# AIR – ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Niederösterreich Program report

Artist in Residence: Nikoletta Pana, architect.

I have been an artist in residence, hosted by the AIR Niederösterreich Program and ORTE Architekturnetzwerk NÖ, for three months from October 2019 to December 2019. This period was an amazing opportunity for me to get a first contact with the Austrian culture, to travel around Lower Austria and have new experiences, to meet fellow artists from different places of the world, to participate in various cultural events and to complete the research for the project that I had planned to do.

The program is very well designed, providing the artists everything needed in terms of accommodation and assistance with general matters that may occur during the period of the residence. I always felt welcomed, appreciated and I knew that there were people around to whom I could rely in every step. The program provides for free entrances in most museums and cultural events of Krems, as well as arranged guided tours for the AIR guests twice a month. This was a great chance to get in touch with contemporary art, with Austrian culture and to meet artists and professionals of the sector to exchange points of view with them. As far as the accommodation is concerned, every artist is hosted to an individual, furnished and well-arranged apartment that disposes of all the amenities needed. The only disadvantage that I could find in the program is that after being accepted, it takes a long time to finally attend the residence. In my case I had to confirm the attendance of the residence program almost a year in advance, without being able to predict how my life and general schedule would be up to that date.

During the three months that I stayed in Krems I did the research for my project <The Legal "Illegal">. The project focuses on identifying examples of (listed) built heritage that have been subject to contemporary additions and modifications. Although these alterations are legal and respect the local restrictions for built heritage, they do not match to the character of the historical building or city. The idea of the project started in Athens and then I thought it would be very interesting to expand it in Lower Austria and make some consideration about the practices used in Greece and Austria. Given the nature of the project I had the chance to visit cities and villages of Lower Austria in order to identify the examples that I needed. I examined examples of problematic interventions to the built heritage in the cities of Krems a.d. Donau, Dürnstein, Emmersdorf, Melk, St. Pölten, Tulln and Vienna.
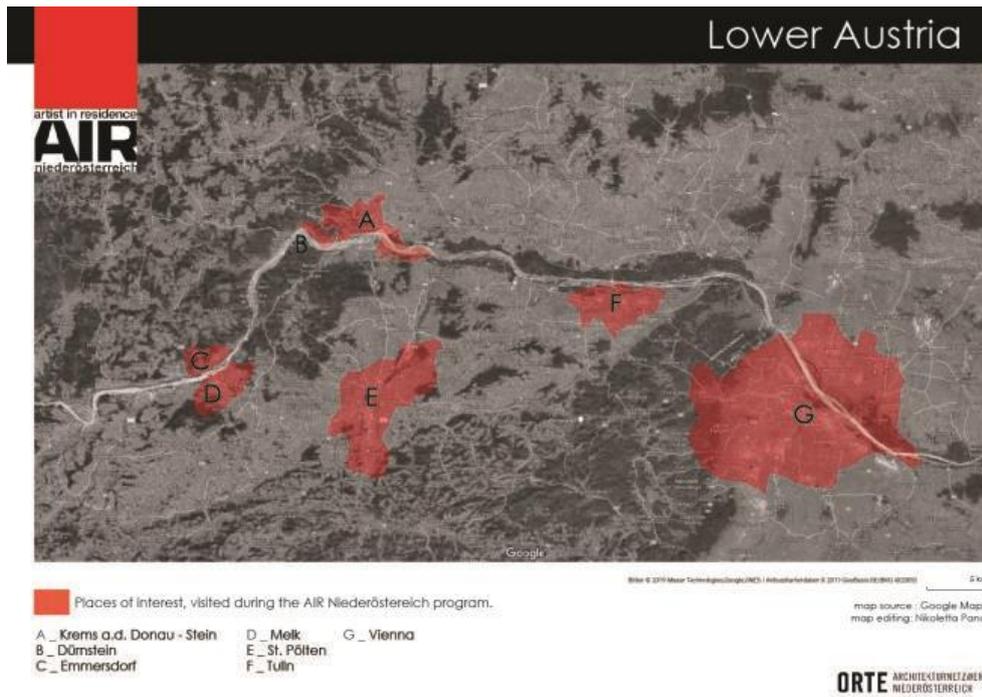
The places that I visited in Lower Austria and that are being analized in the project The Legal "Illegal".

