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The Balkankult Foundation Intereg Residency

Annual report 2013

The Balkankult Foundation Intereg established the Balkankult Residency, open for guests since the end of 2011.

The *Residency* is located in the Northern part of Serbia, in the National Park of Mt. Fruska Gora, 50 km from Belgrade and 20 km from Novi Sad, an important university centre and the second largest city in Serbia. The location is characterised by exceptional natural surroundings (7 km from the Danube) and several late-medieval Orthodox monasteries

What makes this residency special? It seeks to host both creative artists and professionals in the field of liberal sciences (philosophers, sociologists, ethnologists and others) who are "critical thinkers" – in the sense that they reflect the reality and the way we interpret it in our observations, arguments and other forms of communication.

The center offers ultimate hospitality: artists and researchers are free to use the residency as they wish, without any obligations towards the host

Guests in Residency

Artists, writers and cultural practitioners from Japan, Great Britain, Italy, Austria, Holland and Norway stayed at the Centre in 2013.

Mariko Hori

March /April

Works, mainly installations, representing the alternative space and the moment when something special happens, what is found with real feelings by broadening or changing the focus in the details of daily life.

She spent her time in BKF Residency working on Airing project
<http://airing-korimariho.tumblr.com/>

This is an ongoing project in which Mariko Hori sets up small objects all over the world. The unexpected objects provide the viewer with a sudden and refreshing moment. For example, non-art objects in



an art museum could look like art work. A similar feeling could also be had in daily life, if you knew that there could be art objects all over the world.

Johanna Katerinas

April

Johanna Katerinas, (Portsmouth), currently doing MA in Fine Art at the University of Portsmouth. Her recent work uses Sound sometimes with moving image - to work with ideas of Memory and History, and particularly in relation to Collective Memory and Political Changes, and is often Site - Specific.

Her research over the past year or so has looked at these things with a focus on certain events in History during and since the Second World War; including looking at films such as "The Ister" which deals with The Danube, political change, movement and Migration, by focusing on certain Philosophers. <https://soundcloud.com/johanna-katerinas>



Fenna Plaisier

May

The young historian and activist of the Friends of the Earth Fenna Plaisier from the Netherlands was a guest of the Residence. During her stay she learned more about the culture and customs in Serbia.



Elena Messner and Eva Schörkhuber

July / August

[Eva Schörkhuber](#)

(<http://www.editionatelier.at/eva-schoerhuber.html>) is working on her novel "Golden Ages?" (working title) and Elena Messner

(<http://complit.univie.ac.at/index.php?id=33955>) is finishing the publication of a small book of essays and critics. Both also came to finish their work on their anthology to the literary Vienna Soundwalks, where writers from middle- and southern Europe write.



Wilfried Reinthaler

July

Wilfried Reinthaler is working on his art piece "under the bridge, schottwien" (concept: <http://point-of-infinity.net/bridge-konzept.html> - german only), a sound installation, concerning traffic and society in and around the lower Austrian town Schottwien. Also, he is laying groundwork for his art



project "distraction", an interactive art piece concerning privacy, self-expression and boredom within social networks.

Laura Ghiandoni

August

Italian artist working with photography and writing. She depends on her interest for the arts of poetry and photography combining them at times with what she called Photopoem. She worked on a social topic about Serbia. Taking pictures and writing poems about social issues.

<http://lauraghiandoniartworks.blogspot.com/>



Siri Therese Sollie

September

Cultural researchers from Norway spent a few days at the Residence and together with Dimitrije Vujadinović visited several private museums in Vojvodina. Her stay is in connection with her doctoral research on private museums in Vojvodina.

«The educational stay at the residence gave me invaluable lessons and memories for the future. Both in terms of my topic, but also in terms of the generous hospitality offered to me by my hosts.»



Experts working in the project - Small museums in the Serbia formed from Private Collections visited Residency

October, 26





Some Projects and Activities

Airing project - Mariko Hori

This is an ongoing project in which Mariko

Hori
sets



up small objects all over the world. The unexpected objects provide the viewer with a sudden and refreshing moment. For example, non-art objects in an art museum could look like art work. A similar feeling could also be had in daily life, if you knew that there could be art objects all over the world.

Airing Belgrade <http://airing-belgrade.tumblr.com/> Airing Novi Sad <http://airing-novisad.tumblr.com/>

Talking to the Silence...(2013) - Johanna Katerinas and Mariko Hori

Mariko Hori - Concept, Vocals, Composition

Johanna Katerinas - Concept, Keyboards, Sampling, Composition, Editing

Talking to the Silence... is a collaboration between British Artist Johanna Katerinas and Japanese Artist Mariko Hori.... <https://soundcloud.com/johanna-katerinas/talking-to-the-silence-2013>

The Sound piece interweaves original field recordings...with sampled contemporary beats...original keyboardsand the vocals of Mariko Hori singing a traditional Serbian song...the reversal of the beats and the vocals at times....along with the chimes towards the end...and the play with timing and expectations... are references to the tower clock in Novi Sad, Serbia... which is famous for having the minute and hour hands reversed...

