

NART 2022



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ABOUT US

Narva Art Residency (NART) is a cultural platform founded in 2015. It facilitates residencies, art exhibitions, talks and educational workshops. It is located in Narva city on the Estonian-Russian border on the historical Kreenholm site. The international artist-in-residency programme is open for artists operating across a wide range of disciplines, including Visual Arts, Music, Performance, Architecture, Design, Film, Literature, Curatorial Practices and more.



NART generates creative exchange between practitioners and strengthens links with the local community. The center is located at the historicist villa, initially built for the director of Kreenholm Textile Manufacture. Nearby stands the vacant factory buildings, which once formed the largest enterprise of its kind in Europe (anno 1857). Narva Art Residency is operated by the Estonian Academy of Arts in collaboration with Narva Gate, and is supported by the Estonian Ministry of Culture.

In this little brochure, we summarize the activities of 2022: the artists that NART hosted, the exhibition and events that took place, and the projects that were completed.

ARTISTS



NAZARII ZANOZ

15.11 - 31.12.2022

Nazarii Zanoz is an audio artist, photographer, and writer from Ukraine. At NART, Nazarii studied the sounds of the Kreenholm factory and worked on the topic of the border city. As a result of the residency, he created sound landscapes and a photo exhibition. His sound landscapes are made of old iron clanking, winds flowing in the halls of the abandoned factory, and old machinery tunes. His pop-up photo exhibition reflected the spirit of twilight Narva. Empty and just a bit depressing in the winter months.

SARAH AND JÜRI MILDEBERG

5.01 - 13.02.2022

Sarah and Jüri Mildeberg are a father-and-daughter duo from Estonia. Jüri is a book illustrator and a graphic artist. Saara is an anthropologist. In NART, the duo focused on mapping the district of Kreenholm. The texts and visual documentation were summarised as an exhibition reflecting perceptions of the peculiarities and everyday life of Kreenholm. Saara also took her time to take pictures of all artists-in-residence of 2022 at NART. The portraits you see here are her work.



MARDULIER EN DEPREZ

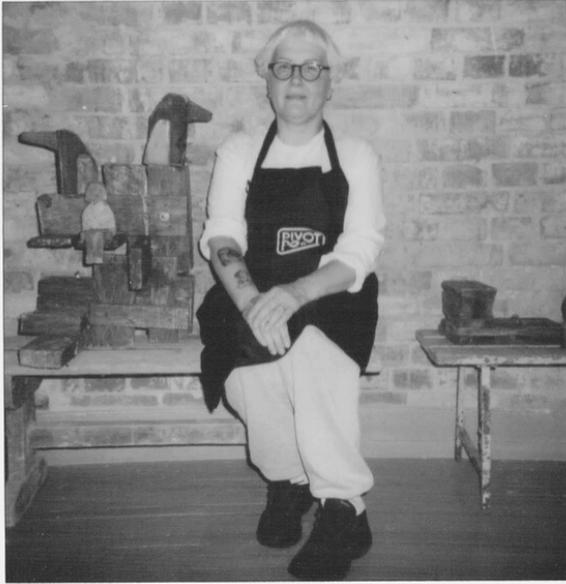
14.02 - 25.02.2022

Mardulier en Deprez is a collaboration between the artists Ruben Mardulier and Michiel Deprez from Belgium. Between the 14th and 25th of February, Michiel and Mardulier prepared a series of events in Narva. They impersonated shopping mall workers and made a funny diary about it. They entertained NART guests with a several-hour-long performance with large boxes, they ran a pop-up Belgian shop, and designed their own children's playground. Their short stay was packed with exciting moments.

LEAH SCHULZE

3.01 - 27.02.2022

Leah is a designer from Germany who focuses on social design and specializes in the design of interactive tools for people with dementia. In Narva's nursing home, she conducted creative workshops three times a week. She tried to encourage people to be creative, focusing on handicrafts with soft materials, making them communicate and get the most out of their time.



NATASHA SHALINA

9.03 - 27.03.2022

Natasha Shalina is an artist from St. Petersburg. During her stay, she conducted numerous master classes for grown-ups and for kids. Her wooden figurines made of vintage boards and pieces of furniture as well as a large canvas became an integral part of the NART design for months.

OSCAR LEBECK

28.02 - 27.03

Oscar Lebeck is a German photographer and artist. At NART, he examined Vaivara's former concentration camp. His works use voluminous models which add depth to pictured landscapes. It is an ongoing project of his, and now Narva and Viavara are part of the series.



