

ART?QUEST

Residencies
<<3 Months in Berlin>>

There are many artists' residencies in Berlin, offering a range of different types of living accommodation, studio space, information about the city and integration into Berlin's rapidly expanding art scene. For some, artists cover their own living and studio costs, while others provide free spaces and stipends. Many residences choose their artists through a competitive selection process while other residencies are awarded to artists by invitation only. What an artist's residency is or what it provides means so many different things and this goes for residencies anywhere in the world.

An artist I met in Berlin, who was on her third residency of the year, told me about a two-month residency in New York that she was considering applying for. Affiliated to a prestigious institution, the selected artists chosen for this residency are provided with a studio, accommodation, organised into seminar groups for regular meetings and introduced to New York based curators and critics. She told me it costs two thousand a month to do, but I neglected to ask whether this is two thousand Dollars, Euros or Sterling.

If you are doing an artist's residency in Berlin the people you will have most in common with are other artists doing residencies. They are not too difficult to find, as they will be the most open and friendly people at exhibitions openings and related talks and events. This ever changing demographic have the most to gain from new conversations and new contacts.

'GlogauAIR' is a residency in Kreuzberg run by a Spanish organization, so naturally there is a majority of Spanish artists there. Monthly costs are €450 month for a live/work space with shared showers and kitchen or €400 for a studio space only. GlogauAIR administration can assist artists in finding accommodation in the Kreuzberg area, where rooms cost on average €300 per month. Most of the artists stay for a period of three months. The studios administrators organise regular Open Studios events.

A similar residency exists in Prenzlauer Berg at 'Ard Bia', an Irish organization which, not surprisingly, has mostly Irish artists as residents. It can accommodate up to three artists at a time in separate studio/bedroom spaces, with use of a shared kitchen and bathroom. There is a mixed-use communal room, which can be at times a social space for the residents, a quiet place for reading and research, or used for discussions or the presentation of work. There are regular "Apartment Viewings", which are artists' presentations and discussion open to the public. 'Ard Bia' costs €450 per month and the majority of artists stay for a five week period.

'PROGRAM', based in Mitte, is a non-profit project aimed at testing the disciplinary boundaries of architecture through collaborations with other fields. The facilities include an exhibition space, offices, a reading room, studio spaces, and a residency programme. This residency is open to artists, architects, curators and theoreticians and those selected are provided with a work/live apartment for up to three months. The Artist in Residence is encouraged to be an integral part of the 'PROGRAM' community, proposing upcoming exhibitions and/or other projects.

Links:

<http://www.glogauer.net/>

<http://www.ardbiaberlin.com/>

<http://www.programonline.de/>

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