

Report on the residency in the AIR Krems

31.10.2012

I spent one month – October – in the AIR Krems. The residency was perfect, I could very well concentrate on my work. What I like at residencies – possibility to be on your own, not to be disturbed by common kitchens etc. And this I had in Krems. You can keep thinking on your work even when cooking. I liked the room which is spacy and bright and has a wonderful view on the Danube river. Inspiring and relaxing. Other advantages – Wachau is very scenic and rich of cultural heritage, so it was a great opportunity to get to know more about this region and Austria in general. My work had to do with the local atmosphere so it was important to me to see places like Gottweig Abbey, Durnstain, wine-yards, to meet people etc. And even to relax in so lovely places after brainstorming. Krems is an artistic town so I enjoyed possibilities to attend exhibitions to get the pulse of arts here.

I know that one can write in many places but I realized here that it is important to feel the atmosphere like this one in Krems. I think I got some feeling of the region, it is like a small country in a bigger one, with its own particularities and people.

What I miss here is just small things. A reading organized in Wien is great, but why not to organize one more reading in Krems? For authors it would be very symbolical.

I missed a better, more comfortable chair at the working place. You have to spend long hours in this very hard chair...

And small suggestion – a plastic draining-board on the kitchen table for washed dish, plates etc...

Sometimes it becomes a bit problematic to dry up dish when there is no right place for them.

Krems is a great place to work – the town itself is not big, so no rush which is common for big cities like Berlin, Wien or even Vilnius. Here the rythm of life corresponds to my rithm of writing – the possibility to walk the text around slowly, to return, to keep moving on. It seems to me that in my previuos life I had lived exactly in a town like this one...

Thank you very much

Especially to Sabine, Vera, Wolfgang and Sylvia – what a team!

I would love to come back some time later. Maybe in the next life...

Eugenijus Ališanka

