

**Report: Jenny Maclay**

**AIR – ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Niederösterreich, April 4-May 28, 2022**

**How was your residency at AIR – ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Niederösterreich Program?**

My time at this program was absolutely incredible! I planned a busy performance and concert schedule because I wanted to maximize my time and meet as many musicians as I could during my two months in Krems. I was very happy for the opportunity to collaborate with local musicians and learn more about the Austrian clarinet and classical music scene.

**Please note advantages and disadvantages of the program**

There are so many advantages that it's difficult to know where to begin. The living accommodations are very comfortable and spacious, and it was great to be able to practice in my flat. The opportunity to meet and work with other artists, organizations, and local institutions in collaboration with the AIR program allows resident artists to meet local artists. The only disadvantage I can think of is that I wish my residency were longer so I could continue to enjoy beautiful Krems!

**What did you realize during your residency period?**

During my residency, I realized the importance of balancing work and leisure. Even though I had a very busy rehearsal and performance schedule, I made it a priority to enjoy Krems and the beautiful Wachau valley. It was rewarding to be able to walk along the Danube, explore Stein, and wander through the cobbled streets of Krems while still being productive. I plan to continue this work/life balance I achieved during this residency, because I believe it will only enhance my creative output.

**What did you miss at the residency?**

Nothing – I had everything I needed for daily life in my apartment, and the AIR team (as well as the Ernst Krenek Institut) was very helpful in answering my questions and giving me suggestions to enjoy my time here in Krems.

**What do you appreciate at AIR – ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Niederösterreich Program?**

I really appreciated the effort that the AIR program made to schedule activities to meet and interact with the other artists while visiting local institutions. This was a great way to meet the artists, learn about their work, and build the potential for interdisciplinary collaborations. Overall, this is an excellent program and I will be recommending it to my artist friends!

---

I am so thankful for the two months I spent in Krems during my artist residency project in collaboration with the Ernst Krenek Institut. My project included the research, performance, and promotion of the clarinet compositions of Austrian-American composer Ernst Krenek (1900-1991) and his wife Gladys Nordenstrom Krenek (1924-2016).

With the help of the Ernst Krenek Institut, I was able to learn more about the life and legacy of Ernst Krenek and Gladys Nordenstrom Krenek. As an American clarinetist, I am interested in analyzing and performing the clarinet compositions of Ernst Krenek and his wife Gladys because

she was American, and Ernst lived in both Austria and the United States. I am researching their clarinet works from both a scholarly and interpretative perspective, which culminated in a concert at the Salon Krenek on May 17, 2022 with local musicians.

This concert, “Jenny spielt auf,” received its name from a variation of one of Krenek’s most famous works (“Johnny spielt auf”), and I was very thankful for the opportunity to collaborate with talented musicians from the Musikschule Krems to share some solo and chamber works featuring the clarinet.

**Concert program (all works by Ernst Krenek):**

Monologue for solo clarinet, Op. 157 (1956)

Suite for clarinet and piano, Op. 148 (1955)

Kleine Suite for clarinet and piano, Op. 28 (1924)

Trio for clarinet, violin, piano, Op. 108 (1946)

Serenade for clarinet, violin, viola, cello, Op. 4 (1919)

**Performers:**

Jenny Maclay, clarinet

Julia Kainz, violin

Saverio Ruol Ruzzini, viola

Malena Mocciaro, violoncello

Barbara Datler, piano

In addition to rehearsing and performing these works, I am also interested in continuing my research of Krenek’s compositions. I met with scholars from the Ernst Krenek Institut to examine manuscripts, documents, and books which will help me continue my research after the residency, which I plan to submit for publication. After the residency, I plan to upload selections from the concert to my YouTube channel and share my research on my blog (Jenny Clarinet) to help promote Krenek’s music to clarinetists around the world.







---

Although my project with the Ernst Krenek Institut was the main focus of my residency, I also had several performances and presentations throughout Austria and abroad, outlined below:

**Solo recital at the Alte Schmiede (Vienna) – April 1**

This program featured unaccompanied, contemporary Austrian clarinet compositions (including Ernst Krenek's Monologue for solo clarinet).



**Online lecture at the Maastricht Centre for the Innovation of Classical Music symposium  
“Borderlands: Classical Music and Society” (Online – Maastricht, Netherlands – April 22)**

My lecture topic was entitled “Classical Music Tourism: Blurring Borders through Cross-Cultural Experiences,” where I described ways we can combine classical music and travel to attract a wider audience for our art.

**Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien – April 29**

When I first received the acceptance notification for this residency, I wanted to learn as much as possible about Austrian clarinet history, repertoire, and performers. I began researching this subject and was asked to present my findings at the Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien.



### **Köchel Gesellschaft Benefit Concert – May 5**

I performed a charity chamber music recital featuring works for two clarinets, viola, and piano to help raise support for Ukraine.

### **Österreichischen Klarinettenengesellschaft – May 7**

I appeared as a guest soloist to perform the Mangani Concertpiece for two clarinets with the Austrian Clarinet Society. This was such an enriching experience to meet and perform with clarinetists from all over Austria!

### **Summartónar Classical Music Festival (Faroe Islands) – May 13, 14**

Last year, I began researching Faroese clarinet compositions, and I was invited to perform at the 2022 Faroese classical music festival. I performed at the Listasavn Føroya (Faroese National Gallery), where I played the world premiere of Lasse Thorning Jæger's "Solo for the End of Time" for clarinet and electronics.



### **Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien – May 18**

After learning about my presentation on Austrian clarinet history at the Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien, I was invited to present the same lecture at the Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien.

