

My residency at AIR Krems started off with the most glorious November weather I have ever seen in my life - the first two weeks resembled Irish summer days. It gave me an opportunity to go on lovely trails marked by the Wachua region and watch the colours and intensity of a changing season, all the more pronounced for being in a new location. I was interested in the long tall huts dotted around most vineyards and hills, the look out posts for lazy workers perhaps?

The **Advantages** of AIR Krems was its location, right beside a town for all its amenities and only a short stroll away and you are in the middle of the countryside. Vienna is so close that I was able to visit many museums and Galleries also by purchasing a weekly ticket, allowing multiple trips on different days. I was inspired by seeing some new art spaces and galleries during Vienna Art Week, and I was particularly inspired by seeing Ollaffur Elisions work first hand for the first time, both a wide variety of his work in the Winter Palais and his temporary public art installation *Yellow Fog*.

Meeting with other artists, writers and graphic novelists was also really inspiring, we shared useful information regards our individual practices, other residencies, had pot luck dinners, played rotating Table tennis and had the craic. Radka Denmarkova, Tamas Svet, Jakub and Barbara Yelin are wonderful people and I felt very lucky to have got to know them. The apartments and studio spaces are clean, modern, and most of all, warm! Such a welcome change.

Sabine was incredibly helpful with organising trips to other cities such as **St. Polten** for visual art exhibitions, introducing me to **David Komary** from the Stadt Gallery to talk about my work, a tour of the Suzanne Wenger Foundation. **Verena Gamber**, the Curator of the Kunsthalle gave us a personal tour of the newly opened exhibit there. **Katharina** was really helpful in showing us the local town of Durnstein and aiding and assisting in finding out information for any little thing that came up. The **disadvantages** was that there is no dedicated art supply store in Krems. But that of course is outside the control of AIR. An oven would be nice to make different types of food, maybe one for the common room? And a coat rack for apartment no. 20 would be very useful.

During the residency I developed research, drawings and sketches for an upcoming exhibition in March 2016, which is based on the life of an Irish woman who was fought in the 1916 Rising and opened the first Childrens Hospital in Ireland. Extensive books and papers have been written about her life and I researched, read and explored her life. I researched methods in how best to install and realise my interactive installation for this exhibition, which involved exploring hand made paper and and dried flowers. The time away and access to studio space 24 hours was welcome, I was able to write out and draw down ideas late in to the night. I also wrote new poetry and updated my website.