

SALONUL DE PROIECTE

EROISMUL RĂSARE ÎNTR-UN DEPOZIT DE MĂRFURI

5 March – 24 May, 2015

Simion Cernica was born in Bucharest and since 2011 he lives and works in Los Angeles. He got close to art by building a personal study method of contemporary art and its connected phenomena from the mid '90s. He chose this course as a personal statement (almost "suicidal" as artistic dynamics), as answer and need for a better strategy to study and practice contemporary art in the multi-dysfunctional context of those years, and even after – not only with academic study or official art practice, but with the entire society. Initially he concentrated his attention on photography, painting, film, video; today he works with any shape of visual and performative language which can conceptually and formally sustain his projects. Now he continues to negotiate his position of (Romanian) artist and citizen (RO/EN/USA), without regard to the geographical position he occupies.

Claudiu Cobilanschi lives at the blurry boundary between art and media, using, as journalist, multiple mediums for different kinds of expression and, as an artist, the benefit of these media's mutual influence. In his practice, he is approaching issues of stereotypical thinking, forecasting and physicality, etc. projecting messages in different contexts: photography, portraits-oracles, post-apocalyptic sculptures, studies of expressiveness in conventional images, videodocuments of immigrants, DIY saunas, interactive movies, etc. He has worked within the framework, and tested the limits of institutions such as ParadisGaraj & Die Kunsthalle Bukarest, Spațiul Platforma MNAC Anexa Bucharest, Barbara Seiler Gallery Zürich, Depo Istanbul, Rotwand Gallery Zürich, IGBildendeKunst Vienna, Nida ArtColony Lithuania, HBK Saar Deutschland, Kunsthalle Krems, Romanian Cultural Institute, Bucharest Biennale, Kunsthalle Winterthur, etc.

Ion Dumitrescu started with classical ballet, after that he went abruptly into contemporary dance and then arrived to the postspectacle practice in 2008, a practice and set of performance strategies that he co-initiated with Florin Flueraș. He has developed performances that attempt to destabilize and challenge artistic identity and time duration. Among the ramifications of the postspectacle practice he started The Romanian Presidential Candidacy. Ion Dumitrescu is concerned also with music, initiator of the Bucharest label Future Nuggets. Among other releases he produced

and released Steaua de Mare debut LP and the first LP of the legendary band Rodion G.A together with Strut Records (London).

Florin Flueraş often switches or mixes the contexts in which he activates: contemporary performance, visual arts, abstract activism, theory. He is involved in long term projects such as *Unsorcery*, *Postspectacle*, *Presidential Candidacy*, *Romanian Dance History*, *Robin Hood Minor Asset Management*, *Bezna*. Many of these conceptual entities acquired in time a sort of autonomy and working inside them can mean just to learn to listen and follow their desires. *Unsorcery* is the conceptual entity that is more demanding at the moment, so he is currently involved in developing *Unsorcery* performances and theories through concepts and practices such as *Dead Thinking*, *Second Body*, *End Dream*, *Eternal Feeding*.

Paul Dunca – queer body activist – was born in Bucharest where he continues to live and work. After graduating the National University of Theater and Film (the choreography section) and the Dramatic Writing section at the same institution, he tried to never say NO. This is the reason his work has an eclectic character and includes a very diverse expression: from waiting tables to his own MTV show, from community art and go-go dancing to representing Romania as a performer at the Venice Biennale, from articles in glossy magazines and parts in local movies to spectacles presented at the National Dance Center in Bucharest and on the scene of Judson Church, New York. All in all, he's happier when he can be useful.

Ştefan Tiron collaborates on issues of psychotronics, technocultism and bioconspiracy with Departamentul Zero, Subcultural Scuba Diving, biserika.ro, Utopiana, ParadisGaraj, planetneukoln, Monochrom, Fanclubul Reușitelor Românești, BMR, Centrul de Calcul, Candidatura la Președinție, Căminul Cultural, Otaku Entertainment, Sefeu, etc. 1995 participates in the movie *The Reservation*, Romania's first eco-horror; 2006-2013 initiates and co curates a series of events at the border between art/science/cosmology reuniting buffs of space exploration/space adventure in regional natural history museums/universities/galleries/private homes/alternative cultural centers under aegis of A.S.C.N.O.U. <https://cozzzmonautica.wordpress.com/>; 2005 curator *Interzis Minorilor 18 + youth cultures under the sign of interdiction* at Galeria Nouă; 2006 *Domiciliu Forțat: otaku rooms in Romania* at Mediamatic Foundation Amsterdam; 2007 together with Alexandra Croitoru *A PRELIMINARY REPORT on the past and present use of psychotronic weapons of mass destruction in Romania*; 2009 Köln SIGINT/Chaos Computer Club transfers surveillance technology from east to west; 2010 Chișinău practical lesson of urban ecology/invasive biology for the young, guided tour by ST/Vadim Țigănaș; 2013 Utopiana/Geneva *Post-invasive hyperdensity horrorshop*; TW @TironStefan technoscientific fabulations and xenozoic curses

Mihai Lukacs is an artist working at the limit between performance, theory and theatre. After studying political science, theatre directing, psychoanalysis and gender studies, he started integrating all these disciplines in his artistic project. His latest performative practices speak about darkness and relations between roma and gadjos (*Sara Kali - The Dark Madonna* Vienna 2014, *Gadjo Dildo* Bucharest 2015), public humiliation (*Public Humiliation #1-3, Like a Bit of Luggage* Vienna 2013, *PRIMVS* Hanover 2014), utopic communism and sexual liberation (*Queer Worker* Vienna 2013, *Queercore* Bucharest 2012) and in general about vulnerability, weakness and precarity. In 2014, with Mihaela Drăgan, he initiated the theater company Giuvlipen.

