



The Villa Ruffieux Residency For the WGA writer who pitched the best project



ABOUT THE VILLA RUFFIEUX ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The *Villa Ruffieux* was built in Sierre (Valais, Switzerland) in 1902 and was part of the *Château Mercier* estate renovated by Jean-Jacques Mercier and his wife Marie de Molin between 1906 and 1908.

The entire property of around four hectares, including the château, grounds and outbuildings, was donated to the canton of Valais by the Mercier family in 1991. Since 1992 the canton of Valais has entrusted its management to a foundation of the same name: the Mercier Foundation (www.chateaumercier.ch).

The foundation's goal is to make the *Château Mercier* into a vibrant cultural centre and meeting place. To this end, in collaboration with the canton of Valais and the city of Sierre, the *Villa Ruffieux* this year opened its doors as an interdisciplinary residency centre. The residency program fits perfectly with the foundation's mission, raising the *Château Mercier's* profile and consolidating its presence at the heart of the European Network of Cultural Centers.

The *Villa Ruffieux* Residency is open to all professional artists, regardless of age or nationality, working in the visual arts, music, literature, theatre and cinema. It can also accommodate researchers or scientists working in the fields of wine or natural heritage/conservation.



Château Mercier



Valais, Switzerland



Sierre

THE RUFFIEUX RESIDENCY & DREAMAGO

For the past eight years, *DreamAgo* has hosted its international screenwriting workshop at the *Château Mercier*, so it was only natural that the head of the residency thought of *DreamAgo* as a perfect conduit for selecting screenwriters for this program. Last residency stay was offered to the Cuban writer Arturo Arango. Each wrote a feature-length script during his stay.

As for *DreamAgo*, nurturing creativity by offering a writer six weeks in peaceful and beautiful surroundings during which time he/she can focus completely on a project-- is just a gift from heaven! And given the partnership *DreamAgo* is now initiating with the *Writers Guild of America*, it makes perfect sense to create a platform where WGA writers can pitch their projects to *DreamAgo*, so that one writer will have the opportunity to experience this wonderful Residency.



CONDITIONS TO PARTICIPATE

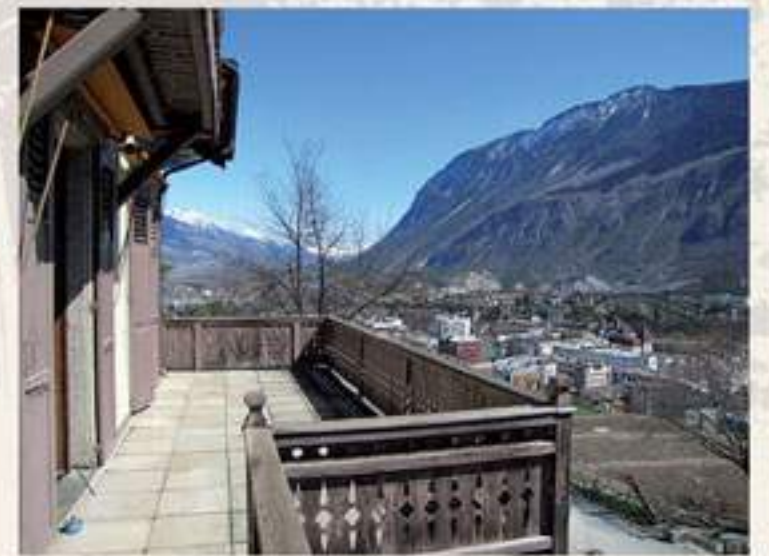
- to have a feature project
- to send your pitch (10 lines) + your resume (5 lines) to nenad@dreamago.com before October 30th, 2013
- to be available to pitch it in Los Angeles if preselected on November 7th, 2013
- to be available, if winning the whole competition, to spend six weeks to write in Switzerland from from April 1st to May 15th, 2014.

The WINNER WHO PITCHES THE BEST PROJECT will receive:

- a six week stay at the *Villa Ruffieux* from April 1st to May 15th, 2014
- free bedroom and studio or office space
- free round trip ticket
- an allowance of 2,250.00 Swiss francs

The resident must:

- be self-sufficient in terms of cooking, housekeeping, etc.
- be willing to take part in a meeting with the local public and in particular with young people.
- have liability, health and accident insurance



CONTACT INFORMATION

Residency Website:

<http://www.chateaumercier-residence.ch/fondation/sierre-wallis/artists-residence/general-information.html>

Residency coordinator: Benoit Antille, benoitantille@yahoo.fr

