

## onAIRISM - challenges and transitions 2021

Online workshops and a digital conference on the work, visions and networking of artists' residencies in selected regions of the Americas.

*A project by the Internationale Gesellschaft der Bildenden Künste (IGBK). Project leaders: María Linares, Andreas Schmid and Moira Zoitl, members of the board of IGBK. We especially thank Rona Rangsch, member of the onAIRISM project team and IGBK delegate.*



Artists' residencies are an intrinsic part of the mobility infrastructure in the art and cultural field. They can also play an increasingly important role for artists' international careers and their exchange with local art scenes in different countries.

Today, ecological, political and economic crises around the world today are widely questioning the mobility concepts of recent decades and are giving rise to a desire to render Artist in Residence (AIR) programs more sustainable. New concepts are being developed that enable the local population to participate, including digital formats that allow for both a greener approach and the mitigation of the inequality among artists worldwide with respect to accessing such programs.

With onAIRISM in 2021, IGBK sought out an exchange with AIR programs in selected regions of the Americas and discussed the visions of the program organizers and how they define their programs within the political and social environment on regional as well as on an international level. How can residencies offer alternative infrastructures and open up to facilitate artistic work in the midst of societal upheaval, transformation and ecological crises?

[Read more about the background of the project here.](#)

*You will also find a selection of literature and articles on our bookshelves for this project on the [onAIRISM pin board](#).*

## onAIRISM partners and experts

[Archiv der Avantgarden](#) (Dresden, GER) | [AXENÉO7](#) (Gatineau, CAN) | [Caitlind Brown](#) (Calgary, CAN) | [Casa Tres Patios](#) (Medellín, COL) | [Casa Gallina](#) (Mexico City, Mexico) | [Easttopics](#) (Budapest, HUN) | [El Parche](#) (Bogotá, COL) | [Gasworks/ Triangle Network](#) (London, UK) | [GeoAIR](#) (Tbilisi, GE) | [KIOSKO Galería](#) (Santa Druz de la Sierra, BOL) | [Lugar a dudas](#) (Cali, COL) | [Museo Do Mato](#) (Bahía, Brazil) | [TEOR/ética](#) (San José, CRI) | [Union House Arts](#) (Port Union, CAN) | [ZAMEK Culture Centre](#) (Poznań, POL) | [Zona Imaginaria](#) (Buenos Aires, ARG)

[Find information on all the experts that joined us throughout the year in the project here](#)

We are infinitely grateful for their valuable input and support.

## Workshop in May 2022

We met in [May 2021 for a first workshop in the framework of this project](#). This was about collecting keywords and questions from the residency operators themselves, the partners and experts from the focus region. It was the goal to leave the Berlin perspective aside as early as possible and as much as we can, and to continue the work with their input and guiding questions.



We also wanted to build a bridge to IGBK's projects and partners in recent years. Some of the participants from [Art Space Connect](#) from Budapest, Poznan and Tbilisi, who also deal with the topic of residencies, also joined us.

[Check out the whiteboard notes from the workshop here.](#)

## Interviews and reports on the onAIRISM pin board

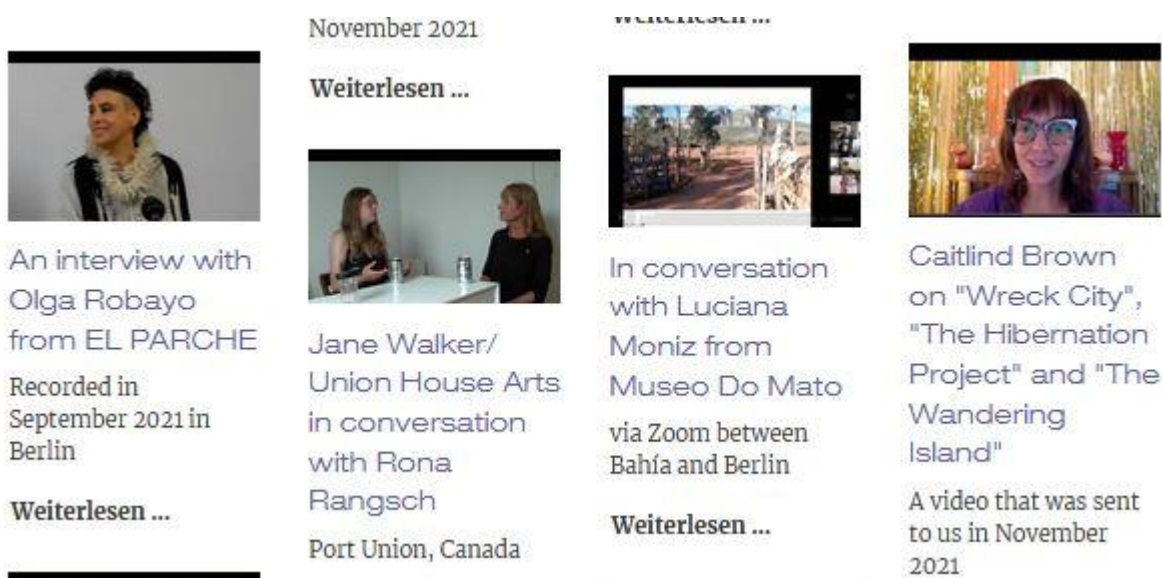
Throughout the summer, members of the project team got in touch again with some of the workshop participants and new partners joined. Some beautiful conversations and interviews were recorded, view them here:

