

Great Meadows Foundation - Artist Professional Development Travel Grant
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Brief outline of your practice:

Printed diagrams, illustrations, and maps have had a long social history as transmitters of knowledge, scientific discovery, consumer desire, and political power, and Rodolfo and I are interested in print media's lasting authority and impact on contemporary life. Often inspired by printed ephemera from fraternal societies and the medical industry, Rodolfo creates assemblages, etchings, lithographs, and installations that combine industrial and organic forms to propose anatomical mechanisms, rituals, and devices to prevent bodily mishaps. My work in cyanotype, screen print, video, and sculpture uses digital and analog techniques to merge archival and present-day maps and schematics, exploring print media's roles in promoting – and erasing – social histories and identities related to place. Rodolfo and I re-contextualize images and objects to facilitate conversations on the ways printed imagery and text influence how we relate to ourselves and each other. During recent travel in the Delaware River Valley and the Scottish Highlands, we discussed the utopian ideals related to small-town communities and industry in the early 20th century – a subject of pronounced nostalgia in politics today. This shared interest has developed alongside our research in sociopolitical messages embedded within bird's eye view maps and anatomical illustrations. We seek opportunities to collaborate on a project that examines intersections between industry, sense of place, and the body.

Detailed and clear description of your plan of activities:

May 1-31 – Rodolfo and I have been invited to attend a residency at Kunstnarhuset Messen in Ålvik, a village in Norway transformed in 1905 with the arrival of Bjølvfossen A/S, an industrial company that used the local Bjølvfossen waterfalls to become one of the world's largest magnesium-ferrosilicon producers. Housed in a former Bjølvfossen administrative building, the art center's mission is to provide an environment where regional and international artists live and work together, with workshops, artist talks, and community events. We will use the print facilities to create an artist's book in cyanotype & intaglio with images that merge the visual languages of the bird's eye view and anatomical illustrations, in relation to landscape and industry in Ålvik. We will give a presentation and workshop, hike and document viewpoints of the Hardangerfjord shore and village, and research at Ålvik Industrial Workers' Museum for visual and historical resources related to residents' domestic and work lives.

June 1-7 – We will view art exhibitions during the Bergen International Festival, the largest arts festival in Norway, whose full program is announced in February. We will meet with directors of galleries and studios, such as Hordaland Art Center, Entrée, and Stiftelsen 3,14. Artist friends advise we go to Stavanger, a 5-hr bus ride from Bergen. We've connected with Solveig Landa,

manager at Grafisk Verksted print studio, located in Tou Scene art center, where many local artists work.

Brief description of why you want to undertake this travel:

Based on conversations with two artist friends who attended KH Messen several times since 2014, Rodolfo and I feel KH Messen is an ideal place to work on this project, while diversifying our network of international artistic connections through community-related activities and focused creative time in a shared interdisciplinary space. The residency and visits with Bergen galleries like Entrée, a non-commercial platform where local and international emerging artists exhibit work, will be especially catalytic for our artistic practices, as we plan this as a first step in a larger collaboration working with the concept of the “company town” in collodion photography, cyanotype, and print. We hope to extend this project to include community-based research in Appalachia, and to be able to incorporate more long-term, larger scale work when we are within driving distance. Whether it is exhibited in Kentucky or Norway (we hope both and more), the overall project will have more significant impact if it has an international approach, as conversations about place, body, and industry become more and more global in scope and transmission. Rodolfo and I will return to Louisville with a crucial first collaboration complete, as well as connections with artists, curators, and gallery directors in Norway that may result in opportunities for new collaborations, particularly with the print studio in Stavanger, as we can make a link with our own Louisville studio, Calliope Arts.

Travel Cost:

Please note: we are not asking for any funding to support materials for making artwork.

Round trip airfare (via Kayak.com) – \$2324.00 for two tickets

Mileage to and from CVG airport (194 miles round trip, 2018 rate is 54.5 cents per mile, via irs.gov) – \$105.73

Bus fare Bergen to Alvik (via KH Messen’s residency artist info sheet) – \$50.14 for two tickets

Bus fare Alvik to Bergen (via KH Messen’s residency artist info sheet) – \$50.14 for two tickets

Round trip bus fare, Bergen to Stavanger (around 5 hours) <https://kystbussen.no/>, \$284.40 for two tickets

2814.41

Lodging Cost:

1 month residency lodging fee, \$118.80

Apartment with kitchen in central Bergen, 5 nights between June 1 – 7, 2019 (via Airbnb) – this is more expensive than usual, we think, because the festival is still going on June 1-5 – \$607.00

Apartment with kitchen in central Stavanger, 1 night (via Airbnb) – \$100.00

825.80

Meal Cost:

Groceries for one month residency – monthly recommended minimum amount of money of food per person (via Numbeo international cost estimator) – \$824.20 for two people

Groceries for one week in Bergen/Stavanger – \$206.06
1030.26

Other Cost:

Travel insurance for duration of trip (required by KH Messen residency, estimate provided by <https://pp.worldnomads.com/> via Lonely Planet) – \$302.42 for two Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company standard plans
302.42

Other Funding:

4972.89