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This material was very helpful in order to make some comparisons between the Greek and Austrian practices. In both states, particularly in Austria, some excellent examples of preservation of historical buildings with contemporary additions can be found. Despite this fact, my research was focused on identifying some unsuccessful examples in order to point the attention to malpractices that should not be repeated.
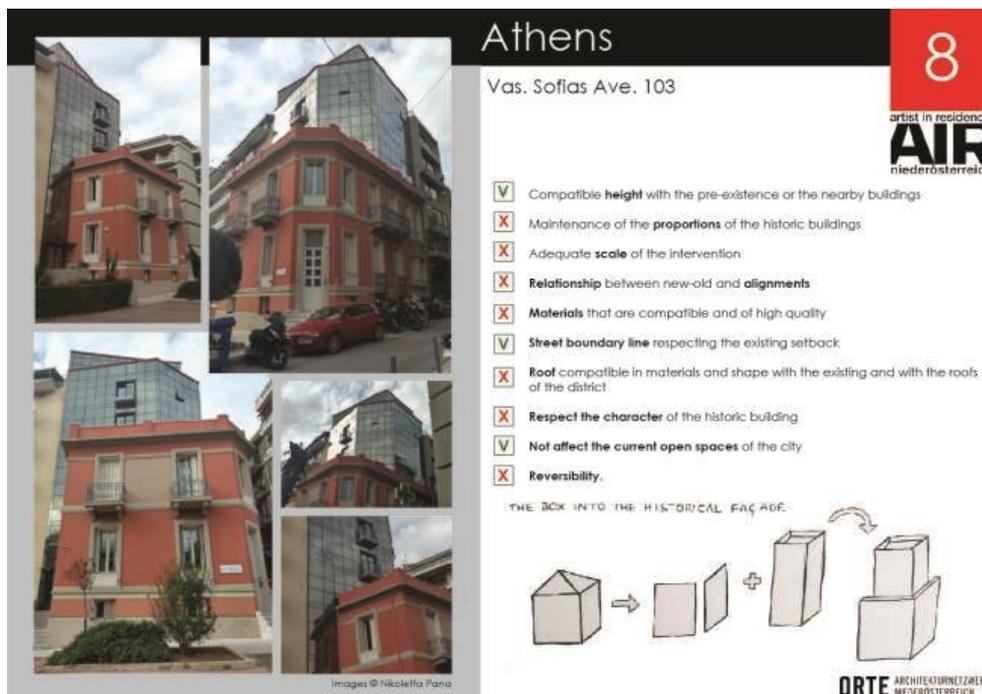
An example of problematic addition to a historical building in Athens. From the project The Legal "Illegal".