[An interview with Olga Robayo from EL PARCHE](#)

[Caitlind Brown on her projects "Wreck City", "The Hibernation Project" and "The Wandering Island"](#)

[In conversation with Luciana Moniz from Museo Do Mato](#)

[Jane Walker/ Union House Arts in conversation with Rona Rangsch](#)



## Conference and workshop in November 2021

November 2021 then followed the [project's conference](#), featuring keynotes and presentations by AIR program organizers from the Americas. The conference was held in English and in Spanish, with simultaneous translation.

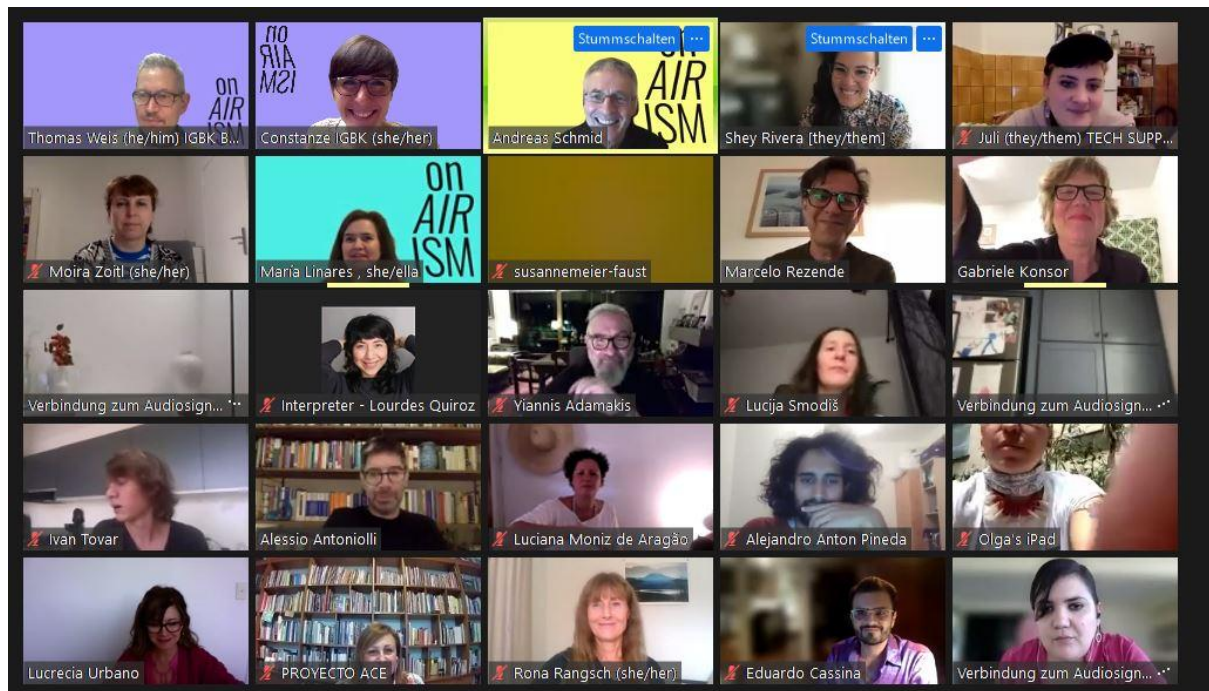
[View the conference program here.](#)

The first day presented inputs from residency operators on their current work, visions and (new) formats, as well as on the specific hurdles they experience in their regions, especially in light of the Corona pandemic since early 2019.

