

KROKODIL's
writers-in-residence
program
Beograd, Serbia
<http://kucazapisce.krokodil.rs>



KROKODIL'S

WRITERS IN

RESIDENCE

2014.

Introduction

Residency for Writers in Belgrade - “Krokodil’s Writers-in-Residence program” is the project launched in **October 2012** by the **Association KROKODIL** from Belgrade, Serbia. Established in **2009**, **Association KROKODIL** specializes in promotion of literature and organization of literary events. The main activity at which the **Association KROKODIL** is engaged is the **literary festival KROKODIL** - www.krokodil.rs - which recently celebrated its **15th** edition.



Festival Krokodil 2013

“**Krokodil’s Writers-in-Residence program**” offers to the writers from all over the world the possibility to spend 1-3 months in Belgrade with accommodation and monthly stipend in order to continue with their work in a new, inspiring context.

Besides the idea of proposing a free-of-charge apartment in the broader center of the city, completely covered travel cost from and to the country of origin and a solid monthly stipend for living expenses while in Belgrade, our main aim is to allow and encourage foreign authors to get more closely acquainted with the Serbian society and culture and, in turn, for the Serbian literary audiences to enjoy a steady influx of different writers from all over the globe.

The project was initially supported by **TRADUKI foundation**, **ERSTE BANK** and the **City of Belgrade**. In **2013**, several foreign embassies and cultural centers recognized the importance of the **Residency** and decided to fund one month stays for the writers from their respective countries.

In the past **12 months**, therefore, **KROKODIL’s residency for writers** hosted **Daša Drndić** (Croatia), **Ognjen Spahić** (Montenegro), **Olya Stoyanova** (Bulgaria), **Rumena Bužarovska** (Macedonia), **Sylvain Prudhomme** (France), **Ingvar Von Malmborg** (Sweden), **Faruk Šehić** (Bosnia and Herzegovina), **Tea Tulić** (Croatia), **Annica Wennstrom** (Sweden). Until the end of 2013 we shall also host **Navid Kermani** (Germany), **Lena Olmark** (Sweden) and **Marko Tomaš** (Bosnia and Herzegovina).



Daša Drndić, the laureat of the Independent Foreign Fiction Reader's Prize and our guest in 2012.

Context

The city of **Belgrade**, as one of the oldest European cities, has had a tumultuous history. Most recently, throughout the last decade of the twentieth century it has been a motor of the wars that split Yugoslavia apart and ended up with the bombing of the city by the **NATO forces**. Even though political life in Serbia ever since the turn of the century and millennium has continued to be rocky, the life has returned to normal and the years of economical, political and cultural blockade were finally over. This is why nowadays Belgrade is once more ready to adopt a role of friendly and open city ready to attract and accept new visitors. In such context, the intensification of cultural communication with the rest of the world became one of the priorities of the city life and Krokodil's Writers-in-Residence program is our contribution to this activity. Belgrade is an everchanging city that tries to overcome it's problematic recent past. Despite most European capital cities it is an unfinished place that changes it's sensibility almost on a daily basis. The continuous presence of writers from different cultures in a city like Belgrade influences the rise and formation of the new identity of this Balkan capital.

Activities

The **guest writers** use their time in Belgrade for their own work and research, but they will also be involved in the city's literary and cultural life. All candidates may be asked to give guest lectures or readings for students and to write a blog on the residence's webpage. The **residency period** is expected to last up to three months, with a minimum of four weeks. An international

committee is responsible for monitoring of the selection procedure. The **TRADUKI** foundation is also represented in this committee.



Sylvain Prudhomme (on the right), our French guest and laureate of the *Louis Guilloux* prize at the press conference, Belgrade 2013

The Residency

The apartment

A completely furnished one bedroom flat has all the amenities of a standard apartment, furnishings, work desk and chair, bath, towels, bedding, mobile phone, WiFi, housekeeping services.



Bedroom



Kitchen



Study

Scholarship Value

- Monthly grant installments for living costs and rent
- Travelling expenses including transportation (regular airlines, economy class)

What we can offer

By this project, **Association KROKODIL** aims at stimulating the quality and availability of local and foreign authors and literature, as well as literature translated into Serbian. We offer to the literary authors the financial scope to work on a professional basis while in Belgrade, by providing good working and living conditions and travel grants to writers of fiction, poetry, non-fiction, children's books and drama.

During their stay in Serbia, authors have the opportunity to get acquainted and meet with organizations and professionals of their specific interest (theatre, journalism, prose, poetry, etc.).

Association KROKODIL is also facilitating meetings with editors, journalists, cultural representatives etc. and at least two public readings (in Belgrade and in some other Serbian cities). The guest authors are also presented on our website, and actively promoted via local media and social networks.

Writers and/or funding organization can choose between one, two or three month residencies. The engagement of the **Association KROKODIL** differs depending on the length of the writers stay in Belgrade.

Contact

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Erste Bank, www.erstebank.rs

Institut Français Belgrade, www.institutfrancais.rs

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Swedish Insitute, <http://eng.si.se>

City of Belgrade, www.beograd.rs

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