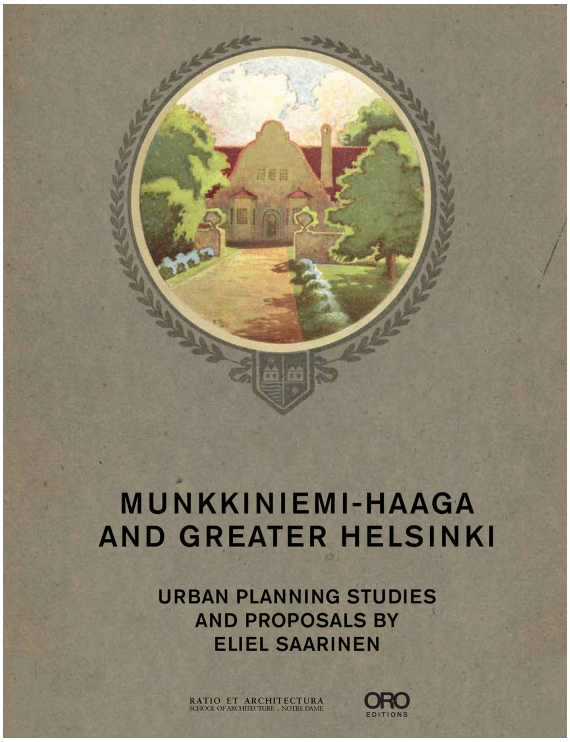
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Munkkiniemi-Haaga and Greater Helsinki

Urban Planning Studies and Proposals By Eliel Saarinen

Eliel Saarinen

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- A plan for a suburb of Helsinki for 170,000 inhabitants
- Traditional urbanism, early twentieth century
- Saarinen's influential masterplan Munkkiniemi-Haaga (1910–15), concerned a new suburb for Helsinki for 170,000 inhabitants

Saarinen's Munkkiniemi-Haaga (1910–15), was commissioned by businessman Julius Tallberg. His masterplan bears the influences of urban thinkers like Camillo Sitte, Raymond Unwin, as well as Georges-Eugène Haussmann. Saarinen provided urban and building typologies, which included terraced houses (a new development in Finland), and blocks with apartments centered around courtyards. The unrealised plan was published in book form as well as a model. As part of Tallberg's Pro Helsingfors project (1918), Saarinen's future vision for Helsinki envisaged a decentralised but radial organisation linking various nodes to the urban centre by an ample hierarchy of streets. Saarinen's social vision included accommodating citizens with a a mix of various income levels.

Eliel Saarinen was a Finnish American Architect who practiced in Finland and the United States. He received the second prize for the competition for Australia's capital Canberra. His most comprehensive urban vision has been published in Munkkiniemi-Haaga (1910–15), a plan for a new suburb of Helsinki for 170,000 inhabitants. His most significant buildings in the U.S. are his design for Cranbrook Academy.

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