

KÜNSTLERHAUS BETHANIEN BERLIN RESIDENCY

1. . ABOUT KÜNSTLERHAUS BETHANIEN

The Künstlerhaus Bethanien, a non-profit venue partly funded by the Berlin Senate, is an important centre for international artists in Berlin, a location allowing the potential for considerable contact with the international contemporary arts community.



2. STUDIO – ACCOMMODATION

The studio rented by the Australia Council (75 square metres) is one of 25 in this large, well-established centre. It is located on the third floor and has large windows along the external end wall, providing good natural light. The studio is centrally heated.

The studio is equipped with modest cooking facilities (refrigerator, stove, kitchen appliances), bed, table and chairs. The Council has also purchased kitchen equipment including cutlery, crockery, cooking utensils, glasses, tea pot and a coffee percolator.

Bathroom facilities are shared with other studios on the same floor. A communal washing machine and dryer are available for use.

Parking

Parking in the Künstlerhaus Bethanien courtyard is not allowed unfortunately and only for temporary purposes like deliveries, a gate will be closed in the evenings, however residents may park in the surrounding streets.

Amenities

Provided

Kitchen area with basic equipment
Bed
Sheets
Tables
Monitor
Lamps
Extension cables
Shelves

Not provided

Towels
Coffee machine

Internet

There is a wireless internet connection in the studio.

Families and guests

Although the studio is suitable for a single artist or a couple, it would not be suitable for a family. You would need to find accommodation outside the Künstlerhaus Bethanien, which is an additional cost not covered by the Council.

As a policy of the the Künstlerhaus Bethanien artists are not allowed to have their partners accommodated for the whole duration of the residency, as the studio space is primarily a working space. Artists are allowed to receive partners or friends on a temporary basis and must arrange this with the staff at the Künstlerhaus Bethanien.

Accessibility

The Künstlerhaus Bethanien and studio is not wheelchair accessible.

IMPORTANT: as the Künstlerhaus Bethanien cleans out the studio between residents, an arrangement needs to be made by you with the next resident, in case you would like to leave something additionally purchased/personal in the studio.

3. STUDIO – WORKSPACE & FACILITIES

The studio is suitable for visual artists, working from small to large scale. There are various facilities available to artists working in the Künstlerhaus Bethanien; including video equipment, video editing, computers (MAC), printers (located on the third floor, for general use), a scanner, a library, and wood and metal workshops. Tools can be borrowed. If there are tools that you need on a daily basis, it is recommended that you bring them with you. You are however, responsible for providing your own materials.

KÜNSTLERHAUS BETHANIEN RESIDENCY INFORMATION PACKAGE – This information package was prepared June 2019, based on material that was as accurate as possible at the time of publication. We will amend this package as new information becomes available.

Residents are invited to stage a project presentation around the end of their stay. The exhibition runs for 22 days and is publicised amongst others through a mailing list and advertisements in cultural events magazines. Art critics from Berlin usually attend.

The new building on Kohlfurter/ Kottbusser Str. boasts a combined exhibition space at street level. The exhibition space is available for the artists-in-residence as well as for guest projects, group shows and performances. The Künstlerhaus Bethanien has an ongoing exhibition program.

Opening hours are Tuesday to Sunday, 14:00 to 19:00h. Openings usually take place on Thursdays.

The Australia Council pays the Künstlerhaus Bethanien a contribution towards the production of invitations and the artists' representation in the BE magazine. On arrival, artists should check with the Künstlerhaus Bethanien administration about their budget.

The Künstlerhaus Bethanien staff are helpful in making professional contacts, and the institution's reputation facilitates introductions within the international contemporary art scene. Business cards can be left at local galleries after personal visits, resulting in invitations to exhibition openings. Posters and invitation cards of local exhibitions are displayed in the reception area.

The Künstlerhaus Bethanien has regular visits from leading international exhibition makers who are invited to make studio visits. Visits are announced and artists can sign in.

Due to the diverse mix of recognised and established artists who reside at the Künstlerhaus Bethanien, the atmosphere is professionally stimulating.

Maintenance and cleaning

Please contact the administration at the Künstlerhaus Bethanien if any items are broken, need replacing or for any other issues relating to the condition of the studio.

Current photograph



4. LOCAL AREA

General information

With the reunification of Berlin, the Kreuzberg district, a previously isolated, downmarket area, became the centre of Berlin, along with the Mitte district, renowned for its profusion of galleries.

Kreuzberg has always been a favoured area for artists, with cheap accommodation and shops, and a diverse population. Though its character is slowly starting to gentrify, there are still several alternative galleries in the area that are generally connected with the lively bar and club scene, a hallmark of Kreuzberg. This is an ethnically diverse residential area, with late-night bars, coffee shops, restaurants and shops. Food shopping is easy on foot, with supermarkets, produce shops and Turkish markets.

