

Tabakalera´s International Residency Program

When the residency finishes, the resident will have to send the following documentation as a report of her/his stay. Each report will be sent in two different files in PDF format.

I. Report of the project

Resident(s)

Name/Last name Eszter Katalin

Residency dates 01.03.2019 - 31. 05. 2019

Modality artistic project

Project

Títle of the project

"I Hold You and You Hold Me"

Description

"I Hold and you Hold Me" (working title) is an audio-visual project set around the term care from a lesbian/queer perspective. It shows two performers and the director spending three days together to find gestures which are able to express their relationalities to each other.

Aim/goals

The project intended to understand and frame the term care within a local queer-feminist context and produce enough material for a film or a multi-channel installation.

Development of the project

Originally planned as a half-scripted dialogue situation

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between two women who identify as female and queer, I finally decided to omit the written script due to language differences. Instead, I focused more strongly on body gestures with the two collaborating artists, Alazne Lastra and Camila Téllez. We developed nine of these during the filming on the plateau in Tabakalera, among others: balancing a glass of water, mirroring each other's movements, playing with the tension between two magnets, reading a map of words around care, framing the view of the camera, placing oneself in a corner while the other person is being challenged to access that space, or playing a thread game.

In the end, the focus of the project became transformed by not exclusively concentrating itself on care dynamics, but also dealing with the mechanisms of desire producing them. Thus, the material evolves by negotiating the tensions between directing the gaze of the camera, playing roles in-between fiction/reality and trying to take hold onto the body of the other directly or through introducing objects as a way of touching without touching.

Visits, encounters with artists, other agents during the residency

The project was developed in collaboration with Alazne Lastra and Camila Téllez. I met them both through being connected by Iker Fidalgo Alday to María Salazar and Histeria Kolektiboa in Bilbao, who this way both helped the successful advancement of the project a lot. This connection allowed me to present a working stage of the video in "La Karpintería" in Bilbao on the 23rd of May in presence of the two performers. It was a nice opportunity for closing my stay in Basque Country, but also to get a feedback about my process and to engage in a conversation about the video with local artists.

Current state of the Project

The project is still in the state of being edited. It is planned to have a multi-channel version as well as a film version of around 35-40 minutes with a voice-over spoken by the director or a text. It turned out to be a longer process than expected to finish the video due to many new impulses and a change of perspective through working in a different context and having had the opportunity to collaborate with two great performers who enriched the project to a large extent.

In case of production budget, where it has been spent



400 euros were paid to each of the two performers, in total 800 euros.

Around 25 euros were spent for each of them for their travel, in total 50 euros.

60 Euros were payed for their stay in Donostia, in total 120 euros

Around 25 euros were spent on my travel to Bilbao for meeting performers in Histeria Kolektiboa at the end of March. At the current moment the expenses are around 1000 euros.

The remaining 1500 euros will be spent for color correction, subtitles, a voice recording and maybe also a DCP.

II. Report of the residency

Valuation of the resources provided by Tabakalera Evalutation [facilities, assistance, accommodation...]

It was helping my project a lot to be able to use all the equipment necessary as well as to have had the opportunity to use high quality cameras. Also each request for any technical support was processed very fast, which helped my workflow a lot.

The studio was very spacious and provided a relaxed environment for working. I also used a lot the editing rooms, which were ideal for concentrated work.

Concerning the accommodation, it was very comfortable that it was located in the building so that we could work late into the night and access the studio any time. However, it was a pity that we were unable to invite any friends or visitors to even a lunch in the shared kitchen of the hotel since everything was so strongly surveilled.

Valuation, if attended, to any of the programme developed by Tabakalera whilst your residency

The attendance of many of the programmes developed by Tabakalera was difficult for me because my Spanish skills are not that highly developed to be fluent in the language.

It was very great though that as residents we could profit from the cinema programme for free, which I attended a lot.



Any other comment that you want to comment

I regard it as very valuable that I had the opportunity to get to know more about the work of the education department through being connected to Leire San Martín, particularly their projects around the former tobacco workers and their theatre workshop, which both traverse the topic of care from a different perspective than mine. It was the department inside Tabakalera that I had the most exchange with.

Improvements/Contributions

It could have been nice if we had had the possibility for sharing our projects with the other residents in a few meetings, similar to an open studio, but without the public. Obviously, many of us exchanged and formed friendship informally, but if this didn't happen it was more difficult to understand what the other artists are working on that we share the space with. This would have helped to strengthen connection to many from the local scene because as an international resident coming from outside it is usually more challenging to connect to an already formed context.

III. Images

4/5 images in JPG or TIFF in the highest resolution possible that accompany the project and the stay in Tabakalera



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