KAISU KOIVISTO

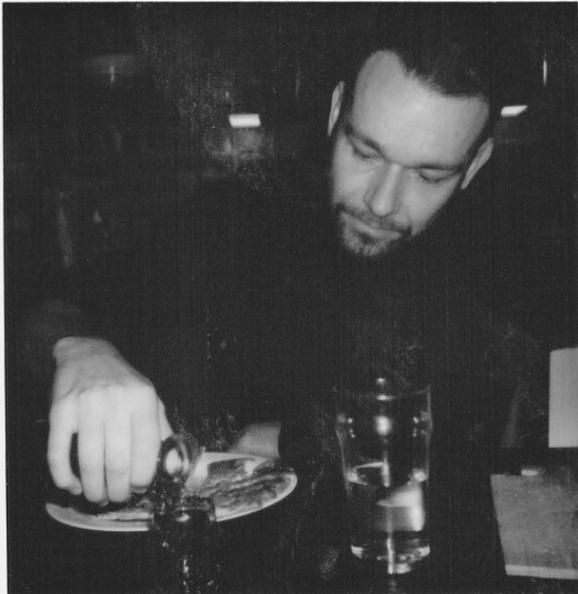
28.03 - 17.04.2022

Kaisu Koivisto is a photographer from Finland. She first came to NART 5 years ago, and in 2022 she continued her photography project at the Kreenholm factory premises. She also conducted a very popular workshop on making paper collages and paper cutouts. She was at the residency with her dog.

ALEKSANDRA IVANTSOVA

17.04 - 24.04.2022

Aleksandra Ivantsova is an artist from Sillamäe who lives in St. Petersburg. During the residency, she produced a series of city-scape-themed watercolors of which we had a small exhibition at NART. She liked to go out to paint in the dark and at nighttime when it was calm outside.



ANDRÉA STANISLAV

3.05 - 29.05.2022

Andréa Stanislav is from the US and her practice spans sculpture, immersive multimedia installation, video, and public art. During her residency, she completed video shoots in the residency's Soviet-era theatre hall, researched the textile factory's history, and interviewed the Ukrainian refugees who were staying at the NART dormitories. She later made a beautiful cross-media installation for the exhibition she did with her fellow residents.

JAAKKO AUTIO

9.03 - 31.05.2022

Residency funded by the Finnish Cultural Foundation

Jaakko is a sound artist and sound designer from Finland. During the residency, he created an installation called "On the Border" together with three local choirs and one Finnish choir. He created a new version of the 1847 Pacius' Anthem song "Mu Isamaa", which Finland shares with Estonia. His work was presented twice in Narva, once in Kreenholm, and then at the NART gallery. It has since been also showcased numerous times in Estonia and Finland.



VARIALAMBO

3.05 - 12.06.2022

Residency of the (Re)configuring Territories project

Varialambo is an interdisciplinary artist duo from Berlin and based in Helsinki that uses the tradition of post-traumatic expressionism, futuristic feminism, and absurd comedy. They work with sculpture, installation, music, performance, and poetry. Their work was made of found objects and inspired by a dream. It was exhibited at NART in the autumn.

SASHAPASHA

30.05 - 3.07.2022

The artistic duo is from St. Petersburg but is based in Helsinki. Sasha Rotts created a long installation using recycled sportswear pants and asked the local community to bring their old clothes for the project. Pavel continued working on a project on his Ingrian roots.



LAURA KUUSK

13.06 – 19.07.2022

Residency of the (Re)configuring Territories project

Laura Kuusk is an artist from Estonia whose videos, photographs, and installations are connected to recycling anthropological visual materials. At NART, she worked on activism for climate change and how the landscape in Ida-Virumaa is affected by the oil-shell industry.

KEVIN MOLLOY

06.07 – 19.07.2022

Resident at Narva Venice Embassy

Kevin is an audio-visual ethnographer and musician from Ireland. During his stay in Narva, Kevin recorded materials for a short audio-visual film showing the Kulgu area. The goal was to visually document how a community can be and is being created. He dived deep into the community, taking interviews and absorbing local culture.



CHRISTINA GRUBER

4.07 - 21.07.2022

Christina Gruber is an artist from Austria who works at the intersection of art and science. During her residency, she investigated the relationship between the Narva river and the inhabitants of Narva. She recorded stories and sounds in the Kulgu area and learned about the fishing situation in the water reservoir.