Public transport

The studio is about two kilometres and four underground rail stations from Alexanderplatz. As this is the centre of the underground system (U-Bahn) and the centre of the city, there is easy access to other lines and destinations from here. The closest U-Bahn stations are Kottbusser Tor as well as Schönleinstrasse, the closest S-Bahn (fast train) is Ostbahnhof.

The journey to Mitte, the centre of what was East Berlin, is eight stations by U-Bahn. This is where many of the commercial art galleries are located. The gallery “hot-spots” are constantly moving, though. Another gallery-area you will find close to the Potsdamer Straße in the area of Schöneberg/Tiergarten as well as around the Lindenstraße in the district of Kreuzberg. The KB will provide you with further information on exhibitions and openings when you are there.

“Tip” is a fortnightly event magazine (in German), which list exhibitions and art events. “INDEX” is a free flyer containing (almost) all exhibitions with maps. You can find it at KB as well as many other exhibition venues and galleries.

5. PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

2019

1 January	Tuesday	New Year's Day
19 April	Friday	Good Friday
22 April	Monday	Easter Monday
1 May	Wednesday	Labour Day
30 May	Thursday	Ascension Day
10 June	Monday	Whit Monday
3 October	Thursday	Day of German Unity
25 December	Wednesday	Christmas Day
26 December	Thursday	2 nd Day of Christmas

2020

1 January	Wednesday	New Year's Day
10 April	Friday	Good Friday
13 April	Monday	Easter Monday
1 May	Friday	Labour Day
21 May	Thursday	Ascension Day
1 June	Monday	Whit Monday
3 October	Saturday	Day of German Unity
25 December	Friday	Christmas Day
26 December	Saturday	2 nd Day of Christmas

6. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Australia Council pays an annual membership to the Künstlerhaus Bethanien, which covers rent and overhead costs of the residential studio.

In comparison with other major European cities, Berlin is cheap, but you are advised to budget carefully and to take funds of your own in addition to your studio stipend.

You are responsible for supplying your own food and personal requirements during the period of the residency, for the cleaning of the premises and the removal of rubbish. For calls abroad, especially to Australia, we suggest you buy an international calling card in one of the numerous call shops in Kreuzberg.

7. INSURANCE

Artists are responsible for organising and paying for their own travel insurance for their residency, including health insurance that is required by their country of residence. Proof of cover should be provided to Australia Council prior to commencing the residency.

Please note that neither Australia Council nor Künstlerhaus Bethanien will be held responsible for loss, damage or accidents occurring within or relative to the residential studio. Artists are responsible for any damage caused to the building or inventory (beyond normal wear and tear) and must report this to Künstlerhaus Bethanien immediately.

8. OVERSEAS TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

You make your own travel arrangements, at your own expense, after notification of your successful application for the studio/payment of your grant.

The residency can only occur within the time period nominated by the Australia Council in your agreement. In exceptional circumstances, it is sometimes possible to amend your arrival and departure dates by a reasonable period. If you wish to change your dates, please contact the Australia Council at least four weeks before travelling.

Before finalising your travel arrangements, you should contact Valeria Schulte-Fischedick at Künstlerhaus Bethanien, by phone or email, to let her know your plans and ensure that access can be arranged for your intended day of arrival. **You will need to plan your arrival during Künstlerhaus Bethanien office opening hours** (10.00am – 5.00pm, Monday to Thursday; 10.00am – 4.00pm Friday).

Please inform Australia Council of your itinerary before travelling.

9. VISA REQUIREMENTS

The Australia Council does not advise or provide information on visas. For up-to-date entry visa requirements, you must check with the appropriate embassy or consulate and arrange your visa requirements well in advance of your departure date.

All Australian travellers are strongly encouraged to check the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs website www.smartraveller.gov.au prior to travel.

10. PARTICIPATION

The Australia Council works in partnership with residency providers to ensure that residents maximise their residency experience by engaging with the international arts community.

We encourage residents to maintain contact with their hosts throughout their residency and to participate in the social and networking activities offered as part of the residency program.

While you may conduct short trips away from the residency, it is expected that you are not absent for an extended period (exceeding two weeks at a time).

11. CONSIDERATION

While you are on your residency, you'll be sharing facilities with a diversity of artists from around the world. We expect that you approach your fellow residents with respect, tolerance and consideration of their different backgrounds, cultures and orientations.

Please keep in mind that your studio will be passed on to another of your peers. Your consideration in leaving the space reasonably clean and tidy is appreciated. Please report any missing or damaged facilities to the residency provider and/or Australia Council contact.