

EUROPALIA
ARTS FESTIVAL
ROMANIA



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INTRODUCTION

50 years of EUROPALIA

In 1969, the first EUROPALIA festival, dedicated to Italy, opened its doors. The festival aimed to generate a greater understanding of other countries through art and culture. The need for this had grown in the context of the European Economic Community, where countries started working together and their citizens living together. An introduction to each other's culture could stimulate genuine interest and thereby strengthen dialogue and cohesion.

No fewer than 26 festivals have taken place over the years, with top editions such as Europalia Spain (1985) and Europalia Austria (1987). In 1989, Europalia Japan marked the moment when the festival started to look beyond Europe. Several non-European countries have subsequently been invited, including Russia (2005) and India (2013). But a lot has changed since then.

Today, it would be unthinkable for the festival to like it did 50 or even 20 years ago. Our world vision has changed, along with the role and (our own) image of Europe. We now think differently about cultural identity.

After 50 years, the EUROPALIA mission remains pertinent. Artistic projects that initiate dialogue between societies and communities are more necessary than ever. But the approach and interpretation are different. They are active, contemporary and sustainable. Active because EUROPALIA is actively committed to new creations, residencies and exchanges, and to presenting cultural heritage in a way that creates connections and resonates with today's big questions. Contemporary because art is about the here and now, and tackles themes such as gender and migration. Sustainable because the festival does not stop after three months; artists and institutions continue working together and perpetuating artistic dialogue.

The EUROPALIA ROMANIA programme reflects this approach and interpretation. We wholeheartedly thank the Romanian Cultural Institute team and all our partners for sharing our conviction.

EUROPALIA ROMANIA

Romania, an update

In Belgium and by extension Western Europe, there is limited knowledge of Romanian culture or its artistic scene. The image of this country held by the general public is an amalgam of Dracula, Ceausescu, folklore and in recent years, the flourishing nature and strong presence of Romanian cinema. This image is limited and was formed by, among others, prejudice and the (un)availability or (in)accessibility of Romanian artistic projects.

EUROPALIA ROMANIA harbours ambitions of changing this and providing an up-to-date image of Romanian art. Of course, it would be impossible and presumptuous to attempt to give a complete overview of Romanian culture. But the festival does enable artists and curators to have a voice and present a multitude of current, surprising perspectives on Romania, its heritage and contemporary art scene.

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

The festival's introductory exhibition, 'Perspectives' (BOZAR), sets the scene. It starts with the birth of the Romanian identity in the middle of the 19th century and goes all the way up to the fall of Ceausescu in 1989, with a focus on the historical avant-garde. How did art develop against the background of this turbulent history? How do today's artists view these past events? The exhibition introduces numerous Romanian artists who will receive further attention throughout the festival.

Brancusi comes to Brussels

Without doubt, the highlight of EUROPALIA ROMANIA is the exhibition dedicated to Constantin Brancusi (1876-1957) at BOZAR. Despite being one of the greatest artists of the 20th century, Brancusi has never before been the subject of a retrospective exhibition in Belgium. EUROPALIA ROMANIA is changing this.

For the first time, masterpieces from across the world are travelling to Brussels reveal the evolution and power of Brancusi's work as a sculptor and photographer. Sculptures by Auguste Rodin and Medardo Rosso complete the first, chronological section. The exhibition also focuses on Brancusi's studio, where work by his contemporaries, friends and pupils such as Amedeo Modigliani, Man Ray, Fernand Léger, Marcel Duchamp and Isamu Noguchi is presented. But the stars of the show are sculptures by the master himself. They testify to his relentless search for the essence, for sublimation.

Dance and movement also play a significant role in Brancusi's oeuvre. EUROPALIA ROMANIA has therefore commissioned several performers and choreographers to create new works for the exhibition. These creations will be shown throughout and during the exhibition, on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. To give children and families a warm welcome, ARTS BASICS for CHILDREN will be hosting creative workshops.

Romania, between East and West

Romania is unique due to continuous encounters between East and West throughout its history. These began with Dacia (500 BC - 271 AD), the empire that is at the heart of the Romanian republic, and its contacts with Greek cities along the Black Sea coast. They continued with the Romans, who conquered Dacia during the 2nd century. Afterwards, there were contacts with the Byzantine Empire, the Orthodox world and their Bulgarian and Serbian successors. Encounters between East and West followed one another, and their influence is still felt today. This cross-pollination between East and West is one of the guiding themes of the EUROPALIA ROMANIA artistic programme.

The second headlining exhibition, 'Dacia - The Glorious Past of Romania' at the Gallo-Roman Museum in Tongeren, looks at the cultural cross-fertilization that occurred around two thousand years ago. For the first time in Belgium, pieces from Romanian museums, in particular from the National Museum of Romanian History, will illustrate the different cultures that lived in the majority of the present-day territory of Romania. The museum in Tongeren will present an extraordinary scenography and a fascinating journey through history. The Grand Curtius in Liège goes back even further in time and highlights the Bronze and Neolithic Age with beautiful geometric pottery and unbelievable anthropomorphic figurines.

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Big name solo exhibitions alongside thematic group shows

The rest of the exhibition programme focuses primarily on the contemporary art scene, with several solo exhibitions by, among others, Ciprian Muresan (°1977)—one of the biggest names in Romania right now—in S.M.A.K. and Ion Grigorescu (°1945) in KIOSK. One of the first conceptual artists in Romania, Grigorescu has an unimaginably rich and intriguing oeuvre. For the first time, and in close collaboration with the artist, a retrospective of his work will take place. In addition, group shows will address current themes and provide a broader picture of the contemporary art scene. CC Strombeek delves into the subject of migration in 'Displacement & Togetherness' while the MiLL in La Louvière explores the Romanian art scene of the last decade.

Residencies and new creations

This upcoming festival, the EUROPALIA CURATOR'S AWARD will celebrate its third edition. This time, the unique prize for emerging curators goes to Els Vermang in collaboration with artist Claudia Radulescu. Together, they leave for a residency in Romania to develop their project titled 'HIT'. The idea behind the project is to discover how a musical hit comes about by composing and releasing a track, then analysing the resulting music in an exhibition at KANAL-Centre Pompidou.

The festival contains a series of additional residencies (followed by exhibitions), among others at AAIR (Antwerp) and WIELS (Brussels).

Performing arts

Two themes stand out in the festival's dance and performance programme, which primarily features new creations. The first one is folklore. How does the contemporary art scene relate to folklore? Does it prefer to stay away from this old instrument of propaganda, or has it come to terms with its rich traditions? Belgian choreographer Wim Vandekeybus explores and works with Romanian traditions, including bear rituals, in, among others Concertgebouw Bruges, deSingel, and KVS.

The second theme tackles the position of women and feminism. In 'Mothers of Steel' (Kaaithheater), two female characters, played by Agata Siniarska and Madalina Dan, literally weep iconic moments in the history of their respective countries, Poland and Romania. With 'Manifestation' (Kaaithheater), Eszter Salamon creates a choral performance in which she explores the history of Romanian feminism.

Eugène Ionesco (1909-1994) stands central in the theatre programme, and his 'Rhinoceros', directed by Robert Wilson, will be one of the season's highlights at Théâtre de Liège and Le Phenix in Valenciennes.

Music

In the field of classical music, the work of George Enescu (1881-1955), from traditional performances to jazz interpretations, runs like a thread through the festival. There are also stunning musical collaborations, between, for example, the National Belgian Orchestra and conductor Cristian Macelaru and cellist Andrei Ionita. The unrivalled soprano talent Angela Gheorghiu will also make her voice heard, but mainly lesser-known talents fill the programme.

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Here too, there is an emphasis on new creations and interdisciplinary exchanges between artists from Romania and Belgium. Alongside the fantastic project of the Taraf de Impex Roma musicians, three projects stand out in particular:

Filmmaker Anthony Nti travelled to Romania to record a video clip for the duo Karpov not Kasparov. Antwerp-based musician Milan W. also went to Romania where he discovered the tulnic (a type of Alpine horn) and recorded a new album. And finally, there is a project around the experimental art group Kinema lkon. The collective worked with pieces of discarded film tape, secreted away from the authorities during the communist era, to create short experimental films. These unseen materials are haunted by copyright issues, due to their “glued on” music. EUROPALIA ROMANIA has commissioned 5 Belgian and 5 Romanian musicians to create a new score for these fragments.

The music programme gets off to a festive start at a party on 4 October at Les Brigittines (Brussels).

30 years after the fall of Ceausescu

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the fall of the communist regime. References to communist Romania appear in all disciplines, but around the time of the anniversary, in December, several writers and filmmakers will be invited to discuss this historic event. The literature section of the festival focuses on three periods: the historical avant-garde, the communist era and modern-day Romania. For each period, there are a plethora of residencies, debates and encounters between leading figures such as Mircea Cartarescu (1956) but also with the younger generation.

Videograms of a Nation

The film section explores the reality of modern-day Romania through a camera lens. Both lesser known films and major titles will offer different perspectives on the historical and cultural transitions within the country and its engagement with cinema as an art form. Different periods are highlighted thematically. For example, the series ‘Propaganda and subversion in the 1950s’ will be screened at Cinematek (Brussels). It will be the most extensive retrospective film programme of the last 25 years, accompanied by a new publication.

Dirk Vermaelen, artistic director EUROPALIA

1. See Keith Hitchins, *A Concise History of Romania*, 2014, Cambridge University Press

EUROPALIA ARTS FESTIVAL ROMANIA

EXHIBITIONS

BRANCUSI. SUBLIMATION OF FORM

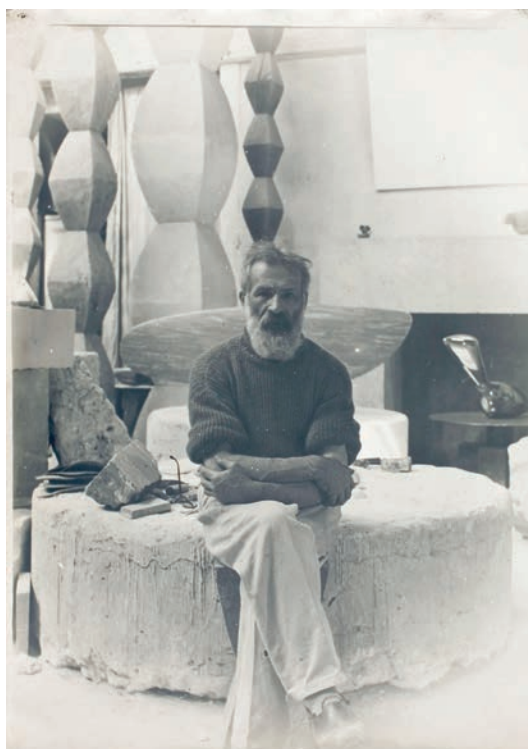
MAIN EVENT

BRANCUSI

02.10.2019 - 12.01.2020

BOZAR

Simplicity is not a goal in art, but we attain simplicity despite oneself by nearing the real meaning of things. . [...] In short, simplicity is complexity resolved [...].



Constantin Brancusi, *Autoportrait dans l'atelier les Colonnes sans fin I à IV, Le Poisson (1930), Léda (1926), +- 1934* © Centre Pompidou, MNAM-CCI, Dist.RMN-Grand Palais - Philippe Migeat, © Sabam Belgium, 2019

Brancusi (Hobita 1876 – Paris 1957) is one of the fathers of modern sculpture. He remains an unclassifiable artist and one of the greatest sculptors of the 20th century. The festival's flagship exhibition, *Brancusi: Sublimation of Form* illustrates the uniqueness of this artist, who tried to grasp the essence of human beings and objects through the creation of pared-down forms, free of outside influence. Brancusi used his sculptures to embody the radical transformations that painting had undergone half a century earlier. His innovative work succeeded in establishing itself in an environment which had just begun to open up to modernity, inspiring several generations of artists.

The exhibition first focuses on Brancusi's journey: born deep into the Romanian countryside, he studied at the Craiova School of Arts and Crafts and later at the Bucharest School of Fine Arts. In 1904, he arrived in Paris after journeying through Europe, to continue his training. After a brief spell in Rodin's studio, Brancusi decided to seek out his own path, convinced that "nothing grows in the shade of tall trees." Works by Rodin and Rosso will be presented alongside early and essential works by Brancusi, which show both the influence of these masters as well as how Brancusi freed himself from their influence.

In 1907, a pivotal year in his creative process, Brancusi decided to move away from model-based work and adopted the technique of direct carving, largely renouncing the use of models. This is when Brancusi began producing sculptures in series, working and reworking several themes simultaneously, and developing them over a period of several decades, until the result was sufficiently free from the superfluous and capable of expressing, "real things that are not the carcass of what we see, but of what is being hidden from us."

The exhibition focuses on several series, showing the sublimation process used in the sculptor's work. In *The Beginning of the World*, a realistic looking child's head evolves into an ovoid form which

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borders on abstraction. A magical bird from traditional fairy tales stretches out, expressing the suggestion of flight. The embrace of a kiss is synthesised and becomes a graphic motif. The portrait of a woman is refined until it is transformed into an ambiguous form, abolishing gender boundaries.