SEAN ROY PARKER

1.06 - 31.07.2022

Resident of Kreenholm Garden

Sean Roy Parker is a visual artist from the UK. His work examines the lifecycle of materials, the complexities of multi-species responsibility, and problem-solving through collaboration. At Kreenholm garden, he learned basic woodworking and built a communal tool shed with upcycled materials. He also conducted classes on natural fermentation and cooked the most interesting dishes out of the most unexpected products.



MICHAELA CASKOVÁ

18.07 – 31.07.2022

A resident of Kreenholm garden

Michaela is a visual artist, art educator, nomadic gardener, and forager who keeps an eye on atmospheric events. During the workshops, the artists and the participants walked around Narva and foraged for a material that they then turned into inks and dyes.

ENRIQUE ROURA

11.06 – 21.08.2022

Resident at Narva Venice Embassy

Enrique Roura is an artist and architect. His work explores in depth the intertwined relationship between art and architecture. Enrique's project at the Venice Embassy was about bringing people together by building an outdoor oven and baking bread. During his stay, he became a prominent member of the local community.



DAMBI KIM

22.07 - 28.08.2022

Dambi Kim is a South-Korean artist who organizes tea ceremonies in verbal and non-verbal ways. She collected different plants in Narva and had a very popular workshop of making incense.

LIINA SIIB

22.07 - 28.08.2022

Liina Siib is a visual artist, filmmaker, educator, curator and editor from Estonia. During the residency, she collected material for the script of the film "Amphibian Man" and started writing the first version of the script. She finished the residency with an artist talk.



MAURIN BISIG

25.07 - 01.09.2022

Resident at Narva Venice Embassy

Maurin is an artisan, photographer, researcher and author from Switzerland is working with wood. For his project in Narva at Kulgu, Maurin created a large canopy from wood. At night and in the early morning hours, Maurin enjoyed and photographed the light and colors of Narva.

ELIZABETH GUERRERO

15.08 - 05.09.2022

Resident at Narva Venice Embassy

She is a researcher, and radio and sound maker based in Mexico City and Amsterdam. Her work is focused on site-specific art and sound projects. At NART, she prepared a sound journey on the water called "A Sunny day in Kulgu". Elizabeth collected the sounds of "Narva Venice" and made them into an extraordinary sonic adventure.



MOHAR KALRA

03.09 - 25.09.2022

Resident at Narva Venice Embassy

Mohar created the Kulgu Community Radio. It consisted of three installations in the boat garage area, each representing a totem of an animal common in the Narva river ecosystem. The radio gathered really interesting recordings which represent the variety of people who cross this area.

JACQUE FALCHETI

29.08 - 05.10.2022

She is a singer and songwriter from Brazil. Jacque likes to create songs that can experiment with different melodic paths. In Narva, she created eight songs and performed those songs at separate 3 concerts at NART. She recorded many sounds around the city and used those as a background in her compositions.



FILIPA PONTES

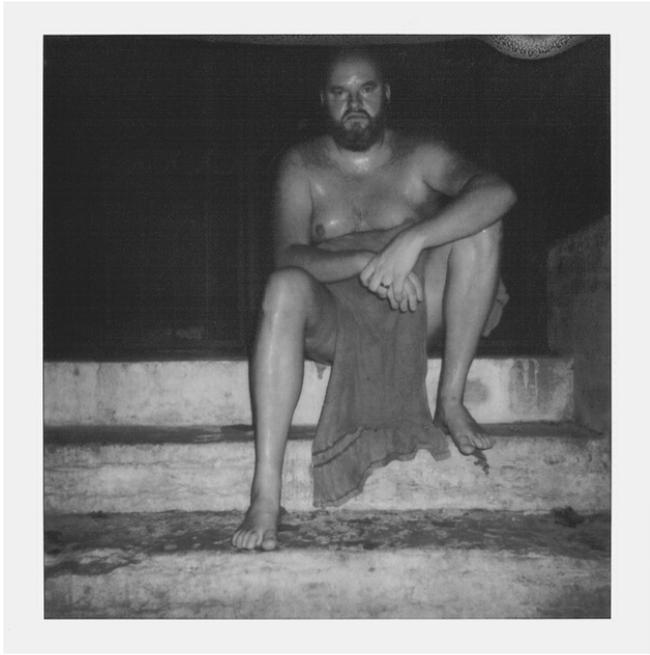
01.10 - 31.10.2022

Filipa developed a series of abstract portraits to create a specific work about immigration experiences in Narva. From the different approaches and statements of local people, she learned a bit about the complex history of Narva.

