

## Ramunas Motiekaitis report for AIR

It was my first residence abroad. Before coming here, I did not have neither plans or commissions nor, speaking honestly, motivation to write something. From the very beginning, with map of the region in my hand (which now is completely worn-out) I started walking in the hills, vineyards and woods around for many hours, coming back only when it was getting dark. Continuing walking in the afternoons after some days I started working with music in the mornings. First, I made a system of my favorite chords in which various intensities and modulations are possible. This work was waiting for a long time and this may be used for many pieces. Then, between December 9 and 17 pretty long piece for clavichord (or piano) based on that system was composed. After that I composed shorter piece for harp and revised rewriting completely some parts my earlier ensemble piece *After Sunset Cycles* for performance in Amsterdam in March 2016. Also, some drafts for possible pieces were made during my stay here. Having much of free time and silence, I have learned to hear some elements of music in a fresh way; it encourages me to apply this sensitivity in the future works.

Beside this, in the evenings I completed article review for journal *Philosophy East and West*; also, carefully read some articles on hermeneutics and feminisms which will be useful for the new cycle of my lectures in spring semester. Also, almost every day I was coming back to studio with a short verse.

After questioning in the beginning about what I am doing here, I finally realized why such residencies are needed. When the whole day is ahead and there are no any home and daily work related routines, one can wait and catch these rare moments of positivity and creativity. At such moments, work can be done in very concentrated manner and almost effortlessly. It is possible, of course only when everyday life is comfortable. We had in our studios everything what is needed – enough of space, much of light, several tables, well-tuned good quality piano, even dishwasher and cleaning service.

I appreciated very much AIR office team's kind help in all occasions and invitations to Christmas parties or exhibition opening; in this way residents were integrated into community's life. Thank you, Sabine and others for that and for providing us Christmas tree, which we decorated together and in this way got to know each other better. Also, it is wonderful and comfortable to be taken and brought back to the airport. Thank you, Paula, for organizing this.

Beside this, one of advantages is that residence is very well located. For nature or small medieval town lovers there are many places to visit around; for lovers of big cities and intensive cultural life, Vienna is just an hour by train from here.

The only disadvantage is getting used to such life and difficulties with coming back to everydayness. I will always want to return here and recommend this place for colleagues. Thank you AIR for opportunity to breath in some fresh air!