

ENG

A house on the slope of a mountain. In neon letters there's written "Hotel Amazonas". A group of people standing in the shadows, smoking a cigarette, talking quietly with each other. A few lights are on. There is no reception.

A group of people on the top of a mountain. No one wears the right shoes, some wear dresses in strange colors and sunglasses. The wind is blowing. They look around. Some have papers in their hands and pens, others cameras, and others recording devices. Are they tourists, and if so, where do they come from? Or are they journalists? Scientists? What are they looking for? Who invited them? Someone has meant that they have already left.

Who has been in Hotel Amazonas, and what has been done there? Did they talk to each other, and what has been exchanged? Did they change something? Have you been there? What do you know about it?

Hotel Amazonas is a temporary one-month artist-residence, installed on the farm Aspmayr in Wangen on the Ritten, South Tyrol. The organizers Margareth Kaserer (IT) and Esther Severi (BE) invite around 11 young national and international artists to live and work from one to four weeks on the farm, to pursue their own research away from their usual environment, in interaction with their environment. It is a place where the rules are not written yet, which requires self-organization and participation, and where experiments with the new can happen.

Why is a retreat in the mountains so appealing? Many before have sought relief from the city in a residency in nature. The individual needs the silence (and noise) of nature to listen to oneself: nature can be the backdrop for our minds to unravel, or the source for new ideas and artistic inventions. Its daunting quality and inherent loneliness leads towards the desire of coming together in a group, finding a balance between an individual process and shared intentions.

The former farm and inn is transformed into a shelter for artists and researchers from different disciplines: performance art, visual arts, experimental music, literature, etc. Hotel Amazonas wants to create a space for contradictions, juxtapositions, heterogeneity and utopias, in the midst of the mountainous landscape of Tyrol.

The invited artists are Philip Janssens & Stefaan Huyghe aka Children of the White Leaf (BE), Sarah Majerus (L), Amelie de Brouwer (BE), Gaelle Chanu (BE), Helena Dietrich (DE), Elizabeth Ward (U.S.), Piotr Piskozub (PL), Steven Van den Borne (BE), Marion Oberhofer (IT) and Sven Goyvaerts (BE). In the coming weeks the artists will be presented briefly on franzmagazine.com.

Amazonas Hotel opens its doors on weekends and invites to a brunch, a concert or a presentation. Documented processes and results of the artist-residency will be presented on the 30th of August in the project space Lungomare in Bolzano. Events will be announced. Stay in tune!