KENT ROBINSON

06.10 - 14.11.2022

He is a visual artist and graphic designer from France. Kent started a project named CYRRILATIN, an alphabet combining Cyrillic and Latin alphabets. He aimed to make a graphic poetry book using this special alphabet. Kent also drew messages on the walls of NART, the local art school and Franzia restaurant in Narva-Jõesuu.



BAMBERG KENNETH

15.08 - 15.12.2022

Residency funded by the Finnish Cultural Foundation

Kenneth is an artist from Åland. He continued the work "Re-Animator" at Narva by photographing different statues around the city. He also worked on his "Koteka" series for which he portrayed 9 different local men. The work is exhibited at NART in the summer of 2023. He was also very interested in the local sauna culture.

PAVEL ROTTS

07.11 - 31.12.2022

Pavel Rotts is a multidisciplinary artist who first came to Narva as the Sashapasha duo. He returned to continue with a project about the traces of war on the buildings of Kreenholm. Narva was bombed during World War II. Pavel took casts of the traces and worked on the multilayered memory of the happenings. His exhibition will open on the 80th anniversary of Narva bombings in the spring of 2024.



SUNAINA TALREJA

15.11 - 31.12.2022

Sunaina Talreja is a visual artist and fashion graduate from Pakistan. Talreja worked as an art therapist and art instructor. Her artwork takes a critical view of social, religious, and cultural issues. During her stay, she directed a performance and included local people of different ages in her work.

MAKSYM KOZLOV

18.12 - 31.12.2022

Maksym Kozlov is a multidisciplinary artist with transmedia background from Ukraine. His residency was supposed to be in the spring of 2022, but had to be postponed till the end of the year. He connected with Narva in a matter of seconds. Maksym created ink drawings and had a successful pop-up installation opening at NART.

EXHIBITIONS



MUSEUM OF VIDEO GAMES “LVLUP! WARPZONE”

15.01.2022 - 29.05.2022

NART hosted the VGA (Video Games and Arts) project, combining retro games and contemporary art. The first interactive video game museum in the Baltic States LVLup! introduced to the golden classics in Narva - Nintendo, Sega, and Sony PlayStation consoles in the cellars of the art residency.

Museum curators: Andrejs Rusinovski, Camille Laurelli
Graphic design, museum project manager: Sigrid Liira



"FACELESSNESS"

15.01.2022 - 10.04.2022

The art exhibition connected to the simultaneous video game museum exhibition brought together works from Moscow to Tartu featuring artist like Anna Shkodenko, Mihkel Kleis, Aleksey Gordin etc.

Curator: Juhan Soomets



"NARVA VÄIKE VALGUS"

02.02.2022 - 08.05.2022

In cooperation with Valgusklubi, Narva Art Residency brought five light installations to Kreenholm. It changed the mood and landscape of the Kreenholm area and gave it a new look. The open-air exhibition featured works of Estonian artists and students of the Estonian Academy of Arts.

Curator: Elo Liiv



"WHERE IS THE BODY?"

07.05.2022 - 08.06.2022

The group exhibition brought together painting students from the Vienna Academy of Arts and the Estonian Academy of Arts. The exhibition featured a broad spectrum of different points of view on the body, both at the social and historical levels, exploring questions of belonging, visibility, and desire.

Artists: Eero Alev, Ina Ebenberger, Daniel Silva Flandez, Yigit Gönlügür, Loora Kaubi, Jakob Kolb, Kuma, Lisette Lepik, Sigrid Mau, Amar Priganica, Brenda Purtsak

Curators: Lilian Hiob and Julius Pristauz



"CARR - AMALIE - NART"

05.06.2022 - 13.11.2022

An exhibition of historical photographs was opened around NART, illustrating the various functions and times of the house. The exhibition is part of a research project on the history of Joala 18. It including working on archival materials but also gathering residents' memories to bring together an overview of the house's history.

Curators: Johanna Rannula, Denis Jatsenko



"ON THE BORDER / RAJALLA"

22.06 - 14.08.2022

A voluminous audio installation by artist-in-residence Jaakko Autio was completed in collaboration with 40 Finnish, Estonian, and Estonian-Russian choir singers. The sound piece reflected on the question of "Who am I?" in a world full of boundaries and guarantees. The installation consisted of 40 speakers, with 40 singers singing, breathing, and speaking together. But the visitor can also listen to the individual voice of each singer individually.

