

I was very pleased that David Komary, curator of Galerie Stadtpark invited me back to Krems an der Donau. I therefore took part in the AIR – ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Niederösterreich from mid-July till mid-August 2021. I came with the intention to continue our discussion about the potential project at Galerie Stadtpark, which we started discussing with David Komary during my previous participation at AIR in October and November 2020. Previously, one of the most significant elements that inspired my creative thinking was the natural light in my studio. I started to document the natural light patterns on the walls and floors of my studio, which resulted with sketches, illustrating ideas of how light and shadow can be as much of a material of a built form as any other. This idea became the starting point for developing a site-specific project at Galerie Stadtpark.

Very precise natural light patterns appear at Galerie Stadtpark at certain times throughout the day, which I was tracking and took it as the base from which my project will grow. I was able to spend time at the gallery and develop ideas that will communicate directly with the given space and will introduce new spatial sensations for the viewer. My art has always been site-specific, meaning that the intervention is inseparable from its setting. I am interested in how body movement responds to the various factors of the built environment and, furthermore, challenge the ways in which we observe and experience a given architectural situation. I want to question our perception, which connects back to one's own conditions, to the movement and transitory nature of any given set of conditions. My work enhances viewer's self-awareness, it evokes a consciousness of its own position in relation to the works. This awareness has not only to do with the viewer's position but with its temporary nature, which is linked to one's movement and perception of time. I have resulted with an idea that consists of static sculptural works that assume a liminal space between the built and the non-built, the ephemeral and long-lasting. My final outcome will be a site-specific work, which will act as an extension of the given architecture and will encourage the audience to gain a new understanding of the space by activating it through their experience. I will be creating an immersive environment that invites visitors to cross the threshold into a newly shared sensory space-time. I am interested in what a work of art can trigger in the viewer beyond what it merely is, materially or visually. I want to create work with a form that surpasses the form itself and transcends into an experience. Although the artworks I intend to exhibit, will consist of a static form, the final experience will have a strong essence of time. The sculptural objects will be precisely calculated, measured and placed in accordance to the natural light patterns in the space. The experience of the exhibition will therefore be different throughout the day. For only a very short time, a couple of minutes per day, the natural light will perfectly align with the rest of the work and connect the pieces into an immersive spatial experience. The current planning of the project is to execute it by the end of December 2021.

I found it extremely productive to exchange ideas with David Komary throughout my stay. His in depth understanding of my practice and of the space at Galerie Stadtpark led me to think of new possibilities that can be applied to my work. It has vastly broadened my creative thinking and I have no doubt that it will have a great impact in developing my work in the future. I would like to thank David Komary for the productive discussions, which had a great contribution in shaping my work. I am also grateful for all the hard work done by the AIR – ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Niederösterreich team, which has enabled me to have an extremely pleasant and productive stay in Krems. The whole team is very professional, helpful and passionate to make this residency the best experience possible for the artists. The structure of the AIR program and its facilities are providing an excellent environment to work in and be inspired by.

In conclusion, I have had a very productive month at AIR. I was able to really dedicate my time to my practice and exchange thoughts with fellow artists to stimulate my work. I have furthered my practice with new approaches and was inspired to start a new series of works, which will have the emphasis on natural light, the notion of weight, time and our experience of it. I am eager to return to Krems in order to finalise and execute the site-specific project at Galerie Stadtpark. I am very grateful to David Komary for having me at the residency and to the whole AIR team for being so accommodating, supportive and kind.

During my residency, I had the pleasure of visiting the following shows:

Paolo Icaro (Idem Est) at Galerie Stadtpark, Krems an der Donau

Christian Helwing. (B)EAST! at Kunsthalle Krems, Krems an der Donau

Christian Helwing. (B)EAST! at Dominikanerkirche Krems, Krems an der Donau

Marc Vilanova (Limen) Minoritenkirche Krems, Krems an der Donau

Permanent collection, as well as Three Decades From Schiele To Schlegel From Private Collections, We Are Everywhere The Cliffhanger Collection, The State Gallery of Lower Austria

Susanna Fritscher commissioned by the Kunst Historisches Museum, Theseus Temple, Vienna

And Mette Hol (Becoming (Working Title) at Mumok, Vienna

Melanie Ender (Smooth, so surface! Oh yeah...), Wien Museum Musa, Startgalerie Arthothek, Vienna

Kerstin Von Gabain (I'll see you when I see you) at Exile, Vienna

Group show Camouflage curated by Zdenek Felix at Galerie Meyer Kainer, Vienna

Ovidiu Anton (Case Study / Border Monument) at Christine König Galerie, Vienna



Paolo Icaro (Idem Est) at Galerie Stadtpark, Krems an der Donau