

AIR—ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Iosif Király – November 2012

During the last 20 years I had the chance to be artist in residence in many places, mainly in Europe and the United States.

Comparing with my previous experiences of the same kind, I can say that AIR Krems is a center relatively small but very well organized. Each studio is very intelligent structured and it contains all the utilities that an artist would need for working and leaving (starting from a well equipped kitchen to washing machine and internet).

AIR Krems is the perfect place for artists who know exactly what they want to work during their stay and need a quiet place to let them focus on their artistic projects.

Maybe it is not the best place for artists who want to socialize, to make many contacts or for artists concerned of networking. The relationships between the artists in residence depend very much on their own socializing abilities. There is a common space (studio 25) which might be an ideal daily meeting place. During my residency period the invited artists were interested more to concentrate on their work in personal studio and did not spent much time together.

I appreciated the very good collaboration and the total support that I had during all the period from the project coordinators both from AIR Krems (Sabine Güldenfuß) and ORTE (Heidrun Rabl).

During winter Krems is a very quiet place, which might be very good for some artists but others might find it not dynamic enough. The Justizanstalt Stein penitentiary placed in the closed neighborhood (which covers all the view of one side of the studio) is a bit uncanny.

A suggestion would be to emphasize more clear on the website the relation and the administrative connection between the architecture residence and ORTE.

Another minor suggestion would be to make the settings at the common computer and printer (which is very good and sophisticated one) also in English, otherwise is a bit difficult to use from the beginning by non-speaking German artists.

During the residence period I collected a lot of visual material for the project that I applied with and I finalized some works which were started before. Also I did the final preparations for an exhibition that was opened in the same period at Castrum Peregrini, Amsterdam (<http://castrumperegrini.org/now-and-then-between-layers>).

After my colleagues with whom I applied to AIR Krems (Simona Dumitriu and Ioana Tudora) will end their residencies periods in Krems and will produce their own researches, we intend to prepare an exhibition and a publication that will include the work we did before, during several years on Danube (in Romania, Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria) with documentations we produces in Vienna and Krems and some other places on the Wachau Region.