During the 1920s, the artist's studio, a real modern art laboratory, started drawing the attention of art collectors, museum representatives, and the literary and art world of the time. The studio occupies an important place in the exhibition. It highlights Brancusi's artistic influence and places him back in this era, revealing his amicable ties with Fernand Léger, Amedeo Modigliani, Marcel Duchamp, Man Ray, Erik Satie, and Tristan Tzara.

Photography was essential to Brancusi; his photographs are a precious guide to understanding his sculptural work. He practised photography intensively from the 1920s onwards, prohibiting anyone but himself from photographing his work or himself. This tendency stemmed from his inherent desire for coherence and control. This aspect of his work will receive considerable attention throughout the exhibition. Brancusi was also fascinated by moving images: several fragments of his films which echo his sculptures, which, to varying degrees, integrate this notion of movement, will be shown.

But he left his one and only monumental work (made up of three elements: *The Endless Column*, *Gate of the Kiss*, and *The Table of Silence*) to his homeland Romania, where it was installed between 1937 and 1938 in Târgu Jiu, as a commemoration of the heroes who died during the First World War. In the exhibition, a room will be dedicated to this work, which is a synthesis of all his themes and a perfect illustration of his conception of architecture and urban planning.

Performances and Installations

Several dancers performed in Brancusi's workshop. The sculptor photographed and filmed them, fuelling his research into movement. On the occasion of the exhibition, EUROPALIA commissioned a series of new creations from Romanian and Belgian artists who will focus on various aspects of the sculptor's work. These dancers and performers will present their creations at Bozar and are thus given the opportunity to interact with the work of the person who inspired them.

With new works by Manuel Pelmus, Madalina Dan, Lia Perjovschi, Alexandra Croitoru & Vlad Basalici, Sergiu Matis, Gaëtan Rusquet and Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker.

EUROPALIA ROMANIA thanks all the lenders, and especially the MNAM – Centre Pompidou for contributing to the exhibition with an exceptional ensemble of art works.



Constantin Brancusi, *La Muse endormie*, 1910
© Centre Pompidou, MNAM-CCI, Dist.RMN-Grand Palais - Adam Rzepka, © Sabam Belgium, 2019

Curator : Doïna Lemny

Catalogue : NL / FR / EN (SNOECK)

Audio guide : NL / FR / EN (GUIDE ID)

BOZAR
Rue Ravenstein 23 – 1000 Brussels
www.bozar.be

ABC: STUDIO BRANCUSI

05.10.2019 - 12.01.2020

BOZAR

ABC (ART BASICS for CHILDREN) is situated on the border between art and education: it is a lab for aesthetic experiences, creative development and artistic awareness. The mobile ABC studio is a travelling studio/library/exhibition and consists of specially designed interactive "stations," work islands with incredible books (in four languages), visuals, theme packages, and other educational materials. Children and adults are invited for an associative and creative journey of discovery through a wide and often changing range of activities.

In this ABC Studio workshop, we get lost in the fascinating history of sculpture up to the moment Brancusi broke with figurative art, and we search for his sources of inspiration in myths, folklore, and archaic cultures. We delve deeper into some of Brancusi's most important works and become acquainted with his favourite materials such as stone, bronze, wood and metal. We experience the emotional quality and power of his work during an interactive walk through the exhibition. We discover his fascination for photography in a light and shadow installation, familiarize ourselves with his interest in pedestals and composition in space and lose ourselves in his endless column.

A multifunctional layout including an atelier and workspace with tables with numerous creative materials, a stage for playing and storytelling and a multilingual book lounge, make this uniquely designed ABC studio accessible to all ages.

A comprehensive workbook allows for endless experimentation with three-dimensional art at home or at school.

*Things are not difficult to make;
what is difficult is putting ourselves in the state of mind to make them*
Constantin Brancusi

Workshops are supervised by ABC guides

For schools :

Every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 AM to 12.30 PM and
from 1 PM to 3.30 PM

Family days - free entrance:

Every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 1.30 PM to
5 PM

Art day for children:

Sunday 11/11/2019 from 10 AM to 5 PM

More information about the programme soon

ABC – ART BASICS for CHILDREN vzw
www.abc-web.be

MAIN EVENT

PERSPECTIVES

02.10.2019 - 12.01.2020

BOZAR

Perspectives unfolds itself around two chronological anchor points. On the one hand, the birth of Romanian national identity, illustrated by Jewish Austrian-Hungarian painter Constantin Daniel Rosenthal's 'Romania Revoluționar'. On the other hand, the events of 1989, exemplified by Harun Farocki's and Andrei Ujică's film 'Videograms of a Revolution', which enables us to focus on artistic practices in relation to past and present dichotomies between communist times and times of transition and beyond.

The exhibition encompasses works from the beginning of the modern tradition to contemporary art, with a strong focus on the historical avant-garde. It proposes a topical exploration of representational concerns, issues of identity, and (geo)political conditions. By emphasizing often-overlooked narratives and perspectives, it offers an alternative reading of the conventional understanding of art history. *Perspectives* looks at artistic strategies against the background of broader social or political themes and taps into issues such as Romania's national mythology, the notion of cultural identity, hybrid art practice and the relationship between public and private space.

The exhibit examines the notions of national and cultural identity as changeable processes within the history of Romania. It also discloses how shifting social and political contexts constantly challenge Romanian historiography, prompting the deconstruction and reconstruction of cultural narratives. This includes the exploration of various narratives of rural identity and the interconnection with religion. *Perspectives* also zooms in on the role of the artists with regards to the reality of the socio-political and economic climate in which they lived. It focuses on the experimentation with alternative modes of expression and distribution, which notably increased during times marked by tensions between arts and politics, like the interwar period or the times of rigid communist rule. As witnesses to their socio-historical surroundings, artists worked in various settings: in urban spaces, private environments and the countryside. And they expressed themselves on different levels: pictorially, formally and conceptually. Some rejected dominant values and questioned existing models in their search for a new artistic language. Others equally engaged in other fields, such as literature, poetry, graphics and illustration.

Rather than establishing a rigid conceptual framework, *Perspectives* forges a structure, a loose set of directions that enables a heterogeneous approach and a non-exhaustive exploration of the complexities in Romanian society and its vibrant and broad art industry.

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

With:

Leon Alex, Theodor Aman, Octav Bancila, Aurel Bauh, Horia Bernea, Stefan Bertalan, Geo Bogza & Sasa Pana, Botaciu, Geta Bratescu, Victor Brauner, Mircea Cantor, Irina Codreanu, Calin Dan, Aristide Demetriade, Hans Eder, Harun Farocki & Andrej Ujica, Constantin Flondor, Teodor Graur, Olga Greceanu, Ion Grigorescu, Nadia Grossman Bulighin, Marcel Iancu, Eugene Ionesco, Iosif Iser, Isidore Isou, Iosif Kiraly, Gherasim Luca, Ana Lupaş, Max Herman Maxy, Corneliu Michailescu, Dan Mihaltianu, Wanda Mihuleac, Gavril Miklossy, Radu Mocanu, Ciprian Mureşan, Gellu Naum, Paul Neagu, Ioana Nemeş, Florin Hornoiu (Kinema Ikon), MAMU Group (Elekes Karoly & Garda Aladar), Mihael Olos, Miklos Onucsan, Andrei Oisteanu, Jules Perahim, Dan Perjovschi, Lia Perjovschi, Milita Petrascu, Constantin Daniel Rosenthal, Decebal Scriba, Nadina Scriba, Arthur Segal, Ionescu Sion, Dan Stanciu, subReal, Carol Popp de Szathmari, Gheorghe Tattarescu, Urmuz en Mona Vatamanu & Florin Tudor.



Marcel Iancu – Tristan Tzara mask_Rafi Venezian
© Janco-Dada Museum, Ein Hod

Curators: Wim Waelput and Igor Mocanu
Audio guide: NL / FR / EN (GUIDE ID)

BOZAR
Rue Ravenstein 23 – 1000 Brussels
www.bozar.be

HISTORICAL EXHIBITIONS

MAIN EVENT

DACIA – THE GLORIOUS PAST OF ROMANIA

19.10.2019 - 26.04.2020

GALLO-ROMAN MUSEUM

The exhibition 'Dacia – The Glorious Past of Romania' will tell the story of six ancient peoples whose rich cultures shaped the distant past of this Eastern European country, between 650 BC and 270 A.D., or some two thousand years ago.

The overall theme of the exhibition is cultural cross-pollination. On display will be masterpieces from the National Museum of Romanian History in Bucharest and other Romanian museums. Highlights will include the gold and silver treasures of the Getae and Dacians, native peoples from the pre-Roman era. There will also be numerous objects from other peoples who were attracted to the region and established temporary or permanent settlements there: Romans, Celts, Greeks and Scythians.

In evocative scenery that will incorporate panoramic films of the landscapes of the Romanian countryside and archaeological sites, the cultures will be highlighted one by one.

Dacians and Getae

Dacia: that is what the Romans called the region that largely corresponds to present-day Romania. The name refers to the Dacians, the people who lived there at the time the Romans conquered it in 106 A.D., and for whom the exhibition is named. Attention is also devoted to the Getae, a people related to the Dacians. The poster features a depiction of a Getian priestess dressed in a beautifully draped robe and holding a ritual horn. The horn is one of the finest pieces in the exhibition. Depicting the priestess also emphasises the human aspect of the story told by the exhibition.

Cultural crossroads

Romania has a unique geographical position: roughly situated between the Eurasian steppe to the East, the Mediterranean world to the South, and Central Europe to the West, it has always been a cultural crossroads. Not only the Romans, but also the Greeks, Celts and Scythians were drawn to the region and built settlements there. Who were all these people? What drove them to migrate to the region? What were relations like with the local inhabitants, the Dacians and Getae? The central theme of the exhibition is 'contact and exchange'.



Rhyton, Poroina Mare, Romania, 400-300 BC.
© National Museum of Romanian History, Bucharest

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

Masterpieces from prestigious Romanian museums

A wide range of objects will be presented, illustrating the identities of the diverse cultures. Among the absolute highlights are the gold and silver hoards of the Dacians and Getae. They have been exceptionally allowed to leave the 'treasure chamber' of the National Museum of Romanian History in Bucharest. But some 20 other Romanian museums have also provided magnificent items on loan to Tongeren, which will be on view just this once in Belgium.

Journey back in time

Visitors will be taken on a journey, ever further back in time. One by one, they will discover the diverse cultures. The objects will be accompanied by knowledgeable explanations. They will dazzle amid vivid scenery, against the backdrop of projections of films of Romanian landscapes and archaeological sites. These films will be created specially for the exhibition.

Accessible

The exhibition will tell a clear story that will be accessible to all. The panel texts will be to-the-point, and an audioguide will provide extra information. All material will be available in four different languages (NL-F-D-E).

For children, there is a simplified audiotour with atmospheric sounds. Also for children, there will be original game applications and a workshop. This will allow them to immerse themselves in the diverse cultures and gain a better understanding of the way of life of the people of the ancient world.

The museum is developing a special programme for school groups.

Related activities

The Gallo-Roman Museum is reaching out to the Romanian community in Belgium. On Sunday 1 March 2020, there will be a 'Romanian day' for the general public, featuring many aspects of Romanian culture such as gastronomy, crafts, music and dance. The museum is also planning a programme of lectures. At the cultural centre in Tongeren, the Velinx, in the spring of 2020 Romanian arthouse-films will be screened and there will be an exhibition of Romanian movie posters. The Gallo-Roman Museum will also be collaborating with the museum Le Grand Curtius in Liege, which is mounting an exhibition on Romania's prehistoric past, focusing on the period prior to the one covered at the Gallo-Roman Museum.

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Commissioned/managed by: city of Tongeren

Exhibition concept: Gallo-Roman Museum

Exhibition co-ordinator: Bart Demarsin

Scientific curators: dr. Ernest Oberlander-Tarnoveanu
(National Museum of Romanian History, Bucharest),
dr. Valeriu Sirbu (Vasile Parvan Institute of Archaeology,
Bucharest), dr. Dragos Mandescu (Regional Museum of the
Arges District, Pitesti)

Design: SHSH

Production: Reynders Bouw & Interieur

Gallo-Roman Museum
Kielenstraat 15 - 3700 Tongeren
www.galloromeinsmuseum.be

FROM ONE WORLD TO ANOTHER, THE DANUBE CIVILIZATIONS

18.10.2019 – 26.04.2020

GRAND CURTIUS

Situated in south-east Europe, bordered by the Carpathians, the Danube and the Black Sea, Romania is the meeting point of Slavic, Balkan and Germanic cultures. Due to its location, it has long been a privileged place of exchange between East and West.

The Danube region was one of the first to experience the Neolithic revolution. In the middle of the 7th century BC, a new way of life arrived from the Middle East, characterised by human settlements, agriculture, livestock, architecture, crafts and new funerary practices. One millennium later, these profound societal changes gave birth to agglomerations of thousands of people and some of the most remarkable craftsmanship in Europe. The oldest metallurgy in the world, that of copper and gold, also developed there as early as the 5th century BC, followed by bronze in the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC. The adoption of these technologies gave rise to new economic and societal structures that reflected a way of thinking about a continuously evolving world.

