

Artist in Residence Krems Report

The residency at AIR Krems was a very good experience for me, both with culture and people of Lower Austria. I've got all I need to work and be focused on my actual projects.

To sum up the advantages, it's of course everything the resident is supplied with – the studio with living space, stipendium and all the support of AIR Krems and Kunsthalle employees. I have been satisfied with the accommodation and with the studio as well, I appreciated that it was all in one place, so I did not need to spend the time with travelling, only focusing on my work. I also did not need to bother with cleaning of the space, everything was perfectly managed. It was all the support artist needs to work and not be disrupted by anything. Another advantage is also the presence of other artist in residence, coming from different fields, that could create a cooperation within the work and discussion during common dinners, or walks. Another personal advantage is that the countryside is very beautiful, so one can really enjoy some trips on free days.

To speak about the disadvantages, I did not feel much of any disadvantage, for my point in that time was really to have silence and focus on my work. But to imagine spending more than a month at Krems, it could be a little bit silent city with no real artistic life going on, or any artistic community to be introduced to. But the connection to Vienna is very nice and that really compensates everything. Maybe it would be good for the future, to establish more connections with some curators from Vienna, provide some meetings with them.

During the residency I could get more in touch with Austrian culture and artistic approach, I realized more about connections and disconnections of our cultures and histories, about the base for “west – European” and “east - European” contemporary art, what are the common signs and what is, on the other hand, completely different in approach to art in them. And I am convinced, it would be very fruitful for both cultures to develop more cooperation, more connections and definitely more common art-projects.