



TEXT

Following questions can be answered in the report:

How was the residency? Advantages and disadvantages of AIR Niederösterreich.

I found the residency to be incredibly generative, pleasurable, and relaxing. I think the advantages of the residency are:

1. Its open-endedness, allowing the artists space and time to do what needs to be done on its own time instead of with pressing deadlines.
2. Its location which removed me from the hustle and bustle of a large city (Chicago) and provided me a different experience of time with daily living.
3. The balcony on the studio which provided me with daily experiences of wonder, productivity, and relaxation. The shared balcony was also a wonderful space to share drinks and end of day conversations with other artists
4. The opportunity to explore the museums, including the Kino im Kesselhaus, in Krems for free. This was wonderful for allowing me time to sit and think with the various types of art that was on exhibition.

I can't think of any major disadvantages, other than perhaps no air conditioning on really hot days...but then those were great days to get out and visit museums for their air conditioning. My only "negative," which may be due to a general reality of traveling internationally and less about the residency per se. was...

1. I found the "introduction" to the experience a little underwhelming/anxiety provoking. Having never been on a residency like this, I was expecting a bit more "orientation" to any expectations (or that there are no expectations) and suggestions about key/important things to try to experience or do while in Krems. I think the folder in the studio was helpful and I was able to come over and talk to you (Lisa and Klaus) when I had questions, but I think a shared orientation where all the artists formally meet one another and get a lay of the residency would have jump started the experience. I think the Smash Burger Monday and invitation to the vernissage + dinner created these moments, which may be the more organic approach after folks have settled in and explored on their own.
 - a. Since I was sent via SAIC, I realize I arrived in the middle of the month so these orientation experiences may be provided to those who arrive together on the same day as I learned others did. I appreciated the staggered arrival I had as it allowed me to meet two sets of colleagues.

What did you realize during your residency period?

I realized, in a broad sense, the importance and beauty of meeting strangers in a context that is not one's own and having time to develop relationships with those strangers through shared walks, meals, wine spritz's, and time on balconies. I think the open-ended nature of AIR allowed me to have time to both engage in my own professional practices while also meet others who were also unfamiliar with Krems. This dynamic allowed me to share my work with others, having them ask questions about it as well as to hear about their diverse practices and ask questions of them. It was, simply put, educational and pleasurable to share and learn together.

Regarding my writing practice as an educational philosopher, I was able to:

- Complete 4 draft Chapters for my forthcoming book project *Queers Teach This!* to be published by Bloomsbury . I sent these chapters out to colleagues for peer reviews.
- Draft 2 additional chapters for my book that will be completed after my time at AIR
- Draft 1 journal article to be submitted to the journal *Curriculum Inquiry* that is related to my community engaged research project *The LGBTQ+ Intergenerational Dialogue Project*.
- Conduct 8 oral history interviews with lesbian and gay elders from Chicago for a project in development. This included transcribing the 8 interviews

Regarding my personal experiences during my residency, I was able to

- Develop friendships with other artists in residence allowing me to learn about their work in painting, architect, building culture, photography/filmmaking, and music
- Gain further insights and understandings on art in Austria through visiting and engaging the various museums in Krems (as well as Vienna and Salzburg)
- Think and develop deeper insights into European politics and histories through conversations with other artists-in-residence, including the impact of the War in Ukraine.
- Have time to sit, read, and think about a range of contemporary issues of concern to me without other pressing daily tasks.

What did you miss at the residency?

I missed air conditioning during really hot days, in large part because it is challenging to focus on writing when it gets too warm in a space. I missed my “people” and “puppy” back home, but with modern technologies I was able to keep in touch with them.

What do you appreciate at AIR Niederösterreich?

- I appreciate the opportunity to have a space and time to engage in work with little to no pressures on producing something beyond the pressure one applies to produce something on one’s own time.
- I appreciate the studio that was provided. While sparse, it was perfect for allowing me to focus on my thinking and writing either at the desk or on the balcony. I was sad to not have a couch, but also happy to not have a couch because it forced me to sit on the balcony and enjoy the view
- I appreciate the morning and/or afternoon conversations I often had from my balcony with Lisa and/or Klaus. I found such conversations to provide, over time, insights into AIR, Krems, Austria, and more.
- I appreciate the kindness of David Komary who invited me to have a coffee and conversation my first full day. I also appreciate how he invited the residents’ to a vernissage and dinner as a way for us to meet one another and learn about the art on exhibition
- I appreciate the other artists in residence that I met while in Krems. I found the conversations, the walks, and sharing of meals, and more to really make the experience special.

List all projects, workshops, concerts, exhibitions, events etc. that you realized or participated in during your residency. Please add all data (title, date, time, place).

Vernissages

- June 30, 2023 – Christina Kubisch at Minoritenkirche (Sound Installation)
- June 30, 2023 – Christiane Peschek at Galerie Krems (Soft Core)
- July 1, 2023 – Damir Očko at Dominican Church (Bird Milk and Other Spirits)

- July 7, 2023 – Doris Piwonka at Galerie Stadtpark (Intermediate)

Films at Kino im Kesselhaus

- June 15, 2023 - Book Club: Chapter Two
- June 21, 2023 - Brainwashed: Sex-Camera-Power
- June 24, 2023 - Und Dann Kam Dad

Museum Visits

- June 15, July 7, 8, 2023 - Galerie Stadtpark
- June 20, 2023 - Kunsthalle Krems
- June 30, July 5, 2023 - Minoritenplatz
- June 30, July 1, and July 10, 2023 - Museum Krems
- June 23, 2023 - Landesgalerie Niederösterreich

Architecture Library Activations (via Sophie and Christian)

- July 8, 2023 – Dream of a Shared Meal

Images with full credit information