Enrique Mendoza Mejía AIR – ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Niederösterreich Ernst Krenek Institute Lower Austria January 2019

How was the residency?

The residency was a really productive time for me. The living facilities allowed me to have a relaxed and calm environment to be able to focus on my creative process. I could have all the technical requirements needed for the purpose of my project; the team of AIR- NOE was really helpful to fulfill these requirements within a day, which was great for the flow of my work. I had some meetings with the other artists in residence making a very enjoyable time and the exchange of ideas with artists from around the world is very inspiring. The relation with the Ernst Krenek Institute was really a highlight for the purpose of my project, and again the team of the Institute was really helpful and generous with their time and their facilities.

This exchange residency with CMMAS at Morelia City, Mexico proved to be a great opportunity to create art, meet artists and feel the pulse of the music scene in Austria.

Advantages and disadvantages of AIR – ARTIST IN RESIDENCE.

One of the main advantage for me is the relation that AIR — NOE has with the Ernst Krenek Institute because gave me the really unique opportunity to work without any pressure of time in the Buchla Synthesizer that was Ernst Krenek own Synth. This 50-year-old Synthesizer is a classic nowadays and it is almost impossible to work with such a Synthesizer anywhere in the world. Furthermore, the closeness to the Ernst Krenek Forum where I was going almost daily to work in the Buchla Synthesizer, with just a 5 minutes walk to the Minoritenplatz in Stein. I could enjoy the architecture of this lovely part of the City.

Another important advantage for me was to be able to work in my own apartment. I had enough space, light, proper furniture and equipment without bothering any colleague or being bothered by the work of others. I was also able to work in the common apartment using all the tools provided there to produce my mini-synths.

What did you realize during your residency period?

1) I was able to build one Lo-fi Granular Mini-synth. I could program the chip using an Arduino circuit and then solder all the parts to finally put everything together in the enclosure.



2) I built a wave generator that produces sound waves from 1Hz to 1MHz, to be able to experiment with the recording of infrasound and pitch shifters to compose music.



3) I worked with the Buchla Modular Synthesizer and I produced and recorded 7 hours of sounds that are going to be the raw material to compose an electronic music album of 45 minutes, that is going to be published online on the main music platforms.

What did you miss at the residency?

More time is the only thing I missed during my residency. If I could have done a 3 months residency, I could also have finished the composition, mixing and mastering of the album.

What do you appreciate at AIR - ARTIST IN RESIDENCE?

Above all, I greatly appreciate their kindness and professionalism to the teams from the different Institutions involved during my residence. I would like to especially thank Nadja Klement and Sabine Güldenfuß from AIR – Niederösterreich; Jo Aichinger and Paula Haslinger from Klangraum Krems; and Clemens Zoidl and Alethea Neubauer from Ernst Krenek Institute.