

Report Cecilia Enberg, April 2017
International Exchange Institution:
ÖKKV – Örnköldsviks Kollektiva Konstnärsverkstad, Örnköldsvik, Sweden.

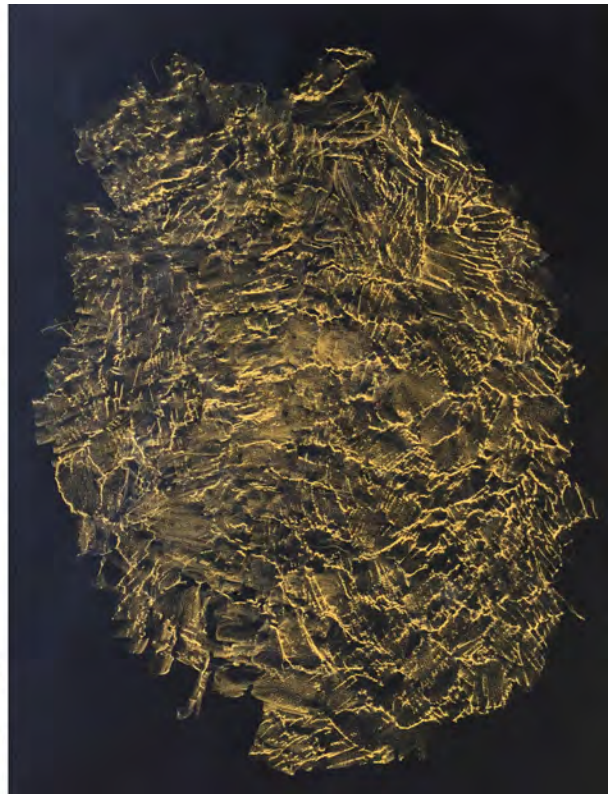
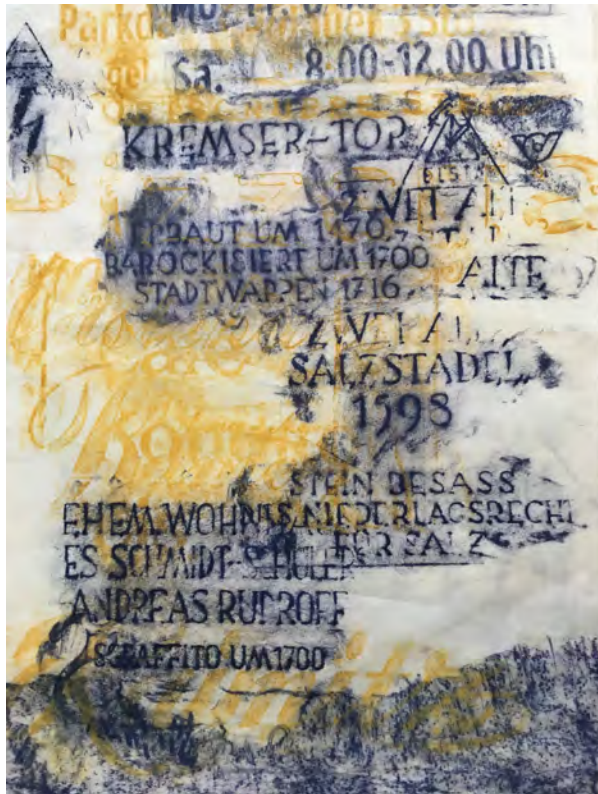


Mixtape, drawings, ongoing project since 2010

My stay at the residency has been a fruitful and useful time to nurture experimentation. During the month I have wandered around in Krems and Stein, as my project idea was to explore Krems on site in different ways. It's been an interesting period of research on location and I made a lot of documentations in various techniques. I tracked my movements and observations with the help of photography, sound recording, drawing and writing. I made a lot of frottage (rubbing) on paper. There are a lot of uneven surfaces in a city. You can read a city in so many layers. And what can you literally read when you wander through a city landscape? You see signs with information, rules and prohibitions. And you can also find signs about important persons, buildings and historical moments. Krems and Stein are both very old cities and the amount of signs, plaques and statues with year and dates written, confirms and manifests the long history of the place. All those words and texts on the different signs draw my attention and I did my own reading and edit them together in various ways.

When I arrived in the beginning of April the Apricot tree blossomed and the green hills of the Danube valley was striking. It's hard not to be taken by the beautiful landscape and nature around Krems. During my walks I also collected leaves and flowers and brought them back to the studio. I continue my work with rubbings on paper and used them to make different patterns.

I worked with my project *Mixtape*, a sort of a visual diary, ongoing since 2010. It's a daily routine for me in the studio to draw or make a collage on a paper (28 x 22 cm). I had time to read two books I brought for inspiration; *Wanderlust. A History of Walking* by Rebecca Solnit and *Species of Spaces and Other Pieces* by Georges Perec and I also did ongoing research and reading online about Krems.



Works on paper. (Coal and chalk)

The biggest setback for me was the unstable weather during my stay. Rain, wind and even snow one day made it hard and even impossible for me to go out and make rubbings when the papers only would have been destroyed by rain and wind. The apartment/studio is fully equipped and practical to live and work in. The only disadvantage for me is the 2 hours Wi-Fi access. I work a lot online for various projects and it's disturbing to be logged out or not be aware you're not online.

I took part in the organized visits by AIR Krems to Forum Frohner, Gallery Stadtpark and also went to an opening reception at Krems Museum. I went to three different concerts at the Klangraum/Minoretenkirchen during the Osterfestival Imago Dei. I went on a boat trip to Melk on the Danube and while in Melk I also visited the famous abbey. I visited Vienna two times where I did some shopping of artist materials and also visited different places including some museums and galleries. I have an upcoming appointment later this week with the Curator of the Textile and Clothing Collection at the Volkskundemuseum in Vienna. I will get a presentation about textile production and ornamentation in Austria. Needlework and textile are another interest of mine and I'm looking forward for the meeting.

I appreciated the studio visit and conversations with Verena Gamper and Andreas Hoffer. We will have a final studio talk and summit on Friday. I enjoyed the get together meeting when all artists in residence presented their work, practice and projects. It's an asset to stay with artists from different disciplines and not only visual artists. I had a really good time at AIR Krems, even if a month is a short period of time.

I want to thank all the staff working at the AIR office (Sabine Gueldenfusz and Stefanie Proksch-Weilguni) and at the Kunsthalle (Verena Gamper, Andreas Hoffer and Lucia Täubler). Thank you!