Resulting from an intense collaboration with the National Museum of Romanian History, this exhibition presents the early beginnings of our contemporary world through 200 major pieces. Pottery, anthropomorphic figurines, jewellery and weapons in gold and bronze – many from recent excavations and being exhibited for the first time – will underline the evolution of symbols that took place in the Neolithic, then Bronze Age.



The Thinker, 5000 – 4600 BC
© National Museum of Romanian History, Bucharest

AU⁷⁹ - TEXTURES PATRIMONIALES

12.10 - 14.12.2019

GALERIE LES DRAPIERS

The internationally renowned Belgian textile designer, Daniel Henry, is currently inspired by the element Gold [Au79]. In this exhibition, he presents original research inspired by living and sacred Romanian heritage. His works interact with embroidered, woven and felted textiles with specific iconography as well as fragments of traditional clothing coming from private collections. This exhibition, between inspiration and tradition, plunges the visitor into a unique and poetic universe.



© Daniel Henry

MONOGRAPHS

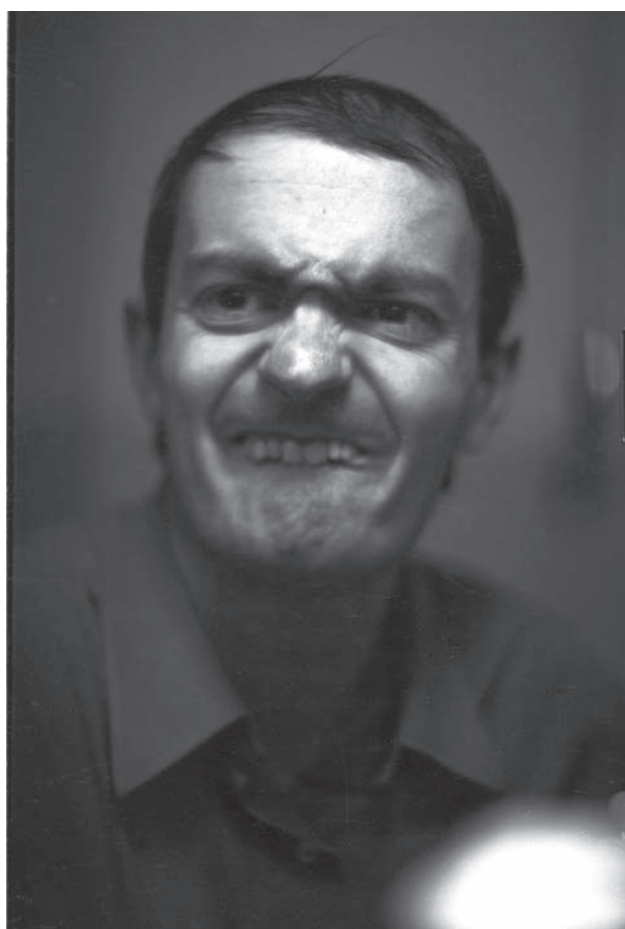
ION GRIGORESCU: CINEMA

30.11.2019 - 02.02.2020

KIOSK

Developed in close collaboration with Ion Grigorescu (°1945, Bucharest), this retrospective is a unique opportunity to unite works by this extraordinary contemporary artist. The overarching theme of cinema makes it possible to approach his singular artistic practice – including paintings, drawings, films and photographs – from a transversal perspective without attempting to create the illusion of a unified whole.

Cinema is also significant in Grigorescu's prolific filmic production, ranging from ground-breaking 8mm films made during the communist era to his increasingly elaborate and performative use of the video camera. The impact of cinema and its specific language was crucial for Ion Grigorescu because it quickly allowed him to go beyond the limitations of painting – his chosen specialization at art school.



*Ion Grigorescu, Mimic, 1975, b/w photograph, series of 6.
Courtesy of the museum.*

CIPRIAN MURESAN

26.10.2019 – 19.01.2020

S.M.A.K.

Ciprian Muresan (°1977, Cluj-Napoca) takes works from the permanent collection of S.M.A.K. as the starting point for dialogue with his own work.

Muresan is one of the best-known contemporary Romanian artists and he represented the country at the 53rd Venice Biennale in 2009. His practice focuses in particular on the difficulties faced by our societies since the fall of modernist utopias. He often 'twists' iconic artworks and reproduces them in the form of installations, drawings and videos. He addresses all means of artistic production and uses reproductions, casts, copies, unpublished or less visible works to question established and canonized narratives of art history. The impact of new technologies on our visual and entertainment culture is also an integral part of his artistic research. He casts a critical and quirky eye on the idiosyncrasies of our time.

For this exhibition, Muresan is developing a large-scale model of the museum building in which we can see new 'palimpsest' drawings of all the works from the S.M.A.K. permanent collection. To do this, he takes inspiration from photographic reproductions in a catalogue recently published to mark the 20th anniversary of S.M.A.K.



*Ciprian Muresan, book on Cranach, pencil on paper 2017.
Courtesy of the museum*

GRAPHIC ART AND POETRY WITH WANDA MIHULEAC

7.10 – 31.10.2019

THÉÂTRE DE LIÈGE

Wanda Mihuleac (°1946, Bucharest) is a versatile visual artist. In this exhibition, she presents her collection of 101 'slate books' produced in collaboration with 101 French and French-speaking poets (including Belgians Werner Lambersy, Yves Namur, Laurence Vielle, Béatrice Libert, Jan Mysjkin and Romanians Magda Carneci, Linda Maria Baros, Matei Visniec, Serban Foarta, Valeriu Stancu and Claudiu Komartin). First shown in 2018 during her exhibition Contextualisations at the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Bucharest, this collection, halfway between graphic art and poetry, will travel to the Théâtre de Liège on the occasion of the festival. The programme includes an encounter with Wanda Mihuleac and several authors of these slate books.



© Wanda Mihuleac

Curator: Andra Visniec

Théâtre de Liège
16 Place du Vingt Août - 4000 Liège
theatredeliège.be

CONTEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

MAIN EVENT

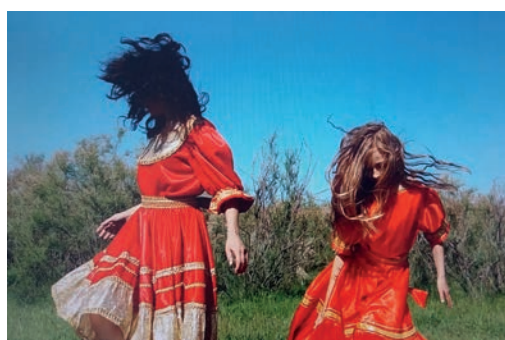
EUROPALIA CURATOR'S AWARD: HIT

14.12.2019 - 26.01.2020

KANAL – CENTRE POMPIDOU

HIT, a collaboration between Belgian-Romanian artist Claudia Radulescu and Belgian curator and artist Els Vermang, is a project in which music, visual arts, and avant-garde pop culture effortlessly fuse together. Within the framework of the EUROPALIA CURATOR'S AWARD, the project's exhibition will take place at KANAL - Centre Pompidou from December 2019 until January 2020.

IMPOSTURE, the title Claudia Radulescu gave to her hit in the making, got its name, not from its musical foundations, but from a short scene filmed in Romania: two girls dance in a field, drenched in early-spring sunshine; their red dresses and long hair dance to the rhythm of their movements. With these visuals in mind, Claudia Radulescu guided the musicians, composers, and producers involved in the track's composition. The utopian character of these images stands in stark contrast to the song lyrics, which depict the deception of a streamlined and strategic capitalist society of which the protagonists eventually free themselves.



© Claudia Radulescu

A systematic and conceptual analysis of the *HIT* track was the starting point for Els Vermang's installation titled *MPSTR*. Inspired by the rhythm of the song and the atmosphere of the video, the installation aims at deconstructing the *IMPOSTURE* into both a graphic and spatial musical score. A horizontal notation which combines movement and sound will be interrupted by a series of signs, motifs, and objects. The sheet score used in the exhibit space will be taken from the CD sleeve of *IMPOSTURE*. The exhibition will also unveil the partners of the project: EUROPALIA and KANAL-Centre Pompidou, musicians, producers, press agencies, record labels, radio stations, journalists.

Music : Claudia Radulescu, Lisa Barros Greindl, Michel Hatzigeorgiou / **Composition:** Michel Hatzigeorgiou, Zedel Ardilla & Lisa Barros Greindl, Daan Stuyven, Marc & Maxime Wathieu, Henri Greindl / **Mix & Mastering:** Maxime Wathieu / **Production :** Claudia Radulescu & Marc Wathieu / **Video clip :** Claudia Radulescu, **Camera :** Velcu Madalina & Ramona Munteanu, **dancer :** Malina Maxim / **costumes:** Sulina Folkloric Ensemble, Delta du Danube (RO) / **Montage :** François Jacques

Installation, album cover, posters: Els Vermang.

Imposture EP: Release 6 juin 2019

MUSICAL COLLABORATIONS:

release December 2019

HIT VENUE: KANAL – Centre Pompidou

Curator: Els Vermang

Production: EUROPALIA

KANAL – Centre Pompidou
Square Sainctelette 21 - 1000 Brussels
www.kanal.brussels

GROUP SHOWS

DISPLACEMENT AND TOGETHERNESS

18.10.2019 - 12.12.2019

CULTUURCENTRUM STROMBEEK

This exhibition aims to bring together different historical and cultural perspectives on migration. Although this topic is widely present in contemporary art and mass media, the aim is to accommodate a viewpoint more strongly linked to past and current developments in Eastern Europe. In the framework of EUROPALIA and in the context of Belgium, where so many migratory flows converge, it is important to graft lesser-known local or national phenomena onto the global consciousness of migration.

One section of the exhibition will deal with the waves of political immigration during the socialist period, especially from the 1960s up to 1989. In seeking to reveal the aspirations and realities existing on the other side of the Iron Curtain, the exhibition will feature interviews, documentation and artworks linked to the personality and practice of André Cadere – the renowned conceptual artist who emigrated from Romania in 1967 and who relied on an important support network he found in Belgium, including the collector Herman Daled and the artists Lili Dujourie and Jacques Charlier.

In another section, artists selected for their rapport with the topic of migration will develop new works, notably addressing the current waves of intra-European migration and resulting disruptions. The combined contributions of these artists will paint a multi-faceted portrait of our times, highlighting the globalization of displacement and suggesting possible ways of existing together.

With: Silvia Amancei & Bogdan Armanu, Tudor Bratu, Jimmy Robert, Iulia Toma, Mekhitar Garabedian, André Cadere, Filip Berte, Jacques Charlier

Curators: Magda Radu and Alexandra Croitoru (Salonul de proiecte, Bucharest), in collaboration with Luk Lambrecht and Lieze Eneman



*Iulia Toma, with Claudiu Cobilanschi
Pending Wars, 2016, b/w photograph, 30x40 cm.
Courtesy of the museum.*

Cultuurcentrum Strombeek
Gemeenteplein 1 – 1853 Strombeek
www.ccstrombeek.be

RETHINKING THE IMAGE OF THE WORLD: PROJECTS AND SKETCHES

25.10 - 22.12.2019

MILL

This exhibition is the first major attempt to study changes in the work of Romania visual artists in the last decade. Previously oriented towards remembrance and the analysis of the communist and post-communist period, Romanian artists seem to have changed direction in 2000, moving towards more global subjects, and first and foremost, the creation of images and their social and political implications. How are images produced and reproduced in art and society today? What can images do and how can we measure their power? Can art still change the world today? Discover brilliant young artists alongside more established names and a unique opportunity to learn more about the contemporary Romanian art scene.



Exhibition view from Natural Histories. Traces of the Political, MUMOK Vienna, photography by Klaus Pichler. Courtesy of the Museum.

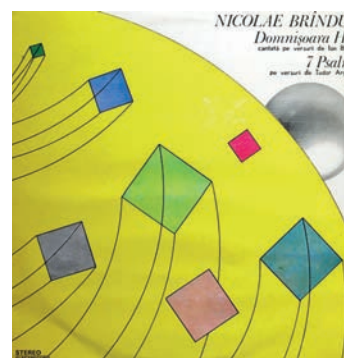
EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

ELECTRECORD: ROMANIA IN VINYL COVERS

26.10 - 20.11.2019

MUNTPUNT

Founded in 1932, Electrecord was the only record label in Romania throughout the country's communist era. Throughout its history, Electrecord had to juggle the demands and limitations imposed by the regime with the needs of musicians and the listening public. Numerous visual artists, many of whom have since been internationally recognized, collaborated on the design of album covers. The history of this legendary label – and through it, the totalitarian past of Romania – in images, music and interviews.



DAN PERJOVSCHI

21.10 - 14.12.2019

MUNTPUNT

Dan Perjovschi (°1961, Sibiu) is known for his drawings, which exude a sharp sense of humour, critical but in touch with current Romanian and international events. For one week, the glass facade of Muntpunt is the canvas on which he records his thoughts and his encounter with Brussels and its people.



selfportrait 2015 © Dan Perjovschi

Curator: Mihai Zgondoiu

Muntpunt
Place de la Monnaie 6 - 1000 Brussels
www.muntpunt.be

ANETTA MONA CHISA & LUCIA TKACOVA: IN DE WIND, AAN DE WAND

18.10 - 12.12.2019

CULTUURCENTRUM STROMBEEK

For Anetta Mona Chisa (°1975, Nadlac) and Lucia Tkacova (°1977), hair is an extremely political issue. The way we wear our hair is not only an indicator of economic and social status, political persuasion, religious affiliation, cultural tradition, etc., but also a global industry and business. Hair is collected at primarily “third-world manufacturers” for a mostly “first-world clientele”. Human hair is big business. It tells stories of transnationalism and exploitation, biopolitics and bioeconomics, the male and Western gaze on beauty and femininity, imperialism, and colonialism. These narratives are the point of departure for an extravagant flag that starts on the flagpole high up above the theatre’s tower and ends as “writing on the wall” in the foyer.



