

AIR Report - Cornelius Annor

I really appreciate the call by the institution to be in residence in Krems. One positive feedback is the serenity of the space for my artistic production. The atmosphere was conducive to think and imagine freely for the paintings I did. In addition, the AIR staff are friendly and corporation wise, were resourceful in some things I needed. My only stress at AIR and Krems was the transportation system; I was finding it stressful to be moving at long distance to get some things I really needed, like Ghanaian food.

On what I realized, I would say, the AIR allowed me to work on all the details in my paintings with my wife who is not an artist. Back in 'Studio 1990', my studio in Accra, I mostly work with my studio assistants to finish the pieces. Some are into fashion thus specialist in textile and sewing, others were train in painting by me and this situation meant that I do every detail especially the intricate collages. During the months of residency and this challenge, I was able to produce four pieces of paintings and rework on twenty-three digital print of my paintings.

Concerning what I missed at the residency, it will be my first and second day. Since I mostly work during the night in my studio home, my first and second day in the studio space was to my disadvantage, because of the lack of artificial daylight bulb for mid-night painting section. So I had to buy those bulbs myself to be able to work at night.

To conclude, firstly, I honestly appreciate the institution for allowing my wife and child to come to the residency space with to work with me. It meant a lot to me, because I was able to be with my family whiles away from my country. Secondly, I thank AIR – ARTIST IN RESIDENCE for giving me this opportunity and providing me with resourceful staff to assist me during my stay. I also appreciate AIR for granting me opportunity to do an interview by ORF TV station and visiting artist Helen Frankenthaler's collection at Kunsthalle Krems.