View recordings of the inputs and the wonderful pre-produced "I walk the streets"-videos here: [Lucrecia Urbano/ Zona Imaginaria](#) | [Lola Malavasi Lachner/ TEORética](#) | [M.A. Marleau/ - AXENÉO](#) | [Jane Walker/ Union House Arts](#) | [Luciana Moniz/ Museo Do Mato](#) | [Raquel Schwartz and Douglas Rodrigo Rada/ KIOSKO Galería](#)

The second day started off with an experts workshop, where a.o. the three key points that had emerged in the project since the workshop in May, were discussed. The conference then again took up this debate with key notes and inputs.

## Revaluation of spaces during and after the pandemic: What can residencies provide? | How AIR programs network – locally and globally | Residencies as political shelters



[View a recording of the 2nd conference day here with inputs by Marcelo Rezende/ Archiv der Avantgarden | Josefa Ortega/ Casa Gallina | Olga Robayo/ EL PARCHE | Alessio Antonioli/ Triangle Network and the cooking session with Iván Tovar and the team of Lugar a dudas](#)

### Cooking session at the onAIRISM conference

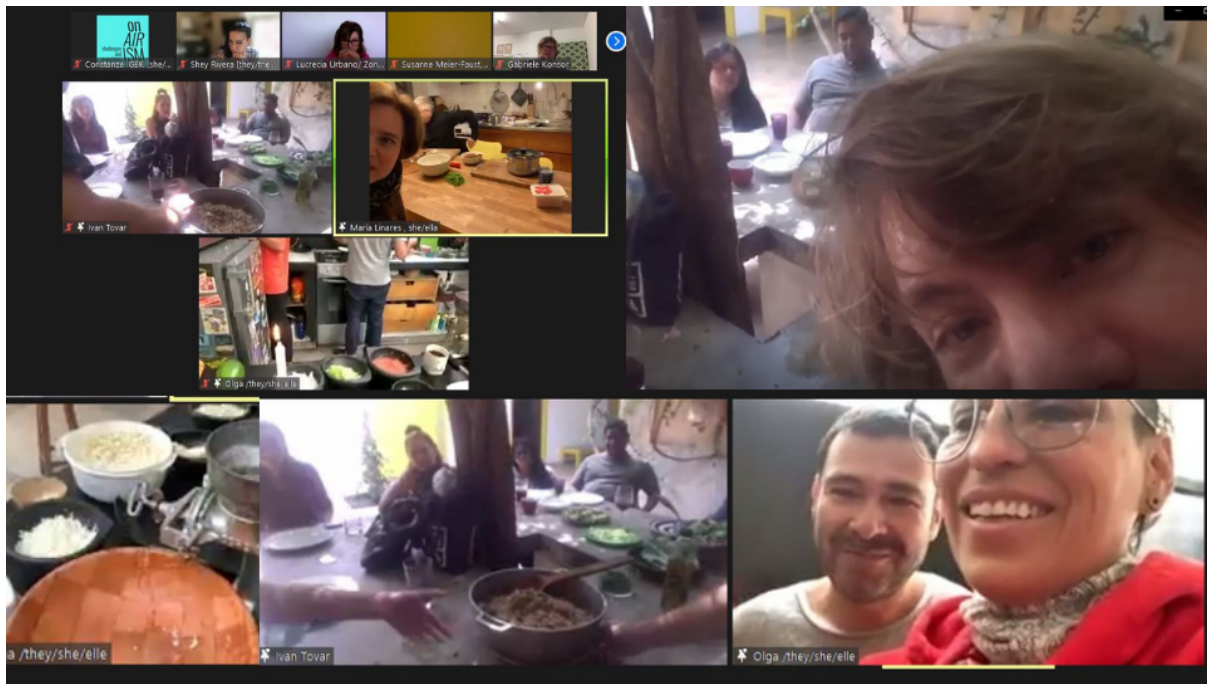
The social center of the conference was the cooking session with Lugar a dudas, EL PARCHE and the project team at the end of the 2nd day.