© Anetta Mona Chisa & Lucia Tkacova

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

BE & RO: LOOKING BACK, THINKING FURTHER

04.10.2019 - 12.01.2020

MUSÉE DES BEAUX-ARTS DE TOURNAI

The work of six photographers - Daniel Constantinescu, Nicu Ilfoveanu, Iosif Király, Bernard Bay, Nicolas Clément and Isabelle Detournay - resonates with the museum's collections.

By shining an original light on the museum's collections, we discover the work of these photographers who provide a cross-reflection on Belgian and Romanian societies. The natural and mining landscape, architecture and heritage, territory, and cultural heritage are just some of the themes explored.

This exhibition is a continuation of the project "BE & RO Archives" and is part of a bilateral collaboration between UNARTE, the National University of Art of Romania in Bucharest and the Academy of Fine Arts of Tournai. Curators: Robin Legge and Magali Vangilbergen

With the support of: City of Tournai, Tourism Office of Tournai, Wallonia - Brussels International, Wallonia-Brussels Federation, Province of Hainaut, Tournai House of Culture.



Bernard Bay, Mina Livezeni, Petrosani, Judet de Hunedoara, RO - 2018. Courtesy of the museum.

Curators : Robin Legge and Magali Vangilbergen

With the support of:

Wallonie - Bruxelles International, Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles, province of Hainaut, city of Tournai, Office de Tourisme de Tournai, Maison du Tourisme de la Wallonie picarde, Maison de la Culture de Tournai

Museum of Fine Arts, Tournai
Rue de l'Enclos Saint-Martin 3 - 7500 Tournai
mba.tournai.be

ARCHITECTURE

ENCHANTING VIEWS: ROMANIAN BLACK SEA TOURISM PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURE OF THE '60S AND '70S

17.01 - 05.03.2020

CIVA

This exhibition explores the histories of built environment in socialist Romania by revisiting the role and the significance acquired by tourist architectural development on the Black Sea Coast from the 1960s and 1970s as an agency for knowledge transfer and alternative encounter between political strategies, professional discourses and the everyday social life from Eastern and Western Europe. Examining the Romanian coastline planning strategies as part of the historiographies of leisure architecture in socialist space, the exhibition sees architecture as a sensitive seismometer that records the dynamics of interaction between developer (the state), the architect and the user (the tourist). Projecting a new vision of socialist modernity, the realities of Black Sea architecture bring into our attention a wide range of elements and narratives which concern the occurrences of architectural vocabulary and the shifts in architectural thinking and production taking place in the East.

Enchanting Views proposes a new reading of the visual and symbolic identity of the Romanian Black Sea coastline, placing architecture at the center of a time-specific visual culture, essential both in understanding the local tourism policies and the experiences of modernity. The structure of exhibition display is rather interested in the process of visualising architecture, raising questions about the practices of representation and contextualization of the architectural object, about the implications it had in both shaping individual and collective memory, in mirroring the core values of socialist society and in opening up new possibilities for correlating professional attitudes, practices and intellectual preoccupations.



litoral bw 008 20x30cm

Curators :
Kalliopi Dimou, Sorin Istudor and Alina Serban

CIVA
Rue de l'hermitage 55 – 1050 Brussels
civa.brussels

RESIDENCIES AND NEW CREATIONS

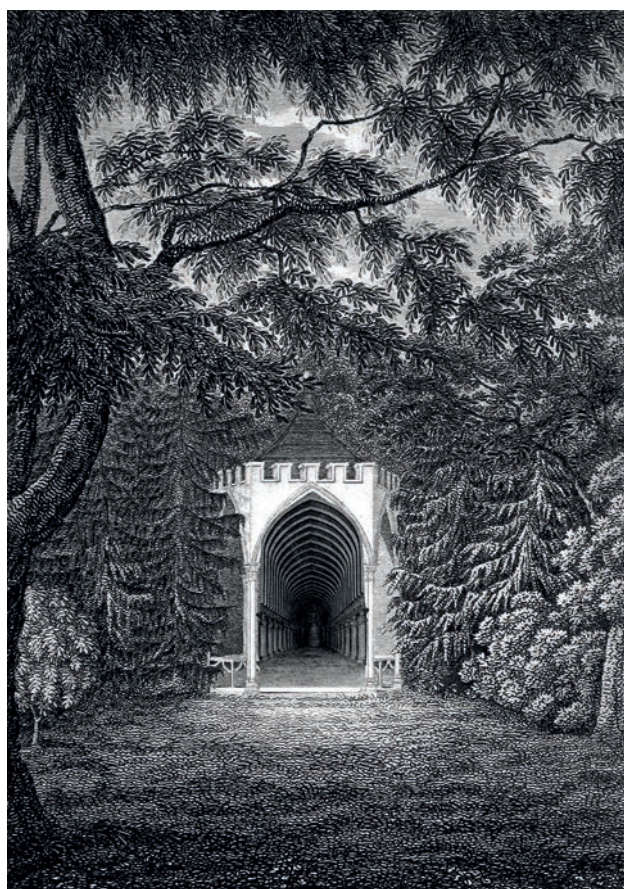
LARISA SITAR: ROBUST BOAST

05.12.2019 - 05.01.2020

WIELS

“In Europe, happiness stops at Vienna,” said Romanian-born philosopher Emil Cioran. Cioran often wrote about living outside of his native country. Having exiled himself in Paris in the late thirties, he remarked that people in the West seem to have everything they need and more. Larisa Sitar revisits this sense of social and cultural division in the exhibition she developed during her six-month residency at WIELS, Brussels. Countering fatalism with farce, it features a large wall of modular ornaments, resembling a plaster bas-relief, that the public can rearrange to the point where their models and origins become unrecognizable. This absurd and ahistorical combination of styles have real-world references: from Ceausescu’s Palace of the People to the humbler Romanian homes marked by a curious collage of architectural decorations. Growing up herself in such a house, the artist sees the architectural ornament as an accumulation or concentration of human activity. Today, whether in Bucharest or Brussels, these polystyrene ornaments can be easily store-bought in your local DIY and freely used to create your own version of a baroque palace.

Larisa Sitar (° 1984) lives and works in Bucharest. She graduated from the Department of Photography and Moving Image at The National University of Arts in Bucharest. Using a wide range of media, from photography and video to installation, she investigates issues of cultural heritage, local values, and national identity.



Larisa Sitar, And then, one thing led to another-07, 2014
© Larisa Sitar

URS GEEST

06.10 - 08.12.2019

CIAP

Each year at the end of winter, the Romanian Carpathians welcome a parade of dancing bears, symbolising good luck and new beginnings. Participants conceal themselves in bear skins and go door-to-door, growling in tune with percussion and singing, to ward off the evil eye.

Artists Casper Fitzhue (°1990, Bucharest) and Bart van Dijck (°1974, Bonheiden) had the opportunity to participate in this ritual dating back to the Dacians. Its transformative aspect is the starting point for their exhibition URS GEEST ('bear's spirit'), which will in turn be announced door-to-door by the artists. In collaboration with a distillery in Hasselt, they have developed a gin based on the plants bears eat at the end of their hibernation in order to revive their strength. Combining local and Romanian traditions, they create a unique rite of passage.



© Bart Van Dijck

NICOLETA MOISE

TBC

A.A.I.R

During her residence, Nicoleta Moise (°1989, Bucharest) continues her research into the National Women's Union of Gorj, which in 1935 commissioned Brancusi to create a monument to commemorate the 8,500 soldiers who fell at the Targu Jiu front in 1916. The union was resurrected in 1992 according to the same founding principles: equal opportunities for work, family, community, without ethnic or religious discrimination.

Nicoleta Moise works with photography and video. Her work is interdisciplinary and often combines visual art with performance. She starts out from archive images and studies the position of the female body in diverse socio-political contexts.



© Nicoleta Moise

VIRGINIA LUPU: ALIAS

28.09 - 01.12.2019

NETWERK AALST

Within the framework of EUROPALIA, and as part of *ALIAS*, a group show with and throughout the city of Aalst, the artist Virginia Lupu (°1990, lives and works in Timisoara) will produce and present a new project curated by Anca Rujoiu (lives and works in Timisoara/Singapore).

Nine contemporary artworks are distributed throughout the city of Aalst. Some places are popular and crowded. Other places remain hidden to most people, or have residents who remain invisible. Throughout the exhibition, fact and fiction intertwine. Just as a city transforms under the influence of its inhabitants and visitors, so do residents change due to the city they live in. Because of this interaction, residents give new meaning to what citizenship means for their city in the making.

In the context of *ALIAS*, Virginia will produce a new body of photographic and video works focusing on the major witches reunion planned this year in Romania. Capturing this ritual through photographs and video work, the artist will hark back to the political roots of witchcraft and reassert its power. The commission of Virginia Lupu is anchored in the current but also historical context of Aalst that accounts for manifestation of witchcraft practices.

The project of Virginia Lupu is conceived as one of the inserts within the fabric of the city. The artist will conduct an extensive research on the occult and magical practices that have yet to find a critical representation in the visual culture from Romania. Working with and immersing herself into various Roma communities in Romania, the artist will bring forward the female figures of a practice that is gender-exclusive to women and will reflect as well on the transgenerational dialogues.

INSTALLATION

IOSIF KIRALY: 88 CLOUDS WILL RAIN FOR YOU

21.10.2019 – 23.10.2019 (TBC)

KONINKLIJKE ACADEMIE VOOR SCHONE KUNSTEN

01.11.2019 - 03.11.2019

KLANKENBOS

Iosif Kiraly's sound installation *88 Clouds Will Rain For You* is an ode to the internationally renowned Fluxus artist Geoffrey Hendricks. When he attended his Sommer Academy in Salzburg in '92, Hendricks asked Kiraly to collaborate on a project with the German artist Christine Ulke for the thirtieth anniversary of the Fluxus movement ('62-'92) in Cologne and Wiesbaden. The work originally consisted of 61 clouds or sound clouds, A number which then corresponded to the exact age of Hendricks. Spread out over a space filled with metal objects, the clouds gradually release drops. What emerges is a poetic and immersive soundscape, in which the temporality and spatiality of sound play a fundamental role. Hendricks died in 2018; For every year the work is exhibited, a sound cloud is added. In this manner, the work acquired symbolic meaning.



© Iosif Kiraly

Koninklijke Academie voor Schone Kunsten
Mutsaardstraat 31 - 2000 Antwerpen

Curator: Maud Seuntjens / Musica, Impulscentrum voor Muziek
In collaboration with: Musica, Impulscentrum voor Muziek,
Provinciaal Domein Dommelhof, CC Palethe and Gemeente Pelt

Klankenbos
Toekomstlaan 5 - 3910 Pelt
www.klankenbos.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

CONFERENCES ON ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING

14 - 18.10.19 / 18 - 21.11.19 / 16 - 20.12.19

LOCI

LOCI (Architecture Faculty of the UCL) will host an ambitious cycle of conferences on themes such as heritage preservation, new participatory citizen practices and recent architectural developments in Romania. Projections and exhibitions will complete the programme.

With: Serban Sturdza, Cristi Borcan (StudioBASAR) and Bogdan Bradateanu (ADNBA).

LOCI
Rue H. Wafelaerts 47-51 - 1060 Brussels
uclouvain.be

A PREVIEW OF ROMANIA AT BELOEIL THIS SUMMER

19.07 - 29.09.2019

CHÂTEAU DE BELOEIL

The domain of the Château de Beloeil will host two EUROPALIA ROMANIA exhibitions this summer as a foretaste of the festival. The artist Mihai Topescu (°1945, Ticleni) will install her artwork Manifesto in the deer park, exceptionally open to the public for this occasion, while the costume designer Doïna Levintza (1939, Bucharest) will present a selection of her creations inside the château itself.

Château de Beloeil
Rue du Château 11 - 7970 Beloeil
www.chateaudebeloeil.com

EUROPALIA ARTS FESTIVAL ROMANIA

PERFORMING ARTS



PERFORMING ARTS

The movement and dynamics of the body of thought and emotion have inspired artists from different fields throughout history, and their gesture, action and message have been choreographed by dance artists. A ritual of mutual inspiration, repeated throughout history, in a permanent search for survival and development, beyond clichés, norms, limits. Marginalized, used and abused, dance was in turn a muse, a political instrument, loved and admired for perfection, defamed and obscured when it did not fit into norms.

Endowed with indisputable qualities, contemporary dance and, more recently, contemporary performance in Romania, remains authentic, perhaps due to the lack of a truly sustainable frame able to create an attracting packaging. It is difficult, however, to look at the future evolution of this field, separate from the evolution of a society in its entirety.