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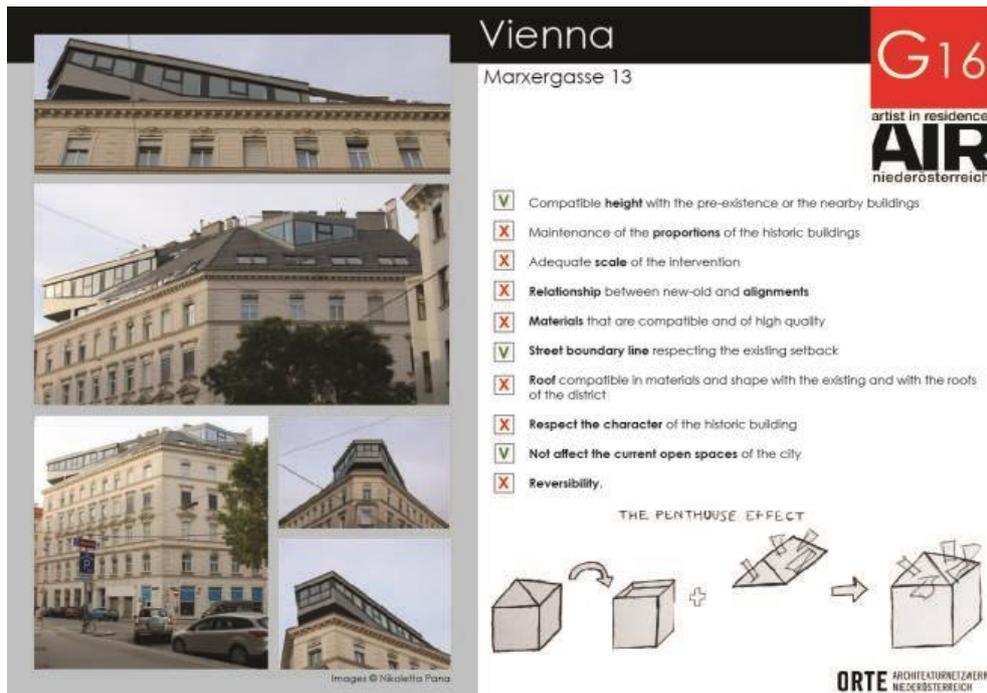
An example of problematic addition to a historical building in Vienna. From the project The Legal "Illegal".

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MUSEUMS and CULTURAL EVENTS that I attended, PLACES THAT I HAVE VISITED during the AIR Program:

OCTOBER

- 7/10/2019 _ Karikaturmuseum Krems.

- 7/10/2019 _ Landesgalerie Krems.

- 9/10/2019 _ River Danube cruise from Krems to Melk (general view of the Wachau landscape and of the villages of Dürnstein, Spitz, Emmersdorf and Melk).

- 10/10/2019 _ Visit in the village of Dürnstein from Krems by bus, for the purpose of my research (monastery, village and castle).

- 11/10/2019 _ Visit in the village of Melk and Mautern from Krems by bus, for the purpose of my research (abbey and village).

- Guided tour for the AIR artists to Kunsthalle Krems for the exhibition "Ticket to the Moon".

- Guided tour for the AIR artists to the Ernst Krenek Forum.

- 20/10/2019 _ visit of the exhibition "Somewhere in the World" at the Forum Frohner in Krems and talk with the artist Pélagie Gbaguidi.

- 25/10/2019 _ visit of the city of St. Pölten by train, for the purpose of my research.

NOVEMBER

- 5/11/2019 _ visit of the city of Tulln by train, for the purpose of my research.

- 6/11/2019 _ Photography exhibition of the AIR artist Jangkura in Vienna.

- 7/11/2019 _ visit of the city of Vienna by train, for the purpose of my research.

- 8/11/2019 _ visit of the city of Vienna by train, for the purpose of my research.

- 9/11/2019 _ visit of the city of Vienna by train, for the purpose of my research.

- 10/11/2019 _ visit of the Museum Hundertwasser – Kunst Haus Wien.

- 21/11/2019 _ music concert of the AIR artist France Cobin at the Ernst Krenek Forum, Krems.

- 22/11/2019 _ Guided tour for the AIR artists to the Stadpark galerie, Krems. Exhibition "Time Signatures".

- 23/11/2019 _ Opening of the exhibitions "En la Herida" by Teresa Morgolles and "Lost Communities" by Andrian Paci at the Kunsthalle in Krems.

DECEMBER

- 2/12/2019 _ visit of the city of Vienna by train, for the purpose of my research.

- 4/12/2019 _ visit at the Technisches Museum Wien in Vienna.

- 4/12/2019 _ visit at the Albertina Museum in Vienna.

- 5/12/2019 _ visit at the MAK Museum in Vienna.

- 6/12/2019 _ visit at the Naturhistorisches Museum in Vienna.

- 7/12/2019 _ visit at the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna.

- 8/12/2019 _ visit at the Leopold Museum in Vienna.

- 8/12/2019 _ visit at the Österreichische Nationalbibliothek in Vienna.