers with notes and their duration. Yet time is relevant to the meaning of the word. For instance, say *äiti* (mother), then make a five seconds pause and repeat *äiti, äiti, äiti* with one-second intervals.”

Erkki Lappalainen

In *TTT*, each individual line has a duration of three seconds. So one square on the page equals one second. “T” is stressed, “t” unstressed, light.

Erkki Lappalainen first performed the work on January 1, 1988, in Stockholm. This took place at “Poeternas Estrad”, Kafé 44.

Born in Finnish Karelia near the Russian border and resident in Sweden from 1970 onwards,
Erkki Lappalainen (1946–2010)
was the author of more than 40 literary works,
including his Swedish debut *Jag ville så gärna säga det* (1975)
and *Mina tårar på ditt ansikte* (1977), *I Mullvaden levde vi* (1979)
and *Barnet och soldaten* (1988).

He performed extensively in Sweden, Finland, Russia and elsewhere in Europe, and in the U.S., and was called infinitesimalist, neo-futurist, postmodernist, conceptualist, “the master of reiteration” and “an original talent” (by Olof Lagercrantz).

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