Contemporary dance, performance, and interdisciplinary forms in which artistic experimentation has a role as a generator of ideas, are the means by which people are invited to look honestly to history and present, to leave aside clichés or to have the ability to assume them. Situated at the edge of the established artistic fields, be it the younger brother of the theater, or as a visual support for music, dance and performance, they have always had in Romania a journey to the limit, between pleasure and risk, between recognition and the underground experiment. Whether we are referring to the influence of folklore and its use as a propaganda instrument in the past, or we refer to the ideal of the form and the standardized image of the woman, the artists invited to present and develop new creations within the Europalia Festival, have researched areas of interest less exposed to the general public, revealing an authentic image of creativity, imagination generating meaning and content.

The role of memory in assuming cultural history through the close relationship with architectural space and nature, as well as the dynamics of cooperation between artists and cultural spaces, is the premise of a sustainable development so necessary in the field of contemporary dance and performance, at national and European level.

Andreea Capitanescu, performing arts curator

THEATRE

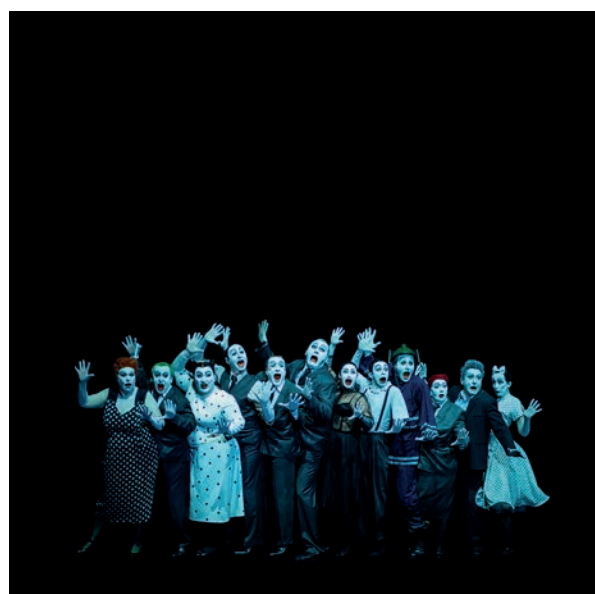
ROBERT WILSON & THEATER CRAIOVA: RHINOCEROS

TBC THÉÂTRE DE LIÈGE

TBC LE PHÉNIX, SCÈNE NATIONALE VALENCIENNES

A skilled cast of Romanian actors draws on the rich tradition of European avant-garde theatre and silent film for Robert Wilson's innovative adaptation of Eugène Ionesco's surreal *Rhinoceros*. This enigmatic drama floats somewhere between surrealism, magic realism and the absurd. Humour, unfailing aesthetics and Wilson's signature dramaturgy offer a new perspective on the original play and show that freedom can sometimes be found in loneliness. People are slowly turning into rhinos, reality into unreality and *Rhinoceros* offers a glimpse of an alternative interpretation of one's world.

Robert Wilson is invited by the Marin Sorescu National Theatre to stage *Rhinoceros* by the French-Romanian playwright Eugène Ionesco (1909-1994). Wilson is a prominent American theatre director and, following his Pulitzer Prize nomination for Dramaturgy, "the most avant-garde theatre man in the US and even the world," according to The New York Times. The internationally renowned Marin Sorescu National Theatre in Craiova is more than 165 years old. It works extensively with both established and emerging artists and is a driving force in contemporary Romanian theatre.



© Julian Mommert

Théâtre de Liège
Place du 20-Août 16 – 4000 Liège
theatredeliege.be

le phénix, scène nationale Valenciennes
Boulevard Henri Harpignies - 59300 Valenciennes (FR)
www.lephenix.fr

THEATER RADU STANCA: THE SCARLET PRINCESS

17 - 19.12.2019

LES HALLES DE SCHAERBEEK

A grand and spectacular staging of a Kabuki classic in an adaptation written and directed by Silviu Purcarete. The story, originally written by Tsuruya Namboku IV, is about the mythical Princess Sakura, obsessive love in a temple, murder, reincarnation and revenge. Yet humour and self-irony are never far away. The strict rules of Kabuki theatre undergo an explicitly European interpretation. In this way, The Scarlet Princess bridges the gap between two rich performative traditions and creates a lively dialogue between European and Japanese culture in general.

Silviu Purcarete is a Romanian opera and theatre director with adaptations of almost the entire opera and theatre canon to his name. In 1996, he became the director of the Limoges Drama Center for which he produced, among others, Orestia, Three Sisters, and Don Juan, and where he would eventually create a school for young actors. During his years at the prestigious Radu Stanca Theatre in Sibiu, he created the bulk of his work, which has been staged and awarded throughout the world. Kabuki is a logical next step for Purcarete and one that connects two rich theatre traditions in an unprecedented way.



© Paul Baila

Les Halles de Schaerbeek
Rue Royale Sainte-Marie 22a - 1030 Brussels
www.halles.be

RESIDENCIES AND NEW CREATIONS

ESZTER SALAMON: MONUMENT 0.8: MANIFESTATION

17.01.2020

KAAITHEATER

Manifestation is a choral performance built on the concept and practice of ‘embodiment’ and transformation of images, texts and sounds. Between sensation and memory, this emancipatory remembrance animates a collage of heterogeneous histories by interweaving traces of the history of Romanian feminism, artistic gestures of the historical avant-garde, and musical memories of the past in traditional songs. Between screens and projected images, four dancers create an emotional space where life and art intertwine; it is both a feminist manifestation and an intimate choreography.

Eszter Salamon (°1949, Hungary) is a Hungarian choreographer, artist, and performer who lives and works in Berlin, Paris, and Brussels. Salamon uses choreography to build bridges between media such as image, sound, music, text, voice, and bodily movements. Her creations are often based on particular issues such as hidden power structures sustaining the hierarchical systems of artistic and educational economies of productions. Another field of investigation in Salamon’s work is the relationship between voice, language and movement. Her work has been presented at museums including Centre Pompidou (FR) and MoMA (USA), and events like Holland Festival.



© Lia Perjovschi

Kaaitheater
 Sainctelettesquare 20 - 1000 Brussels
 www.kaaitheater.be

WIM VANDEKEYBUS/ ULTIMA VEZ: TRACES – A DANCED CONCERT

08.12.2019 PREMIÈRE

CONCERTGEBOUW BRUGGE

10.12.2019

CCHA

13 - 18.12.2019

KVS

In his latest production, TRACES, Wim Vandekeybus follows the traces he has left. He looks back on the intuitions that started his search.

In Vandekeybus's most recent productions, fables were central. In TRACES, he returns to the body, the instinctive reaction, the now, and the immediate energy found in his first performances. He does so with attention to the modern, complex, chaotic and contingent reality of the body. The result is a rediscovery of a simultaneously powerful and vulnerable vitality in a world of technological and ecological menace. How much nature still lives in humanity? How much animal? TRACES is not about the outside world, about the culture that man has constructed. It is a search for the traces of nature forgotten by the body.

In Romania's overwhelming natural landscape, which includes Europe's last primaevael forests, Vandekeybus searches for traces older than man and his memory. It is the inner story that unfolds beyond language, and that can only be told in the pulses of dance and music.

Eleven dancers and five musicians perform TRACES. The music is written and performed live by Marc Ribot and Trixie Whitley.



© Danny Willems

Concertgebouw
't Zand 34 - 8000 Brugge
www.concertgebouw.be

CCHA
Kunstlaan 5 - 3500 Hasselt
www.ccha.be

KVS
Quai aux Pierres de Taille 7 - 1000 Brussels
www.kvs.be

IOANA PAUN: THE BIRTH OF VIOLENCE

22.11.2019 / 23.11.2019

LE PHÉNIX, SCÈNE NATIONALE VALENCIENNES

18.12.2019 / 19.12.2019

THÉÂTRE LES TANNEURS

Three non-professional actors symbolize three social entities on stage: religion, family, and justice. They debate the rise of extremism among contemporary youth. What should we do as a society when someone breaks the social contract? While opposing opinions, movements and emotions are projected on a screen in real-time, the audience helps a fourth actor to complete an equally symbolic sculpture entitled *The Birth of Violence*.

By juxtaposing these two scenographic layers, *The Birth of Violence* offers an unbiased philosophical perspective on extremism, on the emotional motives of radicalised youth and on how we show/view the phenomenon in contemporary media.

Ioana Paun (°1948 studied at Goldsmiths University London and UNATC Bucharest. In her practice, she studies (problematic) human behaviour under turbulent circumstances. Paun was nominated for the Cultural Inclusion Awards in 2016 and also coordinates the Performance Programme for the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Bucharest.



© Andrei Pungovschi

le phénix, scène nationale Valenciennes
Boulevard Henri Harpignies - 59300 Valenciennes (FR)
www.lephenix.fr

Théâtre Les Tanneurs
Rue des Tanneurs 75 - 1000 Bruxelles
www.lestanneurs.be

PERFORMING ARTS

AGATA SINIARSKA AND MADALINA DAN: MOTHERS OF STEEL

05 - 06.12.2019

KAAISTUDIOS

During this almost meditative crying marathon, two futuristic female beings question the mechanisms that turn personal emotions into political phenomena. Agata Siniarska and Madalina Dan embody two A.E.I (Artificial Emotional Intelligence) robots and, weeping like real people, they watch a series of iconic moments from the past of their lost homelands, Poland and Romania. Using choreography, video and large sheets of white paper - simultaneously protest boards and drying laundry - their tears of weakness become an act of political power.

Madalina Dan is a dancer, choreographer and playwright. She studied in Bucharest, Arizona, Vienna and the HZT Hochschulübergreifendes Zentrum Tanz in Berlin. Her work has been shown in Utrecht, London, Prague, Berlin, Lyon, Vienna and New York. She is an active and award-winning member of the contemporary dance scene in Romania.

Agata Siniarska lives and works in Berlin. Her artistic practice includes performance, video, writing and research, currently around the theme of "dance as a soft act of killing". She co-founded the intersectional art collective Female Trouble and Pinpoint TV, an internet TV programme.



© Jakub Wittchen

SERGIU MATIS: NOCTURNE FOR BROKEN VOCAL CORDS

11.12.2019

KVS

Sergiu Matis mixes fragments of his personal history with fragments of Western dance history in a solo performance overflowing with passion. He searches for a new virtuosity by learning from machines, by playing with the English language and by flirting with poetry, theory and groovy sounds. Performative text and choreographic semantics go hand in hand.

The dancer-choreographer was born in Cluj-Napoca in Romania and started dancing professionally in Nuremberg. He has lived in Berlin since 2008 and has worked with Sasha Waltz & Guests, Colette Sadler and Jee-Ae Lim. In 2014 he completed a Master's in Solo/ Dance/Authorship at the HZT in Berlin. Matis' shows have been staged in Berlin, Bucharest, Seoul and Tokyo. Nocturne for a Broken Vocal Cord is the latest outcome of his artistic practice in which he approaches dance as "the visible thinking body".



© Barbara Antalma

CARMEN LIDIA VIDU: ROMANIA DIARY. CONSTANTA

25.10.2019

BOZAR

Directed by Carmen Lidia Vidu (°1980), six actresses bring anthropological visual material on stage to present the community in which they live and work from their personal perspective. In addition, they ask questions such as "How much does our village influence us and how much do we influence the community we are part of?" The result is as much documentary as a multimedia performance in which the mix of video imagery, unusual acting techniques and powerful music never fails to touch the audience.

Romania Diary. Constanta is Carmen Lidia Vidu's space for dialogue, born out of the need to better understand her generation and to discover a less touristic and less mediatized Romania. Vidu is a multidisciplinary artist who makes theatre, films and installations. These disciplines come together in her trademark multimedia theatre. Highly skilled at transforming technology into emotion, her documentaries and theatre pieces have won several international prizes and she is the youngest director ever to bring her work to the stage of the National Theatre in Bucharest.



© Marian Adochitel

MADALINA DAN: THE AGENCY OF TOUCH

TBC

TBC

In the soft light of The Agency of Touch, Madalina Dan presents her audience with a tactile experience that initially seems to be a sort of narrative massage. The “dialogue in body language” includes a tactile one-on-one performance and a “mapping” where spectators draw their tactile experience on paper. The Agency of Touch offers a space and a method to learn about one’s own body and invites the audience to use that sensory sensation in daily life. The performance also switches things around: instead of “artist depicts and audience feels”, here it is the artist who feels and the audience that translates her feeling into imagery.

Madalina Dan is a dancer, choreographer and playwright who studied in Bucharest, Arizona and Vienna. In 2015, she obtained her master’s from the HZT (Hochschulübergreifendes Zentrum Tanz) in Berlin with The Agency of Touch. Her work has been shown in Utrecht, London, Prague, Berlin, Lyon, Vienna and New York. She is an active and award-winning member of the contemporary dance scene in Romania.



© Alina Usurelu

COLLECTIF DU LION: BRANCUSI 'EST-CE UN OISEAU?

05.11.2019

BOZAR

The story begins in October 1926. Bird in Space, the famous work created in 1923 by the Romanian sculptor Constantin Brâncuși, arrives in the US for an exhibition and attracts the attention of customs officers. According to American law, a work of art isn't subject to customs duty. The customs officers however, have not received much training in the different forms of contemporary art, and are convinced they are dealing with an object in the "kitchen utensil or hospital equipment" category and ask the artist to pay customs duty.