It was first showcased at the Tallinn-Narva Music Festival in May and was a highlight of the event. It then moved to the NART gallery halls for the summer months.



"VARIABLES"

24.08.2022 - 11.09.2022

Kadi Pajupuu's and Marilyn Piirsalu's exhibition "Variables" happened spontaneously at NART. It combined textile arts, graphics, and works woven by MultiWeave, a unique original technique. The drawings of Kadi Pajupuu included characters from the Old Testament who are on the threshold of a decision.



"FACTORY NO. 7 - CITY-UTOPIA"

25.08.2022 - 19.09.2022

The exhibition by Annela Samuel featured a selection of 2018-2022 photos of the city and people of Sillamäe. Most of the city's older inhabitants have come to live here in the late 1940s from parts of the former USSR, and the city still has a Russian-speaking population of approximately 95% of its inhabitants. How do they now feel about the city, its past, and its future? Samuel is looking for answers to it in his photo project and doctoral thesis.

N r v

Narva Kunstiresidentuur



SKARA JA TÜRİ MILDEBERG

Lund sadar
kogu aeg

14. SEPTEMBER - 23. OKTOOBER

70ALA 18 NARVA

"ENDLESS SNOW"

14.09.2022–23.10.2022

Saara ja Jüri Mildeberg's exhibition was an imaginary map of Kreenholm. Based on true stories, it is a message to the future. Through texts, drawings, and photographs, it introduced the viewer to Narva, submerged in snow, and the Art Residency as one of the lifelines. It was not composed as a uniform manifesto, but these were fragments of life. Because of this, sentences can end or break off mid-word. All the characters were people met here, not a creation of the imagination. They don't appear socio- or otherwise realistic - like how a crow always sings like a crow, the artist's hand draws as it has learned.



"HUMANUS"

21.09.2022 - 23.10.2022

The exhibition by Latvian photographer Wilhelms Mihhailovski was called "HUMANUS". It was organized by Valery Boltushin, a long-time leader of the Narva photo club. The author's poetic expression gave his works a distinctive look and made him stand out from his contemporaries. The exhibition presented the best of the photographer's work which is archived by the artist's son.



"YOU CAN'T GET THERE ON A GOAT"

29.10.2022 - 04.12.2022

This exhibition had two site-specific spatial gallery interventions by recent NART artists-in-residence Andrea Stanislav (US) and varialambo (Varia Sjöström, Hatz Lambo) (FI/DE). The two solo projects transformed NART's gallery spaces using the physicality of visual poetics and theatre. Dreams, experiences, performances, and unexpected events on the Estonian-Russian border in the summer of 2022 inspired the works.

PROJECTS



KITCHEN TALKS

A cycle of events called "Kitchen Talks" is a series of small discussions with various artists made available for the public to listen to in NART's cozy kitchen. The conversations took place in an informal setting, with a cup of tea and snacks. The guests were Andrejs Rusinovskis, Kusja Zverev, Alexey Gordin and SASHAPASHA.



KREENHOLM GARDEN

Kreenholm community garden was established in the summer of 2020 by artists Sandra Kosorotova and Sille Kima. In 2022 it featured 7 workshops which were for the public audiences and 7 which were for the local social center's participants.

30.05.2022 Anna Maquet (EE) and Sandra Kosorotova (EE) workshops on building new beds based on permaculture principles.

18.06.2022 Sean Roy Parker (UK) workshops on concocting a healing gardener hand balm from local herbs

17.07.2022 Sean Roy Parker (UK) workshops on lactofermenting

24.07.2022 Michaela Casková (CZ) workshops on weather-casting, making dyes and inks from local plants and found materials

14.08.2022 Dambi Kim workshop (South Korea) on making incense

28.08.2022 Sille Kima workshops on listening and harvesting field recordings from the garden and making a collective mixtape.



NARVA VENICE EMBASSY

Not far away from Narva Art Residency is the area of Kulgu, which has also gained the name of Narva Venice. It is a system of canals with garages for boats near the Narva water reservoir. In the summer of 2022, the Narva Art Residency successfully carried out the project of the NART Embassy in Narva Venice or VENICE EMBASSY. Five artists worldwide brought their bold projects to life in Kulgu: Enrique Roura, Maurin Bisig, Elizabeth Guerrero, Kevin Molloy and Mohar Kalra. Throughout the season, various events, meetings, and concerts were held in Narva Venice, where artists and residents could get to know each other better and learn more about different types of art.



