

Marco Pezzotta  
Artist in Residency, AIR Krems Program

May-June 2015

I have been an artist in residence at AIR Krems in the period between May and June 2015, invited by the local Stadtpark Galerie.

It has been a great pleasure for me to take part in this comfortable and well-organized residency program.

During my stay I could experience and enjoy a very special environment, different from the big cities an artist is generally used to live and work in. By my side I am mostly based in Berlin and, right before this experience, I was part of another residency program promoted by VASL in Karachi (Pakistan); a city with 24 million people living in it. Being Krems such a small town, the visual gap has been for me quite big, and this residency gave me at first an opportunity to reflect on this former experience within the quietness of the Wachauer landscape.

The organization of AIR Krems kindly offered the use of two bikes. I would suggest to improve this service by making a bike available, as a bike can be a very precious tool for an artist spending some months in this area.

Thanks to it I had the opportunity to explore the surrounding hills, cover quite big distances along the river, and bike the Donaufahrradweg to reach the cities of Wilendorf and Melk.

As I have been recently collaborating with the Viennese Produzentengalerie Schleifmühlgasse 12-14 I also had quite a few contacts and friends in Vienna: this further Austrian experience has been incredibly fruitful in order to make those relationships grow stronger, therefore during some weeks I have been traveling to Vienna even 3 or 4 times.

I spent the time of my residency mostly drawing, reading, and making visual research: I worked intensively on a collaborating show I will have at Kreuzberg Pavillon in Berlin on July the 4th. This is going to be the first time for me in which I will not be developing a project by myself,



but as a duo instead, working together with the Spanish artist Bianca Benenti Oriol. She is based in Geneva, and luckily she was a guest of my studio during some days in the first half of June. The show will open under the title “Tennis FKK” (Naked Tennis) and it will visually deal with digital mysticism, body-care and sacred/sporty iconic esthetic.

During the last two weeks I started to discuss a project with the curators pool of Placentia Arte in Piacenza (Italy): at the end of 2015 I will open a solo show in their space, therefore I started thinking and working on some first researches. About this the Krems experience has been of great help, as it gave me some input that I now consider peculiar of a way of living out of a big city; input I plan to develop in the forthcoming months.

Finally: it has been a productive time, probably more for my personal growth as for the physical production of objects. I would deeply suggest this experience especially to other artist that really need to re-elaborate ideas they have, or who are looking for some intense period of work and concentration. I think that this kind of experience can turn to be incredibly creative for an artist or a researcher whose practice is mostly studio-based, for someone with a practice that needs a lot of meticulous work.

I would like to thank the whole AIR staff, Sabine Gueldefusz that was always available for every inquiry related to practical stuffs or that was often simply pointing out some event or exhibition it is worth to visit. I will miss her useful emails.

Also I would like to deeply thank David Komary, responsible for the Stadtpark Galerie, who invited me to be part of this experience and who has been always ready to engage in friendly and passionate conversation about art as a practice and in every other form.

Best of luck.