It is the starting point for a grotesque trial that Brâncuși brings against the American State. The case is conveyed as a performance, that uses irony to question the nature of a work of art based on arguments heard in court, and verbal or musical creations.



Saskia Brichart: actress / *Michel Debrulle*: musician /
Nicolas Dechêne: musician / *Thierry Devillers*: vocals,
actor / *Adrien Lambinet*: musician

BOZAR
Rue Ravenstein 23 - 1000 BRUSSEL
www.bozar.be

EUROPALIA ARTS FESTIVAL ROMANIA

Music



MUSIC

In its music programme, EUROPALIA ROMANIA showcases Romania's musical diversity in its broadest sense. From world-renowned classical music ensembles and various traditional currents to the fresh, creative sound of the different micro-scenes that emerged from more experimental and contemporary approaches to music. Lovers of club music and avant-gardism, both of which have deep roots in Romania, as well as hip-hop and jazz fans, will also thoroughly enjoy the programme.

EUROPALIA focuses on acclaimed artists as well as upcoming talent and aims to give musicians the best possible platform in Belgium and neighbouring countries. An extensive residency and artist exchange programme helps to not only revive tradition by adapting it to more contemporary contexts but also to mix and create new audiences through cross-genre and interdisciplinary collaborations. In addition, this programme stimulates the process of artistic exchange, as it provides artists with the necessary know-how and practical assistance. By enabling Belgian, Romanian, and international artists to connect, EUROPALIA aspires to give centre stage to outstanding musicians, who are often overlooked by the international scene. EUROPALIA also actively encourages these new commissions to live on after the festival.

MUSIC

ANTON PANN ENSEMBLE

13.12.2019

DE CENTRALE

14.12.2019

LE PHÉNIX, SCÈNE NATIONALE VALENCIENNES

15.12.2019

SALLE BREUGHEL D'HULENCOURT

Have you ever wondered what Romania sounded like in the olden days? For EUROPALIA ROMANIA, the Anton Pann Ensemble will present extraordinary compositions by the 17th century Ottoman composer Dimitrie Cantemir. Their performances shine new light on these classical sounds and bring the Baroque repertoire into contemporary consciousness. They include music once played at the courts of Romanian princes and boyars, but also songs that sprung from slums and villages. The Ensemble's youthful renditions revitalise this oeuvre and offer an accessible approach to traditional music.

The Anton Pann Ensemble (est. 2003), named after the 19th century Wallachian composer Anton Pann, is a group of musicians with a shared passion for old Romanian culture. The ensemble's rediscovery and promotion of music from the middle ages to the late 19th century, some of which has never been sung before, aims to enhance the cultural value of Romanian musical tradition. They have previously performed in major European cities such as London, Madrid and Venice. This year also marks the return of ensemble members Derya Turkan and Murat Salim Tokac, who were also part of the EUROPALIA TURKEY (2015) programme.



© Elena Roxana Rotaru

Constantin Raileanu: conductor, composer, vocals, percussion, kanun / **Alexandru Stoica:** luth / **Sabin Penea:** violin / **Andrei Nitescu:** cello / **Emmanuel Hovhannysian:** te de pan / **Issam Garfi:** flute, bansouri, ney / **Ziya Tabassian:** percussion / **Derya Turkan:** kemence / **Murat Salim Tokac:** tanbur

De Centrale
Kraankindersstraat 2 – 9000 Gent
decentrale.be

le phénix, scène nationale Valenciennes
Boulevard Henri Harpignies BP 39 - 59300 Valenciennes (FR)
www.lephenix.fr

Golf Club d'Hulencourt
Bruyère d'Hulencourt 15 – 1472 Vieux Genappe
www.golfhulencourt.be

RICERCAR CONSORT

17.12.2019

ROYAL CONSERVATORY OF BRUSSELS

The Belgian instrumental ensemble Ricercar Consort was founded in 1980 and is known for its German Baroque repertoire. One of its founding members, Philippe Pierlot, is also a member of a viola da Gamba quintet. With internationally renowned virtuosos like Bulgarian kaval player Nedyalko Nedyalkov, Turkish kanun player Hakan Güngör, Spanish teorbo musician Daniel Zapico, and German baritone player Matthias Vieweg, Pierlot brings a selection of 17th century Transylvanian Baroque music, a period when Italian, French, German, and Ottoman influences shaped Romania and its culture.

The concert combines religious and secular pieces based on the Codex Caioni and the Ottoman compositions of Dimitrie Cantemir. The recently rediscovered Codex Caioni is an incredible collection of manuscripts and compositions compiled by the Franciscan priest and musician Johannes Caioni during the 17th century. It presents works by, among others, Claudio Monteverdi, Orlando Lasso, Andreas Hammerschmidt and Praetorius. The Romanian soldier, musicologist and statesman Dimitrie Cantemir spent twenty years in Constantinople during the Enlightenment and left behind a unique collection of Ottoman music from this era. The ensemble will perform beautiful 'Makams', melodies unique to Arab, Persian and Turkish classical music. Travel back in time during this extraordinary concert!



© Lou Hérion

Philippe Pierlot: director / *Maria Keohane*,
Hanna Bayodi-Hirt: soprano / *David Sagastume*: alto /
Jeffrey Thompson: tenor / *Matthias Vieweg*: bass

Royal Conservatory of Brussels
Rue de la Régence 30 – 1000 Brussels
www.kcb.be

CONTEMPO ENSEMBLE: DIFFERENT TRAINS

TBC

CINEMA CORSO

Romanian string quartet ConTempo Ensemble, “The ABBA of classical music” and winner of 14 international prizes, presents two exquisite contemporary pieces.

Different Trains (1988) is a Grammy Award-winning multimedia show with both live and pre-recorded music, visuals, and speech. Written by the celebrated American composer Steve Reich (°1936, New York), *Different Trains* harkens back to his childhood. During World War II, Reich made train journeys between New York and Los Angeles to visit his parents who had separated. Years later, he pondered on the fact that, as a Jew, had he been in Europe instead of the US at that time, he might have been travelling in Holocaust trains. The three-movement performance is based on a continuous interaction between the live string quartet and pre-recorded audio-files, taken from interviews with Americans and Europeans about the years leading up to, during, and immediately after World War II. *Different Trains* was a novel experiment, as Reich transferred his speech recordings into a digital sampling keyboard and used recorded speech as a source of melodies.

In addition, ConTempo brings a rendition of *Company*, a piece by Phillip Glass (°1937, Baltimore) who, along with Reich, pioneered American minimal music during the 1960s. *Company* was originally created for Fred Neumann’s adaption of Samuel Beckett’s 1979 novella of the same name, but later became a work in its own right. Glass is widely regarded as one of the most influential musicians of the late 20th century. He has written numerous operas, concertos, symphonies, and film scores, three of which have been nominated for Academy Awards.



Bogdan Sofei: violin / *Ingrid Nicola*: violin /
Andreea Banciu : alto / *Adrian Mantu*: cello

Cinema Corso
Bahnhofstrasse 14 - 4780 Saint-Vith
www.kinocorso.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

ENSEMBLE RARO-SONORO

08.01.2020

DESINGEL

09.01.2020

TRIANGEL

10.01.2020

NIEUWE KERK

With the RaRo-SoNoRo Ensemble, EUROPALIA brings together some of the world's most gifted musicians such as the Romanian award-winning violinist Mihaela Martin, who studied under Stefan Gheorghiu, a pupil of George Enescu, whose repertoire SoNoRo performs during the concert. Works such as Nocturne for piano quartet Ville d'Avrayen and Romanian Rhapsody No.1, which was inspired by traditional Romanian folk music, will captivate the audience. The ensemble also presents compositions by Johannes Brahms and the legendary Gabriel Fauré, who helped George Enescu grow into the most celebrated composer of his time.

The RaRo-SoNoRo Ensemble is the ensemble in residence of the SoNoRo Festival. Since 2006, they have been contributing to a revival of Romanian chamber music. With concerts in Bucharest, Paris, Tokyo, and other major cities, they now attract an unprecedented number of young listeners and the festival has been called one of Eastern Europe's most exciting. The ensemble consists of violists Mihaela Martin, Erik Schumann, Alissa Margulis and Tatiana Samouil, viola players Razvan Popovici and Vladimir Mendelssohn, who is also the artistic director of the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival in Finland, cellists Justus Grimm and Kyrill Zlotnikov and well-known pianist Diana Ketler.



© Serban Mestecaneanu

Erik Schumann, Mihaela Martin, Alissa Margulis, Tatiana Samouil: violin / Vladimir Mendelssohn, Razvan Popovici: alto / Justus Grimm, Kyrill Zlotnikov: cello / Diana Ketler: piano

deSingel
Desguinlei 25 – 2018 Antwerpen
desingel.be

Triangel
Vennbahnstr. 2 - 4780 St.Vith
www.triangel.com

Nieuwe Kerk
Spui 175 - 2511 BM Den Haag (NL)
www.nieuwekerkdenhaag.nl

ALEXANDRA DARIESCU: THE NUTCRACKER AND I

17.11.2019

CAPE

18.11.2020

CAPE (FOR SCHOOLS, IN FRENCH)

Enjoy the Magic of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* (1892) in a groundbreaking multimedia performance that combines music, dance and digital animation.

Alexandria Dariescu, Romania's most celebrated young pianist, brings *The Nutcracker and I*, a 50-min live performance in which the audience experiences the enchanting story of *The Nutcracker* through the eyes of Clara. A grand piano, played by Dariescu herself, fills the stage while Canadian ballerina Désirée Ballantyne performs behind a transparent gauze screen. Projected onto the gauze and bringing the story to life are exquisite animations, which appear to dance across the scene. Featured throughout are musical favourites such as *Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy*, *Pax de Deux*, and *Flower Waltz*. *The Nutcracker and I* invites the audience to use their imagination and become part of the fairy tale themselves.

Romanian-born British sensation Alexandra Dariescu (°1985) dazzles audiences and critics worldwide with her effortless musicality and captivating stage presence. After performances at New York's Carnegie Hall, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, and London's Royal Albert Hall, she now visits Luxembourg as part of EUROPALIA ROMANIA. Since its highly-acclaimed premiere, her production *The Nutcracker and I* has been travelling around the world. In 2013, Alexandra received the UK's Women of the Future Award in the Arts and Culture Category. Two years later, she became the youngest musician to be awarded the Custodian of the Romanian Crown Medal.



© Andrew Mason

CAPE - Centre des Arts Pluriels Ettelbruck
Place Marie Adélaïde 1 - L-9063 Ettelbruck (LU)
www.cape.lu

ANGELA GHEORGHIU & ALEXANDRA DARIESCU

15.11.2019

BOZAR

Soprano superstar Angela Gheorghiu sings to the sounds of opera composers Bellini, Tosti, Rameau, Pergolesi and Brediceanu. Accompanied by fellow Romanian and celebrated pianist Alexandra Dariescu, she amazes the audience with her exceptional vocal technique and dramatic intelligence. Her spectacular performances touch a broad range of audiences, from demanding connoisseurs to everyday music lovers.

Angela Gheorghiu (°1965, Adjud) is without a doubt the most glamorous and gifted opera singers of our time. Her magnificent soprano voice and dazzling stage presence established her as a star and rare talent. Her rise to international stardom began with her debut at London's Royal Opera House in 1992, where she sang the part of Mimi in *La Bohème*. Since then, she has performed in operas like *Faust* and *La Traviata* in major world cities such as New York, Chicago, Sydney, Vienna and Rome. In addition to taking on the title role in Benoit Jacquot's film *Tosca* (2000), she opened the Film Festival at Cannes and sang at the Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II.



© Marius Baragan

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

DANIEL PETRICA CIOBANU

07.11.2019

ST JAMES'S CHURCH

08.11.2019

NIEUWE KERK

10.11.2019

GOLF CLUB D'HULENCOURT

Considered to be one of the most exciting young pianists in the world, Daniel Petrica Ciobanu (*1991) is known for his theatrical and creative musical personality, capable of deep yet refined meditations. Winner of several major international prizes, such as the Yamaha Music Foundation Europe Scholarship and the Rotary's Young Musician of the Year, which he won when performing alongside the famous Chinese pianist Lang Lang at the Royal Festival Hall in London, he is now ready to enchant EUROPALIA audiences. Ciobanu will be performing unique interpretations of the repertoires of celebrated composers Silvestri, Enescu, Prokofiev, Mussorgsky and Toduta; for any classical music lover, this is an event not to be missed.

Daniel Petrica Ciobanu started piano lessons at the age of nine. While a music student in Romania, he was awarded the Constantin Silvestri Scholarship to study abroad at the prestigious Stewart's Melville College in Edinburgh, Scotland. In 2017, Ciobanu won 2nd Prize at the world-renowned Arthur Rubinstein competition in Tel-Aviv, Israel. This award helped to launch his international career and he soon received invitations for concerts in the US, Japan, China, South Africa and Taiwan. For the past couple of years, Ciobanu has also been Artistic Director of the Neamt Music Festival in Romania, a brand-new festival that aims to create an international platform for young Romanian artists.