The project included several public events, such as Open Doors Day and Community Day. The guests were able to get acquainted with the projects of the residents and enjoy the atmosphere and hospitality of the locals. For example, Maurin presented his wooden canopy and photos, and Elizabeth took participants on boat tours, and gave them headphones so they could listen to the 20-minute sound journey while going through the canals. The Embassy was also apart of the music and urban culture festival called Station Narva.

Tallinn University researcher Tarmo Pikner, student Valeria Jermakova, and project manager Jana Levitina took part in summarising the project at the end of the season. It resulted in a Kulgu newspaper that was published in three languages.



THE HISTORY OF THE BUILDING

Built for the director of Kreenholm, the villa has also housed military offices, the factory workers' children's club, a local library, and the Narva Art Residency.

Since the end of 2021, historian Denis Yatsenko researched archival material and collected memories from locals to compile a comprehensive narrative of the history of the art residency's building. For example, stories have been told of how the local mafia used the sauna in the basement, and it has been revealed that in 1917, Georg Cottom, the then-director of Kreenholm, had to flee the country.

Denis has been conducting popular monthly tours of the history of the house. There was a talk by local heritage specialist Madis Tuuder. An outdoor exhibition of photos of the building was put up in the park around NART. The project continues also into the year 2023.



Festival of Invitations

Concluding event of (Re)configuring Territories research programme

With Rael Artel, Laura Kuusk, Polina Medvedeva

and opening of an exhibition by Andréa Stanislav and varialambo (and more!)

29.–30.10.2022

Narva, Eastern-Estonia

Festival of Invitations
Фестиваль Приглашений
Kutsete Festival
Kutsujen festivaali

(RE)CONFIGURING TERRITORIES

(Re)configuring Territories was an interdisciplinary research program for emerging architects and artists. In 2022, (Re)configuring Territories program focused on speculative education and imaginative, yet practical urban development, combining understanding and embracing urban degrowth and cities' self-emerging relationship with nature. The program included artist residencies, a live-action roleplay workshop, spring school, and a final conference in the fall, concluding the three-year program. With an ongoing war in Ukraine, the concept of "reconfiguring territories" itself took on new meanings, reminding the participants about the long-lasting effects of ill-informed external intervention in urban development, thus emphasizing the importance of degrowth. Empathic co-habitation and mindful cooperation unintentionally became the underlying theme of the program.



ESTONIAN ACADEMY OF ARTS' WORKSHOPS

Throughout the year there were various workshops for groups of students or other creative groups taking place at NART. There were two painting camps for students. There was a songwriting camp for artists invited by Airi Triisberg. Henri Hütt mentored students in the DAMA program. In the autumn, Piret Puppert and Annamari Vänskä's course visited NART and so did the students of Urban Studies. The STL dancers were in Narva to do their creative work. In total, 14 groups and a wide variety of guests came to stay overnight at NART dormitories.



PUBLIC ONLINE LECTURE SERIES

Narva Art Residency's international artists gave online lectures to explain in detail; the practice of a professional artist, what everyday life at an art residency looks like, and how to take part in the opportunities offered. Lectures were given by Kenneth Bamber, Jacque Falcheti, Filipa Pontes, Kent Robinson, Pavel Rotts, and Sunaina Talreja. The lectures were followed by the students of the Estonian Academy of Arts as an elective course.



THE CINEMA "AMALIE"

NART's retro hall became a cinema and was called "Amalie" after Amalie Kreisberg, who was a Kreenholm factory worker at the turn of the century and died defending the interests of other workers. The children's club and the library were also named in her honor. To this day, the older generation calls the building "Amalie". It's a strong message that fits in well with the cinema concept, as each film is dedicated to a protagonist who takes on his or her challenges.

In the last two months of 2022, there were screenings of Allen's "A Rainy Day in New York", "The Dead Mountaineer's Hotel" by Kromanov, Demy's "Umbrellas of Cherbourg" and "Amelie" by Jeunet.



UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

In 2022, the NART accepted more than 400 Ukrainian refugees and gave them temporary shelter with the help of volunteers Katya Kuznetcova, Lena Boyartchuk and others. Up to 10 people would arrive at the Narva Art Residency every day in the spring months of 2022, sometimes they also had pets with them. The refugees stayed for a night or two and then continued their way to different destination throughout Europe.

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Joala 18, Narva, Estonia