

INDECENT TALLINN

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Painting on a model of a galleon belonging to the Brotherhood of Blackheads, 1580–1610, TLM

Probably the oldest image of a sexual intercourse in Tallinn. The ship model is in the Museum's permanent exhibition.

Despite the fact that the world around us is quite sexualised, sexuality is still a taboo subject for many. Accusations against victims of sexual violence, contempt for sex workers and misunderstanding of sexual minorities, problems caused by inadequate sex education, and the lack of knowledge to speak honestly and freely on these issues still occur. We hope that this exhibition will help reduce a bit the taboos related to sexuality, because we want sex to be something that takes place with the full consent of all parties, offers them pleasure, and that partners dare to talk freely about it, as well as parents dare open up the topics to their children more.

The exhibition "Indecent Tallinn" tells primarily about the periphery of satisfying sexual desires – not about relationships, but about prostitution, erotica and pornography. The visitor is introduced to different aspects of Tallinn's "indecent" life. We examine what fornication meant, how prostitutes lived and worked in different eras, who were the clients of the prostitutes, how prostitution was regulated at different times, what kind of awful sexually transmitted diseases spread, and what pornography was like in different eras.

Visitors under the age of 18 can visit the exhibition only with the approval of an adult escort!