© Motion Art Thoughts

St James's Church, Sussex Gardens London
Sussex Gardens - Paddington London W2 3UD (UK)
stjamespaddington.org.uk

Nieuwe Kerk
Spui 175 - 2511 BM Den Haag (NL)
www.nieuwekerkdenhaag.nl

Golf Club d'Hulencourt
Bruyère d'Hulencourt 15 - 1472 Vieux Genappe
www.golfhulencourt.be

VALENTIN RADUTIU AND PER RUNDBERG

27.10.2019

BOZAR

Since January 2019, the German-born Romanian Valentin Radutiu has been the 1st cello soloist at the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin. During EUROPALIA ROMANIA, he will perform captivating renditions of Johannes Brahms' Cello Sonata No.1 and Georges Enescu's Sonata for Cello and Piano, as well as other stunning oeuvres. Accompanied by the renowned piano talent, Per Rundberg (°1971), the sounds of Rădutiú's strings take the audience on an extraordinary musical journey.

Cellist Valentin Radutiu (°1986) was born in Munich and received his first cello lessons from Romanian his father at the age of six. He later studied in Salzburg, Vienna, and Berlin. Valentin has won many national and international competitions and in 2011, he was awarded the Music Prize of German Business, one of the most important prizes for up-and-coming young musicians in Germany.



© Felix Broede

FLORIAN MITREA: DRAMMA ... PER MUSICA

12.01.2020

BOZAR

British-Romanian pianist Florian Mitrea presents *Dramma... per musica*, an inspiring recital that explores how early 20th century composers expressed feelings triggered by dramatic events in their music. In Sonata D784, Mitrea interprets the turbulent depiction of the depression to which Franz Schubert succumbed when the first symptoms of his fatal illness appeared. Next, he brings a poignant rendition of the op. 19 Piano Pieces, which Arnold Schoenberg was working on when Mahler, whom he intensely admired, suddenly died. The very next day, Schoenberg composed the last piece in the op. 19 cycle, which is imbued with a feeling of void and desolation. Mitrea also performs Sonata op. 82, Sergey Prokofiev's first War Sonata and a terrifying work inspired by the psychological oppression inflicted by war.

Florian Mitrea was born in Bucharest but has been based in the UK since 2008, when his early passion for the piano led him to a scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music in London. He enjoys frequent success at international piano competitions, being a major prize winner in 2018 at the International Music Competition Harbin, ROSL London, and the New York Piano Festival. Florian has performed in the US, the UK, Austria, France, the Netherlands, Japan and South Korea.



© Daniel Delang

LUCIAN BAN AND MAT MANERI: OEDIPE REDUX

19.11.2019

CENTRE CULTUREL OPDERCHMELZ

On the occasion of EUROPALIA ROMANIA, the artistic directors Lucian Ban and Alex Simu propose an evening of new compositions dedicated to the work of 20th century classical genius George Enescu. The Romanian violinist, pianist, teacher and conductor is considered one of the greatest composers of his time. The evening consists of Lucian Ban's world premiere of Oedipe Redux, and Alex Simu's re-orchestration of Enescu's symphonic suites for chamber jazz quintets, Echoes of Enescu. In addition, they will perform new compositions dedicated to the 20th century musical genius.

Lucian Ban (°1969, Cluj-Napoca) is an American jazz pianist of Romanian origin.

Romanian expat pianist and composer Lucian Ban and American master violist Mat Maneri (°1969) present a radical re-imagining of George Enescu's magnum opera Oedipe. More than 80 years after its premiere in Paris, the two musicians, renowned for their work at the intersection of jazz, improvisation and chamber music, will present their take on the opera, Oedipe Redux, which features an international cast of jazz iconoclasts such as Ambrose Akinmusire, phenomenal singers Jen Shyu and Theo Bleckmann, bassist John Hebert, master drummer Nasheet Waits and French clarinet virtuoso Louis Sclavis.

Enescu's monumental opera Oedipe is rarely performed today. In his discussion of the work, Lucian Ban says: "Its profound synthesis of ancient and modern, late romanticism and sheer individualism on the part of its composer, is unparalleled I think among 20th century operas." This is why Ban and Maneri, after working on some of Enescu's instrumental pieces, decided to bring their unique approach to Oedipe.



© Mircea Albutiu

Centre Culturel Opderschmelz
CR184 - 3572 Dudelange (LU)
www.opderschmelz.lu

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

DOUBLE BILL - LUCIAN BAN AND MAT MANERI: OEDIPE REDUX WITH ALEX SIMU QUINTET: ECHOES OF ENESCU

23.11.2019

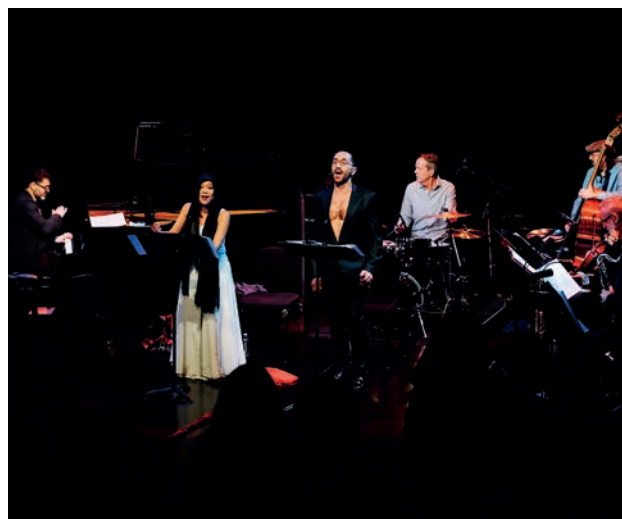
LA BRIQUETERIE

27.11.2019

BOZAR

29.11.2019

KOORENHUIS



© Andrei Tarne

La Briqueterie
Avenue de la 2ème Division Blindée - 67300 Schiltigheim (LU)

BOZAR
Rue Ravenstein 23 - 1000 Brussels
www.bozar.be

Koorenhuis
Prinsegracht 27 - 2512 EW Den Haag (NL)
inhetkoorenhuis.nl

DOUBLE BILL - DUMITRIO : PROVERBE WITH LUCIAN BAN AND MAT MANERI: OEDIPE REDUX

22.11.2019

BIMHUIS

DUMITRIO performs their latest album, *Proverbe* (2017) (proverbs), an entrancing mix of narrative-intuitive compositions and spontaneous improvisations. Band leader and composer George Dumitriu has steered the trio in a new musical direction by including elements of oral and musical Romanian folklore in their repertoire. Inspired by the idea of origins, *Proverbe* is built around traditional Romanian wisdom, illustrated by four Romanian proverbs spoken by Mama-mare, the composer's grandmother. Her voice recording played back in loops inspired DUMITRIO to improvise with irregular metres and dynamics. The violin, viola, and cello add a unique and creative dimension to the trio's experimental sound.

George Dumitriu is a Romanian guitarist, violist and violinist living in Amsterdam. He has won more than 15 national and international prizes as a classical violinist, and in 2011 he was a finalist in the Brussels Jazz Orchestra International Contest. George has performed internationally with a variety of ensembles, including the Romanian Jazz Collective and the Alex Simu Quintet. Dumitriu is a founding member of the I/O music-theatre platform, and he often experiments with improvisation in his music. In addition to leading DUMITRIO, with whom he has released two albums, the most recent being *Proverbe*, he has recorded a CD featuring the New York saxophonist Dick Oatts.



© DUMITRIO

George Dumitriu : guitar, alto, violin
Mattia Magatelli : double bass, electric bass
Kristijan Krajncan : percussion, cello

BIMHUIS
Piet Heinkade 3 - 1019 BR Amsterdam (NL)
www.bimhuis.nl

ALEX SIMU QUINTET: ECHOES OF ENESCU

20.11.2019

PODIUM JIN

06.12.2019

ST JAMES'S CHURCH

George Enescu's orchestral compositions echo throughout the chamber music of Alex Simu's acoustic quintet. The internationally acclaimed clarinetist, saxophonist and composer has reworked the symphonic suites into contemporary jazz improvisations. The folkloric themes in Enescu's work become modern conversations between musicians with a different cultural identity and artistic background. Impressionist harmonies in written scores become changing colour tones within new jazz structures. Due to the music's instrumental versatility, the quintet manages to rework Enescu's rich orchestrations into minimalist landscapes. Their cinematographic approach to musical language results in a lively soundtrack.

Enescu's symphonic suites are rarely performed by orchestras in Europe. Echoes of Enescu invites you to reconnect with forgotten musical masterpieces. Both classical music and jazz lovers will appreciate this unique modern deconstruction.

Clarinetist Alex Simu creates music and compositions based on his vision and experience of his hometown, Bucharest, and its rich history. Listeners hear pure folk sounds, the dramatic influences of the Ottoman Empire and the Phanariotic era, the illusion of little Paris, two world wars, the communist regime and contemporary Bucharest. All these echoes come to life in his music. The album Echoes of Bucharest, recorded with the Alex Simu Quintet, was released in 2017 to wide acclaim from the press and audiences worldwide.



© Alex Simu Quintet

Podium JIN
Waalbandijk 14 – 6541 AJ Nijmegen (NL)
jinjazz.nl

St James's Church, Sussex Garden London
Sussex Gardens - Paddington, London W2 3UD (UK)
stjamespaddington.org.uk

DOUBLE BILL - ALEX SIMU QUINTET: ECHOES OF ENESCU WITH JOHN GHOST

28.11.2019

HANDELSBEURS CONCERTZAAL

John Ghost combine des compositions étroites, de belles harmonies et des virages serrés avec des moments d'exploration sonore pure. Ce groupe de jazz n'a pas de "style" établi, mais complète l'improvisation avec une riche tradition et des influences modernes, comme s'il s'agissait d'une symbiose entre Steve Reich, Nils Frahm et Jaga Jazzist.



© Leon De Backer

Handelsbeurs Concertzaal
Kouter 29 – 9000 Gent
www.handelsbeurs.be

BELGIAN NATIONAL ORCHESTRA: CRISTIAN MACELARU, ANDREI IONITA

29.11.2019 / 01.12.2019

BOZAR

Led by Romanian-born conductor Cristian Macelaru, and with Romanian cello talent Andrei Ionita, the Belgian National Orchestra brings an extraordinary repertoire to life during EUROPALIA ROMANIA. The BNO has selected a wide range of pieces that seamlessly fit together to create one grand spectacle. These include new works, such as Flemish composer Annelies van Parys' War Requiem as well as rarely-performed oeuvres, such as Zoltan Kodaly's Psalmus Hungaricus.

Cristian Macelaru is one of the fastest-rising stars of the conducting world. He was the youngest ever concert master of the Miami Symphony Orchestra and made his Carnegie Hall debut at the age of 19. Since then, he has performed regularly with some of the best American orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic. Andrei Ionita, born in 1994 in Bucharest, won first prize in the cello division of the 2015 International Tchaikovsky competition and has performed with the BBC Philharmonic.

Andrei Ionita, described by The Times as "one of the most exciting cellists to have emerged for a decade," takes the sounds of his beloved instrument to the next level. Bringing pieces selected from the repertoires of some of the world's most celebrated composers, while also paying homage to his native culture through a stunning rendition of George Enescu's Romanian Rhapsody, Ionita wows audiences with his virtuosity and creativity.



© Adriane White



© Nikolaj Lund

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

FLORIN NICULESCU

15.01.2020

DE CENTRALE

16.01.2020

CULTUURCENTRUM LEOPOLDSBURG

17.01.2020

CAFÉ TROTTINETTE

Violinist superstar Florin Niculescu heads an international quintet composed of five extraordinary musicians playing violin, piano, guitar, double bass, and percussion. The music they create is an exciting fusion between jazz and traditional Romanian folk. Niculescu and his band perform a repertoire of Romanian songs and jazz sounds, in which improvisation functions as the bridge between East and West.

Florin Niculescu (°1967, Bucharest) is a Romanian violinist of Romani (Gypsy) ethnicity. He is considered one of the best jazz manouche violinists alive today and is known for his impressive technique and virtuosity as well as for his musical sensitivity. Niculescu was born into a family of educated *lăutari* or gypsy musicians and started playing music at a very early age. It was while playing at weddings and other community celebrations that he developed his strong sense of improvisation. He has recorded numerous albums and has collaborated with famous jazz artists such as Jimmy Rosenberg, Babik Reinhardt (son of Django Reinhardt), Dee Dee Bridgewater, and the opera diva Angela Gheorghiu.



De Centrale
Kraankindersstraat 2 - 9000 Gent
decentrale.be

Cultuurcentrum Leopoldsburg
Kastanjedreef 1 - 3970 Leopoldsburg
Cultuurcentrum Leopoldsburg/ EUROPALIA
www.ccleopoldsburg.be

Florin Niculescu: violin / *Daniel Kramer*: piano /
Hugo Lippi: guitar / *Philippe Aerts*: double bass /
Bruno Ziarelli: percussion

Café Trottinette
Vennbahnstr. 2 - 4780 St.Vith

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

MARIA RADUCANU QUINTET

22.11.2019

ST JOHN'S CHURCH

23.11.2019

LE 140

24.11.2019

HANDELSBEURS CONCERTZAAL

Maria Raducanu's (1967, Husi) multicultural quintet consists of top-tier musicians with whom she performs in Romania as well as across Europe. With German pianist Nik Meinhold, Swedish guitarist Krister Jonsson, American bassist Chris Dahlgren, and German drummer Michael Griener, Raducanu makes Fado, Balkan folk music, cradle songs, Russian romance, jazz classics, tangos, and bossa nova flow seamlessly into one another. The result is an extraordinary feast for the ears, which is sure to make a lasting impression.