Both Artists were residents at The Balkankult Foundation Artists Residency near Novi Sad, Serbia in the Spring of 2013...Talking to the Silence... is a Sound/Music piece conceived from the relative silence that both Artists encountered whilst at the Residency, and the creative ideas that were born out of this experience...



The Artists were filmed for Metropolis (an Arts Programme) by RTS Serbian Television...while at the Residency...and Talking to the Silence... was the main focus of these interviews...it was also covered by Politika..the Belgrade based Newspaper.....

Literary encounter

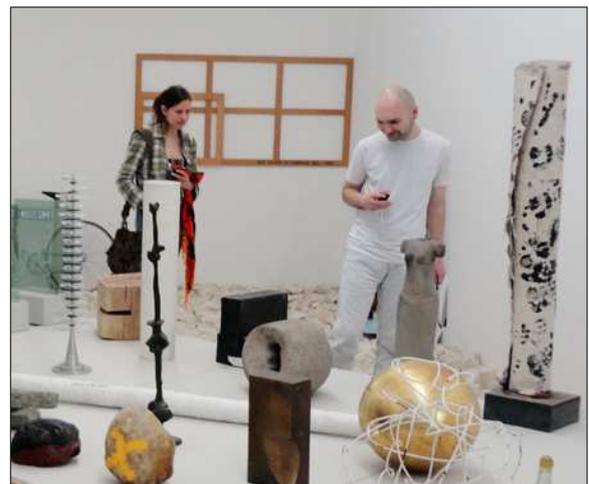
August, 26

Guests from Vienna Elena Messner and Eva Schörkhuber give a presentation on the projects on which they were working on the terrace of the Residency. Presentation was attended by Director of the Austrian Cultural Forum in Belgrade, journalists, publishers and literary men. After the presentation, Balkankult organized a cocktail party for all attendees.



Mariko, Johanna with friend for Serbia

Fenna in the seasons open at the Museum Macura



Mariko Hori in Belgrade - Swing, fishermen or confiture, the airing project

September

Photos and works created during the artist's stay in the Residency presented in two solo exhibitions in Belgrade.

https://www.facebook.com/events/465392193558464/?ref=notif¬if_t=plan_edited

http://www.gradbeograd.eu/article_program.php?id=753

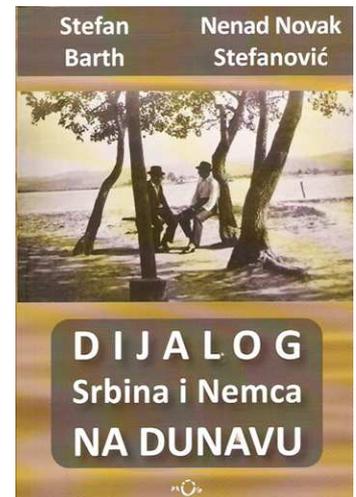
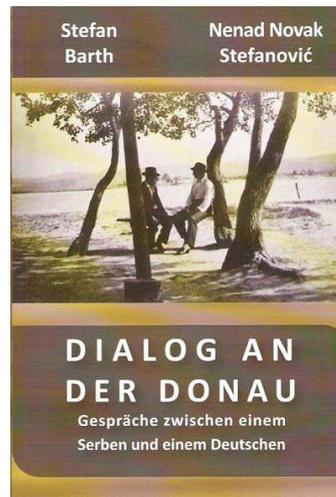


Dialog an der Donau

The Danube Dialogue is publication by authors Nenad Novak Stefanović and Stefan Barth on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of the settlements of the Germans in Vojvodina. The book came out in March 2013.

Throughout their 10-day stay in the BKF residential center (May 2012), the authors moderated discussions on life as it relates to the Danube: experience, heritage, prejudice, inspiration, historic views, perspectives, overcoming the negative, cultural cooperation in the Danube region, the Danube messages...

The publication is printed in Serbian and German.



Making apple brandy

The Residency organized destilarion of natural brandy in the courtyard. Guests of Residency Laura and Eva had the opportunity to learn how to make natural brandy (and taste it, too).



Press

Television crew of the National television RTS visiting Residency (18/04/2013)

Interview with Mariko Hori and Johanna Katerinas



Daily newspaper Politika, May, 6th

Cultural Incubator on Mt. Fruska Gora

Ms Mariko Hori of Japan and Ms Joan Katerinas of UK created art projects in the unique setting of the Residential Center in Serbia

Mariko Hori, an artist from Tokyo, who spent three weeks in Serbia more precisely on Mt. Fruska Gora, in the Residential Center of the BalkanKult Foundation, is sad to return to Japan. With her colleague from the UK, an artist Joan Katerinas, she was invited to stay and work in a unique residential center in Serbia and to learn more about the local community, Vojvodina, Belgrade, fellow artists...

