

The Krems Artist-in-Residence program was very valuable for me in terms of providing a comfortable, quiet place to work. As is often mentioned, the time away from normal daily life provides the concentrated time and space to focus on one's work. For me, this is always the biggest advantage of residency programs.

The residences of the program are extremely comfortable and clean. The staff is very friendly, supportive and acts as a local resource for sourcing equipment and supplies. Upon arriving, a package with much thorough local information is provided so one can quickly settle in.

The town of Krems provides not only all that one needs to get by, but also a relaxed atmosphere and nice cafés and restaurants. The art and cultural life is also much to be appreciated.

The only disadvantage I can think of is that a month passes very quickly.

My primary project during the residency was to complete a composition for six musicians, *The Tangible Air*, that will be premiered in Montréal at the Suoni per il Popolo Festival in June, 2015. The composition uses microsecond radio samples as its raw material and a graphic score rather than traditional notation. While in residence I experimented with the structure of the work and its graphic representation.

In addition to completing the composition, I created sounds for an outdoor, permanent, multi-channel sound installation commissioned by the City of Toronto in collaboration with Douglas Moffat. *Okta* will be launched in June, 2015 in the Harbourfront area of downtown Toronto.

Finally, in an attempt to interact more locally with the site of Stein/Krems, I made a new single channel video, *An der schönen blauen Donau, Op. 314 Blues*. The work uses a slowed down version of Austrian composer Johann Strauss' famous composition, "The Blue Danube" as its soundtrack. The recording is slowed down so the seconds match the length of the great river, (2860 seconds/2860 kilometres). A video camera is placed underwater as the extended soundtrack plays back captured by hydrophones.

After significant reflection, I can't think of anything I have missed while in residence. While I work with audio and video technologies, I was able to bring what I need for my production purposes so there was nothing missing in that sense. If someone had very specific audio or video requirements, I would suggest they make advance arrangements to source it locally or bring it with them.

The AIR - ARTIST IN RESIDENCE program offers a solid and thorough appreciation for the needs of the artists working here. The spaces provided are sizeable and very comfortable for each resident. In addition, a shared space is provided where people can work with shared tools, workbench, etc. but also to come together for meetings and casual exchanges. This setting designed and managed by the staff and direction of the program is exceptional and its strongest asset.

Thank you to the remarkable staff of Krems AIR and to Paula Haslinger and Jo Aichinger at NÖ Festival!