

## Philippe Caron Lefebvre

In the context of my creative residency at the Atelierhaus Salzamt in Linz, Oberösterreich, I had the opportunity to make new works, to research my project around spikes aesthetics of and to develop international relationships with the art scene in Linz and Vienna. Furthermore, this residency has allowed me to visit important places and institutions of Austrian contemporary art scene.

This creative residency has allowed me to continue creating collages. My stay in Linz was a great opportunity to collect materials, paper, holographic filters, magazines, images and ideas in order to produce works that resonate with the host location. It was a moment to hone my skills around my contemporary practice of collage. Using laser-cut cardboard, color filters and images found in Austria, I have developed a small body of work that stands out for its visual uniqueness. My collage practice allows me to interact with local imagery, which I appropriate and modify according to the deferent pieces. Each collage is a model that allows a certain introspection on my state of mind at the time and my interpretation of my immediate environment. Moreover, it is a way to unload the quantity of images that inhabit our memories. In short, this body of work was possible thanks to the intensive attention inherent to the solitary creation in residency. I have created 8 medium format collages, which I will be able to bring back to Montreal when I return.

Then, one of the major aspects of my residency was the development of my research project on spikes aesthetics. During my wanderings, I had the opportunity to photograph scenes, objects, and urban spaces where spikes and other manifestations of hostile architecture (anti-pigeon device, fence with spikes, medieval ornament, etc.) could be observed. I began the realization of drawings with graphite pencil of medium format, of representation of spikes related imagery resulting from the research. Favoring a composition inspired by the poster format, perhaps even the Viennese Art Nouveau of the previous century, I designed some pieces where we find graphic effects, references to popular culture such as Hellraiser or other more specific references to sculptures equipped with spikes such as the bell of the Japanese artist Taro Okamoto. I had the opportunity to create 2 large and 2 medium graphite pencil drawings. I also took a moment to do some writing on this research project.

In addition, the residency has allowed me time to do professional applications at various institutions in Canada and internationally. As a visual artist, writing applications is a process that require a certain amount of concentration, which was facilitated by my residency period. Therefore, I was able to work on my next exhibition at the artist center l'écart in Rouyn-Noranda, Canada, next February.

Finally, the residency was an opportunity to make several visits to different regions of Austria. First, the city of Linz has several museums that I visited such as the Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz, the Schlossmuseum Linz, the Francisco Carolium Linz, and smaller artist centers as interesting as BB15, Memphis or Efes 42. Afterwards I visited the

Kunsthaus Bregenz, where I had the opportunity to see the controversial work of the American artist Jordan Wolfson. It was mainly for the prestige and the experience that I absolutely wanted to visit this institution where many international artists have exhibited for several years. Afterwards, I visited the city of Graz to see the Kunsthau Graz, a biomorphic architecture, which resonates with my practice, where I experienced an exhibition of the artist Hito Steyerl as part of the Steirischer Herbst 22 festival. Finally, I went to Vienna to see the essential institutions such as the Albertina, the Mumok, the Kunsthalle Wien, the Leopold Museum, in addition to places of the "underground" contemporary art scene in Vienna.

Receiving funding from die KUNSTSAMMLUNG des Landes Oberösterreich to do this residency was a unique privilege. This fellowship has allowed me to dedicate quality time to the realization of my various projects, to writing and to the advancement of my career. In addition, this fellowship has allowed me to make connections with people in the Austrian art scene.





