



Aaiún Nin - new writer-in-residence under the ICORN program

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On 18 March 2021, the Mayor of Kraków officially welcomed a new resident of the ICORN International Network of Cities of Refuge programme. For the next two years, Aaiún Nin, a poet, performer and activist from Angola, will stay at Villa Decius.

Aaiún Nin is the ninth recipient of a residency from Shelter City Kraków under the [ICORN](#) program. Born in Angola, Nin is a poet, artist and activist whose work explores themes of racial and gender discrimination, as well as the experiences of LGBT+ people. In 2016, she immigrated to Denmark, where she began collaborating with artists who identify with queer culture. In her poems, the artist often refers to the situation in Angola, addressing issues such as sexual violence against women, religious fundamentalism, social inequality and racism. During her stay in Copenhagen Aaiún Nin also raised the issues of legal discrimination of migrants and systematic police violence in Scandinavia, and in the context of the Black Lives Matter movement she spoke out in defense of black rights. Her work is rated highly by PEN International; she writes in English, French and Portuguese.

Besides the mayor, Aaiún Nin was also welcomed by Dominika Kasprowicz, Director of the Villa Decius Institute of Culture, and Nina Gabryś, the Mayor's Plenipotentiary for Equality Policy. The next two years, despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, will not only be filled with creative work for the new resident. Nin already has plans to participate in Krakow's festivals and is working on a book which is to be released in Polish by Villa Decius publishing house.