

# HOTEL AMAZONAS

temporary art residence in Wangen (I)

a project by Margareth Kaserer, Esther Severi & artists

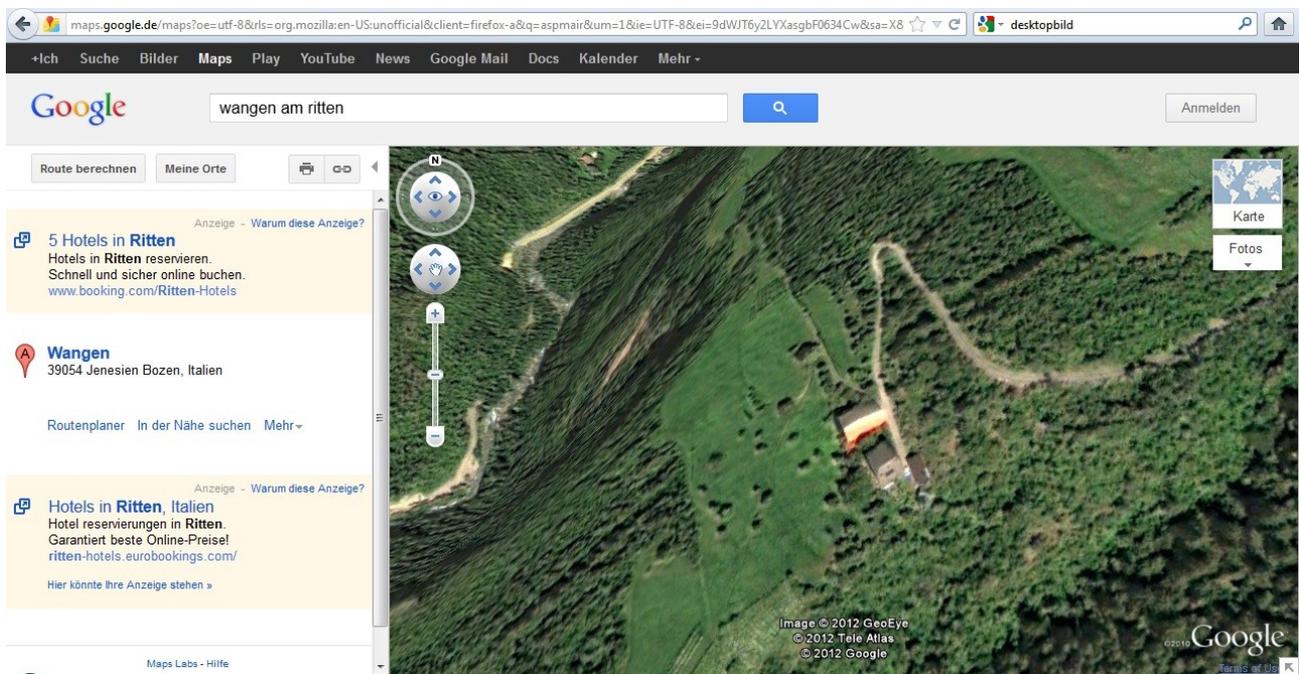
August 2012

Aspmayr-Hof

Wangen 5

39050 Ritten / South Tyrol

ITALY



# *HOTEL AMAZONAS*

INVITES PEOPLE, ARTISTS

to live and work on a farm in the mountains of South Tyrol  
2 groups, 2 weeks, in August 2012

If you're not afraid of the woods and the silence  
dizzying canyons surrounding you  
hot buzzing days and starry nights  
the communal sharing of simple living and working spaces  
organizing an event at the end of your stay

but actually inspired by this – you're very welcome to join  
*HOTEL AMAZONAS*

HOTEL AMAZONAS is a place for contradictions, juxtapositions, heterogeneity and utopia. It is located in the middle of nature, surrounded by meadows and woods. It gives shelter to all different kinds of artists and researchers.

HOTEL AMAZONAS is inspired by the tropical woods of the amazon basin, an exotic area, as seen from our perspective, an unknown, fantastic place, full of undiscovered beings: “As much of the Amazon is unexplored, many of its indigenous plants and animals are unknown. Plant growth is dense and the variety of animals living is comparatively more because of the heavy rainfall and the dense forests covered with huge evergreen and coniferous forests.“ „The vegetation in the Amazon region is very heterogeneous. A rough division of the most common vegetation types include: dense forests, open forests with palm trees, liana forests, dry forests, mountain forests (especially in the Andean slopes), flood forests (Várzea), swamp forests (Igapó), where the flood-free forest types, collectively known as Terra Firme Forest be. There are also local groups such as mangrove forests, forest-free savannas (campos naturais), Caatinga, etc.” (Wikipedia) The amazon basin is very sparsely populated, only a few scattered settlements live there.

With this as a starting point of imagination, a lot of questions arise: what has the amazon basin to do with the woods of South Tyrol? Are there still unknown beings and if yes, who are they? How can the ground made into something fertile there? Fertile for artistic creation and intervention, even only guerilla-like, short-noticed? Who are the indigenous people, we or them (not taking the separation between we or them for granted)? And who are the missionairies, the big companies, the traders, who exploit the earth and sell its products, in short: the enemies? How can we organize a space in order to experiment with alternative ways of living together?

Thus, HOTEL AMAZONAS is taking deliberately it's space in exotism.

HOTEL AMAZONAS is inspired by the gigantic river Amazonas in South America, the longest and most water-rich river on the world.

HOTEL AMAZONAS is inspired by the legend and history of the Amazons, the martial, independent, proud and beautiful women folks.

### *Artist Residencies historically*

The idea of a retreat into nature to work, reflect or create is far from being new. Throughout history, many artists and intellectuals have benefited of this form of isolation and concentration. An interesting project that seems to have a similar focus - although more rigid and extreme - is the famous Monte Verità commune at Ascona, Switzerland, which was established in 1900. A community was founded on a hilltop, which was based on the principles of socialism and veganism. It quickly became the place became a meeting place for artists of various disciplines, among them some of today's icons of modern art such as Isadora Duncan, Paul Klee and Stefan George. Monte Verità was converted later into an art school, now the place is used for scientific conferences. We would like to take from this historic movement the idea to concentrate energy on a specific site through the bringing together of people, by communicating about art and life, and by offering artists to research and develop their work.

We find the house Münter in Murnau on Lake Starnberg also noteworthy, where the painters Gabriele Münter and Wassily Kandinsky spent their summer months. They invited their friends Franz Marc, Alexej von Jawlensky, Marianne von Werefkin, August Macke, Heinrich Campendonk, Paul Klee and Arnold Schönberg, many ideas of the "Blauer Reiter" came into life there.

In the first year of HOTEL AMAZONAS we can't provide you any financial support of your travel or the production of your work. We'll contact possible sponsors, but we only accept sponsoring, if our autonomy won't be endangered. We use the money for covering the expenses of the house, to improve the infrastructures, to create a showing moment at the end of the residency period and then to support the development of your work.

We can provide some of the food, since the farm is surrounded by fertile grounds which are planted with fruit and vegetables.

At last a great book set in the region: *João Guimarães Rosa: Grande Sertão: Veredas* (1956). And a movie to still see: Werner Herzogs *Fitzcarraldo* (1982).

If interested, give us an idea about your practice and describe shortly on what you want to work in the two weeks. Please send your proposal until the 15<sup>th</sup> of June to the following address:

[hotel\\_amazonas@yahoo.com](mailto:hotel_amazonas@yahoo.com).

We can provide you with more informations about the conditions and the location on request.