Alexandru Fifea is an actor (UNATC, 2007) who activates in independent theater projects in the sphere of documentary, social, militant theater. He realized the monodrama *Eu, gen* (2012). Presently, he works in the community theater project *4MP* (director Catinca Drăgănescu), in the shows *Nu ne-am născut în locul potrivit* (by Alice Monica Marinescu and David Schwartz) and *Talk to the Bomb* (by Lala Mișosniky).

Cătălin Rulea is an artist and musician, founding member of Centrul de Introspecție Vizuală / Asociația PPLUS4 (active between 2008-2013). He is active on the alternative music scene and involved in contemporary theater projects. He collaborated with Ioana Păun for the project *Produse domestice* and with David Schwartz for projects such as *Capete înfierbântate* or *Nu ne-am născut în locul potrivit*. He's had exhibitions at Cooper Gallery / Dundee, Tribwerk Gallery / Halle, Fotogalerie / Vienna, Bucharest Biennale 2, Kunsthalle / Vienna, Vienna Art Fair. He designed publications such as *Ion Grigorescu – Omul cu o singură cameră* or *Studio Basar – Evacuarea Fantomei* and part of the visual communication for Centrul de Introspecție Vizuală. He co-curated *Ars Telefonica* (2008).

David Schwartz is a theater director, living and working in Bucharest. He is interested in the performance of recent history, subjective histories of the post-socialist transition, art as medium of political emancipation. He works in theater projects which involve: miners and other workers communities; institutionalized elders; refugees. He co-initiated *Gazeta de Artă Politică* <http://www.artapolitica.ro> and *Platforma de Teatru Politic* <http://www.artapolitica.ro/platforma2015>.

Irina Gheorghe studied painting and photography at the National University of Arts Bucharest. She is interested in the way various disciplines are revisited by others and - due to the impossibility of proper translation from one medium to another - irreverently reconfigured. Recent interests include topics such as vagueness, ambiguity and dissimulation in the context of a longer research on science and the

supernatural in Eastern Europe. Other investigations include the affective modulations of current politics with *The Bureau of Melodramatic Research* and the dark undercurrents of knowledge as part of *Bezna* group.

Ivana Mladenovic lives and works in Bucharest. She is a graduate of the National Theater and Film University and she is known for documentaries and feature films presented at festivals all over the world. She received the prize *The Heart of Sarajevo* for Best Documentary for the movie *Turn Off the Lights*, premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival in April 2012, and one month later at the Bucharest European Film Festival. At the moment, she is working on her first feature based on the novel of Adrian Schiop, *Soldații. Poveste din Ferentari*.

Zamir Suleymanov is an artist living in Azerbaijan. He has participated in exhibitions such as *Limit to transit* (2015, KicikQalaArt, Baku), Moscow Young Art Biennale 2014, Tbilisi PhotoFest (2014), GRID Photobiennale (2014, Amsterdam).

Iulia Gabriela Toma is a mixed-media artist, working with the aesthetics of textiles, as well as with photography, painting, sculpture, installation and text. Lately she is focusing on social themes whose resonance she finds in her own experiences: feminism, women's rights, interpersonal relations in closed communities, the urban materiality of habitation, social equity, etc. She participated in group shows such as *De la aftershock la nemurire. Discotopia* (2014, Spațiul Platforma, MNAC Anexa, Bucharest), *Untitled Fighter* (2014, solo show, Ivan Gallery, Bucharest), *Working Title* (2014, MAGMA, Sf. Gheorghe), *Schimbul 1, Schimbul 2 și Tura de Noapte* (2013, Spațiul Platforma, MNAC Anexa, Bucharest), *Ceea ce distrugem și celebrăm în același timp* (2012, Salonul de proiecte, MNAC Anexa, Bucharest), *Dear Money* (2013, Salonul de proiecte, VIENNAFAIR).

Mona Vătămanu & Florin Tudor live and work in Bucharest. In the past years, their projects were presented in Kunsthalle Lissabon (Lisbon, PT), Extracity (Antwerp, BE), Daad Galerie (Berlin, DE), Secession (Vienna, AT), Bak (Utrecht, NL), Centre Pompidou (Paris, FR), Württembergischer Kunstverein (Stuttgart, DE), Frankfurter Kunstverein (Frankfurt, DE), Ludwig Museum (Budapest, HU), ms2 Muzeum Sztuki (Łódź, PL), Muhka (Antwerp, BE), Frac Lorraine (Metz, FR), New Museum (New York, NY), 1st Ural Industrial Biennial (Ekaterinburg, RU), Venice Biennial (Venice, IT), 5th Berlin Biennial (Berlin, DE), 12th Istanbul Biennial (Istanbul, TR).