**Havis Amanda Monument**

**Adress:** Kauppatori, 00130 Helsinki ‎

***Havis Amanda* is a nude female** [**statue**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue) **in** [**Helsinki**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helsinki)**,** [**Finland**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finland)**. It was sculpted by** [**Ville Vallgren**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ville_Vallgren) **(1855-1940) in 1906 in** [**Paris**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paris)**, but was not erected at its present location at the** [**Market Square**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helsinki_Market_Square) **in** [**Kaartinkaupunki**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaartinkaupunki) **until 1908.**

*Havis Amanda* is one of Vallgren's Parisian Art Nouveau works. It is cast in [bronze](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bronze) and the fountain it resides in is made of [granite](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Granite). She is a mermaid who stands on seaweed as she rises from the water, with four fish spouting water at her feet and surrounded by four [sea lions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_lion). She is depicted leaning backwards as if to say goodbye to her element. Vallgren's intention was to symbolize the rebirth of Helsinki. The height of the statue is 194 centimetres and with the pedestal it stands 5 metres tall. According to Vallgren's letters the model for the statue was a then 19-year-old Parisian lady, Marcelle Delquini.

Every year on [Vappu](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vappu), *Manta* serves as a centrepiece for the celebrations. Students of the local universities put a cap on the statue in an elaborate ceremony. For many it is a "must see" event].