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How was the residency?

AIR Krems was an amazing experience and I am extremely thankful for the opportunity to attend. I cannot put a price on the experience of living in Austria and focusing on painting for 2.5 months. I was relaxed and inspired to paint and finished approximately 20 paintings in the 10 weeks I was there. I visited Vienna almost every week and went to as many museums and galleries as possible.

Advantages and disadvantages of AIR Krems.

Advantages: There are very little distractions so you are able to focus on your work. The area around Krems is beautiful and a short bike ride in the hills or along the Danube is the perfect way to take a break from painting. I also appreciated that we could have visitors stay with us. It was nice to have friends and family visit and experience life in Krems just as I was.

Disadvantages: As a painter it was awkward to work in the studio because it was not a separate space from the rest of the apartment. It would have been helpful to have a slop sink, instead of using the bathroom sink for cleaning brushes.

What did you realize during your residency period? I realized how much I enjoyed the physical act of painting. My work has recently become too dependent on wood working tools, and equipment and it was nice to simplify my process by working with pencil, paint and paper. I arrived with a small box of pencils and found some paper and paints in the common room and began painting. At first it was difficult and daunting to begin working. By the second week I settled into my new life in Krems, and found inspiration and was able to focus on producing work.

What do you appreciate at AIR Krems?

I appreciate the unique opportunity of having 2.5 months to concentrate on my work while living in Austria. I would not have been as productive had I been in Oakland, CA in my studio for 2.5 months - surrounded by familiar objects, sights and sounds.