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Golden Dragon award for Juhana Pettersson and Deed of the Year award for Suomen roolipeliseura

The Golden Dragon awarded for Juhana Pettersson

The Golden Dragon award for the year 2018 has been awarded to <u>Juhana</u> <u>Pettersson</u>, a game designer, author and a long-term active member in the Finnish role-playing game scene.

Pettersson is known both for designing tabletop role-playing games (e.g. <u>The Valley</u> <u>of Eternity</u> and <u>Chernobyl, Mon Amour</u>), as well as for his involvement in designing various live-action role-playing games. These include LARPs such as <u>End of the</u> <u>Line</u> and <u>Enlightment in Blood</u> based on the World of Darkness series by White Wolf, <u>Parliament of Shadows</u> which was played at the Plenary Hall of European parliament, as well as <u>Halat hisar</u>, a Finnish-Palestinian collaboration project about living under siege.

Pettersson is also known as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Roolipelaaja* role-playing game magazine between 2007 and 2009, as the author of <u>Roolipelimanifesti</u> ("The Role-Playing Game Manifesto") and as a game journalist. In the role-playing game scene Pettersson is known for running <u>the Society for Nordic Roleplaying</u>, an organisation publishing translations of non-English language role-playing games in Finnish, new games by Finnish designers in English, as well as producing larps. Pettersson has been actively involved in building bridges between the live-action role-playing and tabletop role-playing communities for over 20 years.

- Receiving the Golden Dragon award is an enormous honour, especially for someone like me who was grew up in the Finnish role-playing game scene, Pettersson rejoices.

- My humble opinion is that non-digital role-playing games and LARPs are at the forefront of innovation when it comes to finding new ways for people to meet each other, be creative together and create meaningful, influential experiences. The Finnish role-playing game scene is surprisingly large and vibrant on an international scale, and it has been a great joy to be a part of its journey.

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Deed of the Year awarded for Suomen roolipeliseura

Established in the summer of 2017, Suomen roolipeliseura ("Finnish role-playing game association" or SRS) helps role-playing game enthusiasts from all over Finland connect with each other. It has rounded up all the previously scattered information and resources necessary for being actively involved in the role-playing scene, such as finding people to play with, into one place. SRS also launched Games on Demand, a concept for producing small scale role-playing games for conventions. Other projects by SRS include finding out what needs people have for networking and interacting with other role-playing game enthusiasts. Another one is Alfacon, a gaming event aimed at those interested in developing tabletop role-playing in Finland. SRS supports projects developing all forms of role-playing games, including tabletop RPGs, LARPs, freeform games and text based RPGs.

- Receiving the Deed of the Year award feels heartwarming and encouraging, but it also feels like a challenge - one which we are thankful to take on, says **Nuppu Soanjävi**, chairperson of the association.

- Our work at SRS has only just begun and will in probably never be finished. The full credit for all we have achieved so far has to go to our active members working both on our projects as well as in the administration - with this team, even the sky is not the limit! This first year of SRS has already proved the power of collaboration. Bringing together people who are active in different parts of Finnish the role-playing game scene, who are enthusiastic about various forms of role-playing games and are working on different projects while providing them with opportunities to brainstorm together yields really brilliant ideas. Although Finland is a small country and almost everyone in the scene attends Ropecon, there is a need for a connective entity like SRS that could bring all of these different contributors together. The Deed of the Year award is an awesome acknowledgement of what we do at SRS.

The Golden Dragon and the Deed of the Year

<u>The Golden Dragon</u> is an award given out annually at Ropecon. on Ropeconin vuosittain jakama palkinto. The award was established in 2003 and it is given out for long-term contributions in the field of role-playing games, miniature wargaming, card games or board games, or for other distinguished advancements for supporting and developing gaming culture.

<u>The Deed of the Year</u> award is given out annually for a laudable project, action, publication or other significant contribution in the field of non-digital games. The first Deed of the Year award was given out at Ropecon 2014.

The Golden Dragon and the Deed of the Year awards are awarded by the role-playing game convention Ropecon 2018.

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