The artist Verónica Lopez, present at Lugar a dudas during the conference, stepped up with a short intervention on the issue of residencies and especially her experience with spaces like Lugar a dudas:

*First of all, I would like to thank [Lugar a dudas](#) and Iván Tovar for their work. It's because of their networking I could exchange experiences of being in Austria artistic residency and create an opener of networking.*

*I started my residency when the lockdown began. A residence that definitely worked as a shelter, but moreover, to show me how artistic processes can be contrasted. I worked with the shelter concept and how collaborative processes can bring up unexpected ideas. I found it a challenge to develop collective ideas in individual workshops, where the architecture defines our behavior, as was the case of [Salzburg artistic residency](#). Another thought that came from there, was the appreciation of working methodologies and how residencies, for me, show up local thought methodologies.*





*It was there, in Austria. When I realized what Lugar a Dudas brought to the art circuit, an open space, where learning and teaching are mixing the mistakes values. I could see the relevance of Lugar a Dudas' work and how much the artistic circuit from my hometown has grown due to their labor. The residency has given us - other artists from Cali and me - the chance to exchange and share our knowledge with international artists.*

*An artist who arrives in Cali would find support, friendship and, above all, a place where they can be themselves. It came from a combination of Cali and Lugar a dudas' residency. It's an architecture where the gathering point is the kitchen. A place which implicitly leads the creative process around, where the simplest things like sharing time, cooking, drinking a beer become a seed for new breakpoints in arts.*

(Transcript by Verónica Lopez)

<https://verolitia.myportfolio.com/projects> | <http://lugaradudas.org/#/>

## A recipe for Lugar a dudas' Mujaddara

Lugar a dudas has sent us their recipe for Mujaddara, the dish they prepared for the cooking session: *Mujadara is one of the most popular dishes across the Levant, with a complex taste that belies its simple ingredients. For fifteen years, it has been the most common recipe in Lugar a dudas meetings thanks to Sally.*

This easy Mujadara recipe is made in less than an hour and requires only one pot for cooking the lentils and rice. You'll also need a skillet for making the fried onions. Here is the recipe (for 10 people):

### Ingredients:

- 1/2 pound dry lentils, rinsed
- 1 pound of white rice, rinsed
- 20 grams of sweet pepper powder
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder

50 grams ground cinnamon

500ml olive oil

1/4 pound long onion

2 units of big onion to fry and decorate the rice at the end

Cilantro and salt to taste

First, set a large 6-quart pot over medium heat. Add the olive oil, large onion, spices and fry for a few minutes until fragrant. This releases the flavors of the spices so they can fully penetrate the lentils. Next, add the dried lentils and water with pari passu. Stir well, then cover the pot and simmer the lentils for 15 minutes.

After 15 minutes, stir in the dried rice. Cover and simmer again for another 15 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the rice is soft. Add more water if you consider.

Meanwhile, make the crispy fried onions:

Set a cast-iron skillet or large frying pan over medium heat, and add the oil. While the oil is heating, toss the sliced onions with the flour. Once hot, add the onions to the oil.

Stir and fry the onions until they are soft, with dark crispy edges, about 15 minutes. You want to shoot for a medium brown color. Be sure to not let them get too dark, or they will have an unpleasant burnt taste.

We recommend chopped cilantro for garnishing the Mujadara.

Dressing

Mix 500ml of greek yogurt with olive oil, chopped mint and fruit vinegar to taste and put on top the Mujaddara.

Salad

Chopped tomato, onion rings, cucumber and romaine lettuce with salt, lemon and olive oil.



We thank Berenika Partum, also one of the project leaders of Art Space Connect, for organizing the May workshop with us. We thank Shey Rivera Ríos, a.o. from the Artists Communities Alliance, for a wonderful moderation of the 2nd conference day. We thank Lourdes Quiroz, Silvana Sobrevilla and Eduardo García for an excellent translation of the conference, which was much appreciated by all participants, and again for the subtitles of the videos, also with Belén Nieto. We thank Juli Bökamp for the great support with all the big and little technical things that need to be considered when meeting digitally.



Project management: Constanze Brockmann and Thomas Weis

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[www.igbk.de](http://www.igbk.de)

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