

Sylvia Geist

## **Report on my residency in Krems from 02.09. to 30.09.2019**

### **How was the residency?**

Prolific and, according to my assessment, efficacious beyond the time of my stay.

### **What did I realize during my residency period?**

Within my four weeks in Krems I was able to completely edit my current prose project, the novel "Weißes Wasser" (240 pages). Of course, I send a text excerpt on request.

Already in the run-up to my stay, I had started a cooperation with a colleague in Bratislava, Martina Stráková, as well as with a former scholarship holder of the AIR program, artist Livia Kozuskova, who also lives in Bratislava. It is a poetic project in which visual and poetic contributions refer to each other, continue and mirror each other, culminating in a blurring of boundaries between the different expressions, in my case for instance in the form of manuscripts/palimpsests. I also add a selection of my contributions, which I have written in Krems. (I ask for your understanding that I can not attach texts by Martina Stráková, to which I refer.)

In addition, I look forward to a visit to the Ernst Krenek Forum, in order to get attuned for the research for an upcoming project. Due to lack of time, I get round to that excursion in the last week of my stay only.

### **What did I miss during my stay?**

A way to hang artworks borrowed from the Artothek in my studio. Nevertheless, I made use of this wonderful offer, but I had to limit myself to works that I could set up on the shelf of my working-living-bedroom. It would be nice if at least one wall were equipped with a gallery rail and the commercially available flexible hanging devices.

### **What did I particularly appreciate and enjoy as an AIR scholarship holder?**

The offer of guided tours through Kunsthalle and Landesgalerie as well as the reduction or exemption of / from the ticket price/s.

I am currently working on a poem under the working title "Kremser Mondlandung", to which I came up with the basic idea during a tour through the exhibition "Ticket To The Moon".

The exchange with colleagues from the visual arts has been an enrichment to me in more ways than one. Both on a personal level - which, in my experience, often follows the impressions of the work of the colleagues of the other "faculties" - as well as in the sense of brainstorming, these encounters were an aspect, that sets the AIR-program apart from other scholarships, where writers "stay with themselves".

As a special highlight, I experienced the festive evening in honor of Peter Turrini in the Unabhängiges Literaturhaus NÖ.