Mariko Hori came up with a project based upon placing small-dimension objects in urban spaces.

"I place the objects that are not artworks but those used in everyday life in an artistic context. More specifically, if you place an ordinary object in the museum, for example a pair of scissors, it may be perceived as an object of art. Similarly, the same is true if you place them in open spaces, among objects that belong to the cultural heritage of a city, like ornaments, statues on buildings. A carrot in the jaws of a lion on a building façade in the German city of Kassel was of my making", Mariko Hori said.

This Japanese artist originally studied architecture, but said that architecture requires space which is scarce in Japan.

Mariko Hori spent her time in the Residential Center communicating with the local population. She overcame the language barrier with the help of Google translator, translating from Japanese into Serbian. To us, she sang a Serbian song "Hajde Jano, hajde duso". To please her British colleague Joan Katerinas, she sang the song in Japanese.

Joan Katerinas has been experimenting with sound.

"I am inspired by nature and the sound of silence on Mt. Fruska Gora. When you are surrounded by a relative silence, every sound is important. I discussed cooperation with Mariko and then your musician Gile from "Elektricni orgazam" also came on board. I have 10-15 minutes-long day and night recordings. By night, it is the sound of wind that prevails while throughout the day it is the sound of the chirping of birds, rain...

Gile and I discussed the possibility of me taking some segments from his latest album, Joan Katerinas said, who intends to enter competition with her works for a special program in this year's EXIT festival.

Residential program of BalkanKult cultural foundations is intended for a broad specter of art creators in the field of social studies – philosophers, sociologists, ethnologists, writers and all those critically-minded creators who seek to perceive reality through various forms of communication.

Karoly Mehes from Pecuj foundation, Hungary also stayed in the residential center on Mt. Fruska Gora. They established cooperation with the Academy Slos Solitude from Stuttgart. At that time, a joint project the Dialogue of Writers has been launched. In the BalkanKult Residential Center there were also German artists Rajnhard Dubrawa, Stefan Barth and Joerg Tokler, while the US artist Denise George focused on Vojvodina national cuisine. She also prepared a set of photographs on the food preparation in this part of Serbia.

Stefan Bart and Novak Stefanovic jointly worked on the project "Dialogue on the Danube" which resulted in the book under the same name while Rajnhard Dubrawa explored local identity, cultural needs, similarities and differences. Rut Margrof and Nikos Brisko staged a performance in Novi Sad which was previewed in Istanbul and Salonica.

Over the next few weeks, the BalkanKult Residential Center as a specific "creative cultural incubator" will host a Dutch historian Fenna Plaisier as well as a Finnish artist and photographer Jakkoo Haikkila, one of the most renowned art photographers.

M. Djordjevic

Some guests comments

Paradajz is Paradise

Not only the good taste of tomatoes (Paradajz) what is my favorite food in the world, but also lovely people who are full of hospitality, free, strong and with warm heart.

Beautiful nature in slow time drinking homemade wine and rakija (sometimes starting in the morning)... everything in Serbia is wonderful, Serbia is Paradise for me.

And futhermore, we must rememeber the special word "Don` t worry be happy" which is the password in BKF Residency.

I was worried about being always too happy. I really appreciate your kindness and please accept my heartfelt thanks for this wonderful opportunity.

Best wishes for your future.

Mariko Hori, 28th Apr. 2013

私の世界で一番好きな食べ物はトマト（セルビア語ではParadajz）ですが
その美味しさはもちろんのこと

ホスピタリティに溢れた自由で強く優しい人々

美しい自然、ゆったりとした時の流れ

ホームメイドのワインとラキア（を時に朝から呑むこと）

セルビアは私にとってまさにパラダイスでした。

そしてBKF Residencyの"Don't worry be happy"という合い言葉。

心配になってしまう程、毎日幸せに過ごす事が出来ました。

大変温かいお心遣いと素晴らしい機会を賜りましたこと、心より御礼申し上げます。

今後益々のご活躍を心から祈っております。

堀 真理子

Pleasant Time at the Residence

In connection with my doctoral research on private museums in Vojvodina, I spent some days at the Balkankult residence in Fruška Gora in mid-September 2013. I had a very pleasant time at the residence and in the beautiful surroundings, but foremost in the company of Dimitrije Vujaninović and his wife, Danica Radović, who are extremely warm and hospitable people.

The couple provided me with both information and data of private museums in the region and my stay gave me new insights and knowledge on the topic that I wanted to pursue.

The educational stay at the residence gave me invaluable lessons and memories for the future. Both in terms of my topic, but also in terms of the generous hospitality offered to me by my hosts.

Siri Therese Sollie