

SALONUL DE PROIECTE

FROM THE BACKSTAGE

22 June – 5 August, 2012

The Bureau of Melodramatic Research is an institution founded in 2009 by Irina Gheorghe and Alina Popa, with the general aim of revealing the circuit of the sentimental capital which determines social, political and ultimately economic relations. <http://thebureauofmelodramaticresearch.blogspot.ro>

Ștefan Tiron (Megatron): Fleshbot tweeting natures-cultures, cyborg feminism, repro rights, lifedeath, dirt, biology's past and present dogmas, horrorism, agnotology. Location: Cytoplasm, Romania. Ex-curator, slacktivist and information trafficant. Board member of Kunsthalle Bukarest <http://kunsthalle.ro/>; <http://bio-matter.tumblr.com/>; twitter: @TironStefan

Irina Costache is Phd Candidate at CEU (Gender Studies Dep) where she works on a thesis on corporeality in communism. Up until she started using her feminist lense to Romanian's recent history she has also written on women's football, young women and poverty and more recently on feminism and curatorship. She's generally interested in anything that has to do with women.

Simina Guga studied sociology at the University of Bucharest and anthropology at the National School for Political and Administrative Studies, but this was useless for understanding reality. So she left the academia behind and, in the last 6 years, she worked as a researcher on topics related to migration and as a counselor for the immigrants and refugees that are living in Romania. She is trying to learn arabic, is planning to go to Palestine as soon as possible, wishes for a time when people will travel freely and will be able to chose where and how they want to live. She believes in social justice and is involved with some informal activist groups that are trying to see what is there to be done.

Cristian Darstar (Akira), founding member of the SEFEU comics and a famous mangaka from Brasov/ Intorsura Buzaului, Akira contributed to the first Manga.Inc fanzine, the Otaku Magazine and CosplayGen and is an undeterred fighter for emancipating the comics from the tyranny of money and luxury. <http://dinauntru.blogspot.com/>

Nae Timotei studies the architecture of the super-heroes' headquarters, initiates the COAPSE magazine and is also a founding member of SEFEU. A church painter and contributor to Manga.Inc and Otaku Magazine, Timotei is an undeterred fighter for emancipating the comics from the tyranny of money and luxury.

<http://sefeu.blogspot.com/>

Tatiana Fiodorova. Born in Chisinau, Moldova, where she lives and works, Fiodorova is involved in various roles as a visual artist, teacher, curator, art manager. Fiodorova's work includes installations, live performances, public art, video and digital media. The content of her works tends to reflect the contemporary world in response to current issues: social, political and aesthetic. Very often she touches upon issues related to the local conflicts and problems of Moldova, such as the integration of Moldova into the European context and the problem of identity for the citizens of Moldova. Currently, her designs are associated with social interaction, aimed at creating spaces of intercultural dialogue.

Bogdan Gîrbovan, born in 1981 in Drobeta Turnu-Severin, lives and works in Bucharest, Romania. In 2008, he graduated from the Photo-Video Department, UNARTE Bucharest. He participated in several group exhibitions: *Bucharest. A Paradoxical City*, PhotoEspana, Madrid; *Ne tourne pas la tête!*, the Romanian Cultural Institute in Paris; *Mostra*, UNARTE Bucharest; *Trans-form*, Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University in Istanbul; *NEU/NOW*, Vilnius Academy of Arts in Lithuania; *Youngsters*, the Romanian Cultural Institute in Venice; *RO Archive*, Institut d'Etudes Supérieures des Arts, Paris; Futura Gallery / Karlin Studios in Prague; Contemporary Art Gallery of the Brukenthal Museum in Sibiu. His photographs were published in contemporary art magazines: *The Postbox*, *Punctum*, *NYArts Magazine* and *Fotografija*. He took part in various festivals and workshops: *Online & Live Festival in Lithuania* (2009); *International Camp Photography, Romania* (2007).

Mihaela Michailov is a playwright and theatre critic. Her plays were translated into English, French and Hungarian. She is co-author, together with David Schwarz, of several projects of documentary theatre and performative archiving of recent history, among which: *Heated Heads* and *Underground*, Valea Jiului 2012. In 2009 she obtained a playwriting fellowship from the Royal Court Theater in London. In the same year, her play *I'm Afraid*, was read at Lark Theatre, New York. In 2012 the play *Offline Family* was presented at the Immigrants Theatre Project, in partnership with ICR. She was a member of many national and international juries. She is interested in educational projects and in playwriting research focused on the problematic of children and teenagers. She is the cofounder of the Center for Community Art, Varsta 4. She publishes regularly in some of the most important cultural magazines in Romania, and her studies about the Romanian contemporary dance and theater have appeared in various international magazines and journals.

Paul Dunca was born in Bucharest where he continues to live and work. After he graduated from the National University of Theatre and Film "I.L.Caragiale" in Bucharest (Dep. of Choreography), continuing with an MA in playwriting, he tried to never say 'NO'. That is why his work is extremely eclectic: from waiting tables to his own show on MTV, from community art and gogo to articles in glossy magazines, from the shows he made at the National Dance Center in Bucharest to the shows performed on the Judson Church stage in New York. All in all, he is happy when he can make himself useful.

Olivia Mihălțianu (b. 1981, Bucharest); lives and works in Bucharest. Her recent works are interdisciplinary projects on personal social and cultural identity, including different techniques: video, film, photographs, objects, installations and performance. Her works have been presented at: *Where Do We Go From Here?*, Secession, Vienna (2010); *Wakefield Meadows*, Pavilion Unicredit, Bucharest (2009/2010); 4th Young Artists' Biennial Bucharest, *Anyone But Me, Anywhere But Here*, Contemporary Art Gallery of the Brukenthal Museum, Sibiu, Romania (2008); *Social Cooking Romania*, NGBK, Berlin, (2007/2008); *Found Footage* KSAK, Kishnev, Moldavia (2007); *formate/moving patterns*, Kunsthalle, Vienna (2004). Artist in residence: Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France (2011/2012); KulturKontakt, Vienna, Austria (2011); Műcsarnok Kunsthalle, Budapest, Hungary by Gulliver Connect (2010); Schafhof – Europäisches Künstlerhaus, Oberbayern, Freising, Germany (2008); Romanian Cultural Institute, Paris, France (2007).

Alexandru Niculescu (b. 1979) lives and works in Craiova. He is the co-founder of the Center for Contemporary Art "Club Electroputere" Craiova, together with Adrian Bojenoiu. In 2011 he was the initiator one of the participating projects in the Venice Biennale. He exhibited within the Romanian Cultural Resolution project at Werkschau Spinnerei, Leipzig and at Club Electroputere Craiova. He is also a co-editor of the Romanian Cultural Resolution catalogue (Hatje Cantz, 2011).

Ștefan Sava (n. 1982) lives and works in Bucharest. He holds an MA from the Photo-Video Department, UNARTE Bucharest where he is currently enrolled as a PHD student. His projects combine photography, video, performance and object and are based on a long process of theoretical reflection and research. He is particularly interested in the subject of recent history and in the way in which the history can be visually reactivated through an analytical approach. Among the exhibitions he took part in: *Atoms and Void*, Galeria Posibilă, Bucharest (2010), *Here and Then*, Club Electroputere Craiova (2011), *The Inside-Out of the Wall*, Ivan Gallery (2012).