

RESIDENCY REPORT: Anja Zag Golob

AIR – ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Niederösterreich, September 2023

I came to work on 2 projects: one was to write and prepare for my performance at the Auden Poetry Festival 2023 on September 30th in Kirchstetten. For this, I wrote a cycle of 5 poems in English, titled **High Waters**. I also took part at translating them into German, and translated them into Slovene during my residency, as I plan to publish them as I return.

The second part of the residency was devoted to finishing my 5th poetry collection in Slovene, titled **watson**. This was a rather particular work, as the book is conceptual, hence I had to work through all the stuff I brought from home, and to incorporate new ideas into it, which can take time. I can work very well here in Krems/Stein, the river and the climate conditions help me a great deal, hence I finished even before the schedule, for which I am truly thankful. I felt at ease in Krems most of the time, I woke up with the first light and went running along the river. This offered me plenty of opportunities to think, as the calm there in the early mornings is extraordinary.

I appreciate the residency a great deal as it allows to concentrate on artistic work, and helps along, also with the scholarship, because you needn't think about the conditions, you can focus entirely on art. This is very heavy to achieve outside such conditions, and is also the reason why I am so thankful to the organisers.

If anything, I might just have some suggestions along the way: to clean the windows and the drain in the shower, maybe to also check the washing machine as it makes some weird noises when in function. Otherwise all was great. Thanks again to all who organise it and to all who keep it running. And an extra thanks to Julia and Lisa for their kindness and help. I felt great here, and I hope I will be able to return.

Anja Zag Golob,
poet,
Slovenia



LIST:

- High Waters, a cycle dedicated to people in Koroška, 5 poems in English
- Visoke vode, translation to Slovene
- watson, a poetry collection in Slovene

Maribor, October 1st 2023