

AIR-Report/Bucos Catalina/August 2019

The occasion to spend one month in Krems, in the AIR – ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Nieder-österreich program was excellent. Not only did it offer me the opportunity to research, develop artistic my projects and concepts, but also it was a good time to get to know other artists-in-residence's practices as well as to discover Lower Austria art institutions. During my month I had also the opportunity to bike, swim, run around Krems, which was very special and beneficial to my body and subsequently my practice.

I have visited many exhibitions, installations, in Krems and Vienna, had nice talks with the curator Andreas Hoffer, but also with Johan Simonsen and David Komary had common dinners with other artists in residence, all of them influenced my works which I developed in Krems.

The location of the residence place is from my point of view an advantage and disadvantage of the program. From one side, the city is really small, and is hard to find a subject/theme to work with, from another side, it is great to work on one one's artistic practices and concepts, which I took advantage of. Other than that, I liked the exhibition spaces, the organized trips by AIR - visiting Ausstellungshaus Spoerri was really a special occasion, especially because we could bmeen and talk to the artist personally. Susanne Wenger foundation was also a nice discovery, last but not least the guided tour through Kunsthalle Krems gave me a lot of insights on the way the exhibition was created, which I liked.

I worked on several projects, some that emerged while being there - Running Line intervention, News Gifizer (working name), and some that I was already developing before coming to Krems - rehearsing for the play Die Abschaffung der Familie by Nicoleta Esinencu, contributing to organizing exhibition Taxonomy Moldova by Volker Kreidler and Tanja Sokolnykova, and a group installation and project RE:PUBLIC.

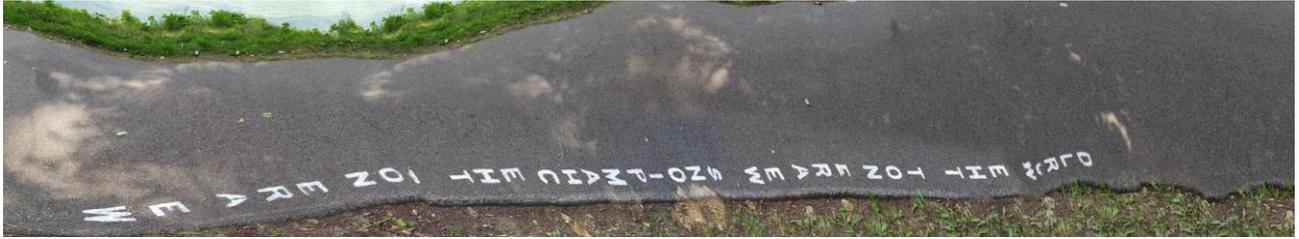
Running Text intervention/Krems/August 2019

Running text is a public intervention, located in between the Danube river and a forest, in Krems. While normally a running text would be called a rotating text screened on a LED display, used for sale announcements, countdown timers or competition results, the intervention is a text printed on the running path. The text consists of two phrases, inspired by pop music "We are not the champions. We are not the world."

Sport is a part of our pop culture and generally a practice thought to improve our health and wellbeing. Some might argue that sport is an appendix of our work routine, a practice that people use to compensate for poor healthcare system, and a practice that involves a mechanical approach to body training, and which resembles the capitalist need of being the first, the best, the strongest.

The intervention invites runners and bikers to reflect their practice, be closer to nature and question sport, and it's implication in a contemporary world, which intertwines with many layers of the contemporary living and lifestyle. The site of the installation, between a small forest and Danube river, was chosen intentionally, to point out the need of reevaluating the

relationship between human and nature.



Running Text documetation

News Gifizer/Work In Progress/ In Collaboration with Mircea Mastovoi

News Gifizer (working name) is a speculative digital resource that addresses and questions online media outlets.

The algorithm is a digital media mapping system. It crawls most *popular* articles and news, transforms their headlines, word by word, into GIF conglomerates and maps the outcome in multiple windows on the website. The map renews daily.

The purpose of the algorithm is to transform popular media headline's words into GeoCities Archive GIFs - a collection GIFs from the web hosting service websites that was used between 1994-2009. It selects, deconstructs and encodes the *popularity* based news search results, one of the main components of the current search engines algorithms, into a random visual system, dictated by the user input (the resulted GIFs are resulted from the description in the GIF metadata) from a digital era that we have overcome - an era where search engine optimization and user experience design was not the main concern of site creators.

News Gifizer website prototype

The work argues the epistemology of current mass information outlets, the phenomena of knowledge distribution and hegemony, and the search engines algorithms that facilitate media eurocentrism, racism, classism and others.

The work invites its users to dive in the nostalgia of the eccentric and colorful websites of the 90s - a period when world wide web just have started to be more accessible to people and was generally perceived optimistically, but also review and question it as a period when its capitalist structures - a snowball of the privilege of the big and authoritative just started to roll, intercalating and enhancing a current advanced post truth and post privacy era.



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