

TAZEEN QAYUUM



Did the "residency" at philomena+ meet your expectations?

My residency was during the most unprecedented times, in the middle of COVID-19. philomena+, my co-invitee, Salam Orient, and myself were very brave to go ahead with the residency and the associated programs.

Therefore it was impossible to set expectations in the times of such uncertainty. The very fact that we were able to successfully do all that we set out to do is very rewarding.



What did you take home from Vienna?

Many new friendships and a lot of love from old friends.

Please, try to explain the specifics of a philomena+ residency.

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A live-in studio provides many opportunities of engagement with audiences throughout the day including passers-by.

The physical space, though intimate in scale, is transformable and can be utilized in many creative ways.

It is very centrally located, great restaurants, scenic walks and friendly neighbours, one gets comfortable really quickly.



What advice would you give to future candidates?

Come with an open mind to experiment and explore. Of course immerse in all that the city has to offer. philomena+ audiences and network is unique due to its nature and culture, so build connections with the people you meet.

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