Report: Vera Mantiuk

AIR - ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Niederösterreich, April & May 2022

I have really positive feedback after thinking about my stay here in Krems. I hope I can stay longer in Austria. It was a good experience in a bad time for Ukrainians and artists at all. Now we are in a very strange and difficult situation, where we do not quite understand how we should behave, feel and whether we will be able to return home at all and whether there will be where. Of course, this leaves an imprint on the entire work and the creative process and makes you rethink a lot.

Studio apartments are conveniently located on the Kunstmeile, allowing artists visit any of the amazingly numerous exhibition halls and museums at almost any given time. Krems is a really beautiful city. It is easy to get out of the studio and walk around Krems/Stein, which is quiet and regularly many different festivals are happening. This can be tempting and exciting to see all the sights and do all the things. Although I certainly haven't seen everything Krems has to offer, but I tried. With my time of arrival at the residence, spring was starting. The singing of the birds, the lush blooming of greenery and vineyards around Krems, makes this city an object, an object of study. Often it is too bright and beautiful for the perception of someone, who just escaped war. War in Europe.

In the usual residence mode, these are very good rooms, that have almost everything, but since we shared one appartement as 4 persons, of course, there was not enough privacy, quiet and time to stay alone and think for yourself. During this time, the table in the common room has become the place of my life. Sometimes everyday installations, that change day after day, arose.







Very good and positive things that I will miss are meetings, exchange of experience with colleagues and communication with Austrian curators. I also managed to cook the national Ukrainian dish Borsch (it was really not easy to collect the necessary ingredients here). It became a real performance, and we've been eating this all together, artists and curtors, on the terrace.



Furthermore during the residence I was able to visit a sufficient number of exhibitions both in Krems and in Vienna.

Since I am a photographer and in the past a curator in the gallery of modern art in Odessa, I was interested in both photo exhibitions and interesting curatorial projects:

I had time for several exhibitions as part of the photowien. I remember especially

Fotogalerie Wien NURTUREONATHAS DE ANDRADE "O Peixe (The Fish)"

I was also able to visit musical performances, in Austria they are often in the premises of the church. This one was at Minoritenkirche.

- concert by Wolfgang Suppan .with good music and good lights element

I also want to mention a wonderful tour through Kunsthalle Krems with Florian Steininger, artistic director and Andreas Hoffer

- Andreas Werner, "Galaktal"

It remembered me on Odessa Silent Film Festival on the Potemkin Stairs and the film Metropolis 1927

- Margot Pilz "Selbstauslöserin"
- a good contemporary exhibition

many themes from the exhibition felt near to me

- we also managed to visit the museum of the history of Krems and followed the curator Gregor Kremser speaking about the Japanese artist Haruko Maeda

In Vienna I visited the following exhibitions:

- Albertina Museum Al WEIWEI "IN SEARCH OF HUMANITY"
- GUSTAV KLIMT "DIE ZEICHNUNGEN"
- Leopold Museum, Egon Schiele
- "From Monet to Picasso". Masterworks from the Albertina. The Batliner Collection

An interesting gallery in Krems is Galerie Stadtpark. The curator David Komary just opened the exhibition Deborah Stratman.

Other interesting exhibitions I saw:

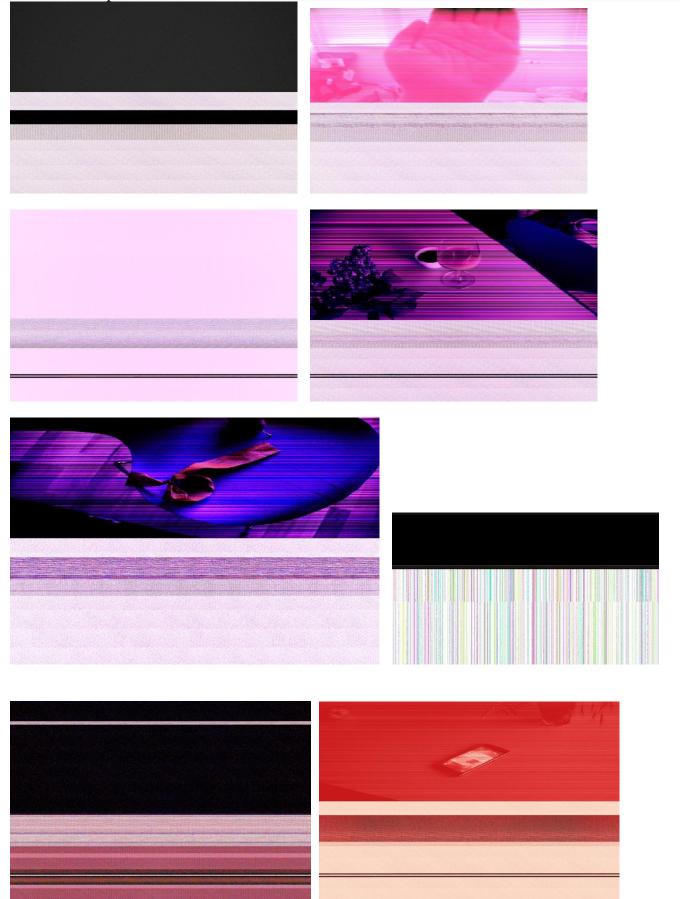
- Fotogalerie Wien "SOLO XIII" BASTIAN SCHWIND"
- Susanne Gamauf RENAISSANCE "Das Flüstern der Nacht"
- at Landesgalerie Niederösterreich, with curator Guenther Oberhollenzer. I was especially surprised by the large project "RENDEZVOUS MIT DER SAMMLUNG. Kunst von 1960 bis heute", the collection located on 4 floors of the museum. It was possible to chat with some of the artists at the opening day.

I also took advantage of the opportunity, that I am in the wine region of Austria and there is a long tradition of winemaking here. I was able to visit the vineyards and several wine exhibitions.

Thanks for all in this!

When having left Odessa after the start of the war, I decided to continue my personal project about myself "Look like selfy". But then I found my camera broken. Regular everyday things take on a different meaning. It was not possible to fix the camera.

I decided to continue and make a project with a broken camera and a broken life of my country. We seem to be stuck. I can not believe what happened. Like the mechanical error, where one part is black, one part is colored. But with an error.



Plus I would like to add, that I would very much like to stay as an artist at the residence for

rganization of cultural events, wine and arts.
hanks Vera

another month and continue my project. I have several other projects that I would like to work

temporarily or permanently in the field of art curation, exhibitions, art spaces or help with the

on. Also, as a refugee, I would be extremely interested in the opportunity to work here