Possessing one of the most distinctive voices in the world, self-taught ethno jazz singer Maria Raducanu makes music that is deeply emotional and universally touching. Noted for her impressive vocal range, as well as for her delightful guitar melodies, Raducanu has been compared to the legendary singer Maria Tanase and she is considered a leading light in new Romanian jazz.



© Roza Zah

St John's Church
High Road - Leytonstone, London E11 1HH (UK)

Le 140
Rue E Plasky 140 - 1030 Brussels
www.le140.be

Maria Raducanu: vocals, guitar / *Niko Meinhold:* piano /
Krister Jonsson: guitar / *Chris Dahlgren:* double bass /
Michael Griener: percussion

Handelsbeurs Concertzaal
Kouter 29 - 9000 Gent
www.handelsbeurs.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

ADA MILEA AND BALANESCU QUARTET: INSULA

30.10.2019

RICH MIX

31.10.2019

MUZIKANTENHUIS VZW

01.11.2019

LE SENGHOR CENTRE CULTUREL D'ETTERBEEK

In 2011, the alternative artist Ada Milea finished recording *Insula* (Island), an album she developed in collaboration with the Balanescu Quartet. When Alexander Balanescu returned to Romania after a 20-year absence, he discovered Ada, whose bold and creative vision drove him to embark on a joint project. Inspired by the adventures of Robinson Crusoe, *Insula* tells the tale of a mermaid prostitute, a pirate with a wooden leg, and a hilarious set of grandparents. The result is a wild, exuberant, and uniquely humorous compilation in which Ada Milea's vocal flexibility contrasts with Balanescu's gentle sounds. *Insula* is a modern mini-opera, a perfect harmony of comical, absurd texts and thrilling music.

Since its formation in 1987, the Balanescu Quartet has acquired a reputation as one of the world's leading contemporary string quartets. Its guiding force is the violin virtuoso, prolific composer and Julliard graduate, Alexander Balanescu, whose desire to push the limits and belief in fluidity between different artistic fields has led the ensemble across musical frontiers into new uncharted territory. Through collaborations with David Byrne, the Pet Shop Boys, Kate Bush and Kraftwerk, they have developed a unique writing and performing style, which sets them apart from any other string quartet. The Balanescu Quartet has played in a wide variety of venues, including London's South Bank Centre and New York's Knitting Factory, and they even opened to 10,000 Pet Shop Boys fans at Wembley Arena.



Rich Mix

35-47 Bethnal Green Rd - Shoreditch, London E1 6LA (UK)

richmix.org.uk

Muzikantenhuis vzw

Dampoortstraat 50 - 9000 Gent

www.muzikantenhuis.be

Ada Milea: vocals & guitar / *Alexander Balanescu*: violin /

James Shenton: violin / *Helen Kamminga*: alto /

Nicholas Holland: cello

Le Senghor Centre Culturel d'Etterbeek

Chaussée de Wavre 366 - 1040 Brussels

www.senghor.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

MAHALA RAI BANDA

16.10.2019	CULTUURCENTRUM DE BORRE
17.10.2019	CULTUURCENTRUM DE PLOTER
18.11.2019	DE CENTRALE
19.10.2019	CULTUURHUIS DE WARANDE
20.11.2019	CULTUURCENTRUM TER VESTEN

Having toured across the US and Europe, Romanian roots rockers Mahala Rai Banda are ready to charm EUROPALIA ROMANIA with their fierce Gypsy funk. The 11-strong band's brass and minor key violin and accordion melodies are unique. Taking shape on the streets of Bucharest, Mahala Rai Banda's sound is a modern 21st century approach to Gypsy music: rooted in tradition but with hints of dub and soul; a fusion of ancient Gypsy campfire tunes and the loud din of Balkan Mafia clubs.

Mahala Rai Banda was formed by violinist and composer Aurel Ionita, who originates from a family of traditional Romanian musicians in the village of Clejani. Since the release of their debut album in 2004, Mahala Rai Banda has performed more than 200 concerts in 26 countries and appeared at major festivals, clubs, and concert halls throughout the world. Their song 'Mahalageasca' featured in the British-American feature film Borat, as well as in several other films and advertising campaigns. The band's tracks have been remixed by famous electronic music producers and artists such as Nouvelle Vague and Felix B (from Basement Jaxx) and have appeared on international compilations including 'Bar Gypsy' (US).



© Wojtek Krajnik

Cultuurcentrum de borre
Speelpleinstraat 10 – 3360 Bierbeek
www.ccdeborre.be

Cultuurcentrum De Ploter
Kerkstraat 4 - 1742 Ternat
www.ccdeploter.be

De Centrale
Kraankindersstraat 2 – 9000 Gent
decentrale.be

Cultuurhuis de Warande
Warandestraat 42- 2300 Turnhout
www.warande.be

Cultuurcentrum Ter Vesten
Gravenplein 2 – 9120 Beveren

IONICA MINUNE BAND

08.11.2019

MUZIEKPUBLIQUE

Accordion maestro Ionică Minune and his six-piece instrumental band unite masters of the violin, cimbalom, piano and contrabass. Their performances are renowned for their unique fusion of rhythm and elegance, joy and depth, and abstract, dream-like qualities while incorporating elements of jazz, Gypsy, classical, and traditional Romanian music.

Ionică Minune (°1959), whose real name is Ene Gheorghe, was born into a Romanian Gypsy family. An autodidact child prodigy, Ionică gained musical experience while performing with one of the most famous traditional tarafs in Romania. During the 1990s, he enchanted French audiences with his mix of jazz and traditional sounds, and since then, he has toured in Italy, Spain, Germany, Japan and Malaysia. Today, Ionică is one of the most respected accordionists in the world.



Ionica Minune: accordeon / *Turturica Cristinel:* cimbalom /
Marius Gore: double bass / *Miele Bibescu:* clarinet /
Ninel de la Braila: violin / *Marian Alexandru:* violin /
Tiuleanu: guitar

Muziekpublique
Square du Bastion 3 (Galerie Porte de Namur)
1050 Brussels
muziekpublique.be

CYMBALOM WORKSHOP WITH MARIUS MIHALACHE

19.10.2019 / 20.10.2019

DE CENTRALE

What is a cimbalom and how do you play one? Celebrated cimbalom virtuoso Marius Mihalache presents his latest project 'Cimbalom meets classic.' In this workshop, he introduces the string instrument, which is commonly found in Central-Eastern European cultures such as Romania, and which has been an essential component of so-called Gypsy music for centuries. While demonstrating how to use the cimbalom, he pushes rhythms to interesting extremes by creating a fusion of Romanian folk, Balkan music and modern beats, and pays tribute to traditional Romanian songs and instruments. The perfect opportunity for music lovers to discover the cimbalom in an interactive and innovative way.

Born into a family of musicians in Bucharest, Marius Mihalache (1974, Bucharest) started playing the cimbalom at the age of four. Five years later, he won his first music prize, and since then, he has been the recipient of numerous awards for his virtuosity and creative interpretations of Rachmaninoff, Chopin and Mozart. Before launching his critically-acclaimed first album *Eclipse* in 1998, Mihalache composed soundtracks for several films and TV series. He was invited to perform at the headquarters of the United Nations, the White House, the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., and many more. Marius has more than 29 years of experience in performing jazz, classical, and Gypsy music, as well as in organising classes for people who would like to learn more about the cimbalom.



De Centrale
Kraankindersstraat 2 – 9000 Gent
decentrale.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

BRIGHT BRIDGES

13.12.2019

MUZIEKPUBLIQUE

16.12.2019

HANDELSBEURS CONCERTZAAL

Back in November 2018, four Romanian and Turkish musicians met the Belgian Gypsy violinist Tcha Limberger in Istanbul. Uneasy interplay due to their different backgrounds quickly made way for mutual admiration and a contagious sound, which reveals interesting similarities between Turkish and Romanian traditional music. After a successful premiere in Ghent, they decided to continue this fruitful collaboration as Bright Bridges. During the autumn of 2019, they will embark on a tour, demonstrating their fascinating combination of Gypsy jazz, flamenco, and Romanian and Turkish folk music. Don't miss the multicultural collective's EUROPALIA ROMANIA concert!

Alex Simu (clarinet, saxophone), Elif Canfeza Gündüz (kemenche), Uğur Işık (cello) and Claudio Cioc (cimbalom) will join Limberger on stage for a night of phenomenal folklore. Since picking up his first instrument – the guitar – composer, singer and multi-instrumentalist Limberger (°1977, Bruges) has become one of the most prominent figures in the folk music scene of the Carpathian Basin. His nurturing approach to teaching almost forgotten traditional music inspired The Sunday Times to crown him “The King of Gypsy Music”.

Bright Bridges is a project by De Centrale and Handelsbeurs Concertzaal for the Istanbul Ekspres Festival, taking place in Ghent in November 2019.



© Rudy Carlier

Tcha Limberger: vocals, guitar, and violin /
Elif Canfeza Gündüz: kemenche /
Uğur Işık: cello / *Claudio Cioc:* cimbalom /
Alex Simu: clarinet, saxophone

Muziekpublique
Square du Bastion 3 (Galerie Porte de Namur)
1050 Brussels
muziekpublique.be

Handelsbeurs Concertzaal
Kouter 29 – 9000 Gent
www.handelsbeurs.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

BORUSIADE

05.12.2019

ARKAODA

06.12.2019

BRASS

Born and raised in Bucharest, Romania and now residing in Berlin, Borusiade aka Miruna Boruzescu started DJing in 2002 as one of the only female DJs in the city's emerging alternative clubbing scene. Influenced by a classical musical education and fascinated by raw electronic sounds Borusiade combined these elements in the construction of her DJ sets and starting 2005 also in her music production. Her sets combine bold and obscure sounds and fluid genres fluctuating in the field of Dark Disco, Minimal Wave, raw House with an Acid touch. The sound is gloomy and powerful, with beats that touch one's deepest senses. After experimenting with different projects, Borusiade slowly crystallised a sound of her own, often dark, with poignant bass lines, obsessive themes and by all means melodic. After her successful debut EP "Jeopardy" on Cómeme in 2016, "Feelings Of Entropy" came out the same year on Jennifer Cardini's label Correspondant. 2017 Borusiade released a split EP on Veronica Vasicka's acclaimed label Cititrax, carving her way into a more industrial sound and proving the complexity of her production.

Borusiade's live music will be performed together with real time generative visuals created and controlled live by the Romanian artist Coté.



© Dan Beleiu

Arkaoda
6-18 Karl-Marx-Platz - 12043 Berlin (DE)
berlin.arkaoda.com

BRASS
Avenue Van Volxem 364 - 1190 Brussels
lebrass.be

DELIRIC X SILENT STRIKE

24.01.2019

RECYCLART

Two of the most present actors of Romania's Hip hop scene with elements of Trap, jazz, folk, grime, dubstep and more will perform in Belgium for the first time. Silent Strike is versatile beatmaker but also keeps himself busy with experimental music, jazz and composing for film. In Romania he opened for numerous international acts such as Amon Tobin, Faithless, Saul Williams and many others. The Rapper Deliric will accompany him to heat up the Belgian crowd.

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

BOGDAN ORBITA

05.12.2019

ARKAODA

06.12.2019

BRASS

Bogdan Orbita is part of Orbita Lacustra DJ crew, an inconspicuous party series in Bucharest. When he's not delivering thoroughly picked sounds, you'll find him harvesting obscure and weird gems, disguised as Psychosynth & OK Music on his youtube channel. His ongoing research is based around the historical influence of technology on music production, with a focus on forms of mistake, glitch and dissonance as an engine for musical innovation. Mixing all the influences he had over the years, his dj sets are unpredictable and easily free flowing through krautrock, industrial, dub, tribal moods, minimal percussion or glitchy electronics. This particular appearance is not a maybe.



Arkaoda
6-18 Karl-Marx-Platz - 12043 Berlin (DE)
berlin.arkaoda.com

BRASS
Av. Van Volxem 364 - 1190 Brussels
lebrass.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

KHIDJA AND BALABAS AV-LIVE

05.12.2019

ARKAODA

06.12.2019

VOORUIT

Khidja and Mihai Balabas have been long time collaborators by now, their most fruitful venture came together recently in the form of a 4 track EP for the Malka Tuti label. The new live show is exploring more hypnotic territories where movement and rhythm are generated through micro tuned percussion. Think of gamelan rhythms. It will not be a club set, (basically containing no kick drums) but it will still be powerful enough to move crowds.

Since part of the equipment involved will be mostly analog there is a large margin of chance left to the swing of the different machines and sequencers interacting with each other.

The music could be crossdressed as a creature sitting between Steve Reich's more percussive work and 70s reinterpretations of western and eastern rhythms of Chris Hinze or even Savant aka K. Leimer.

Khidja will be performing on digital samplers, semi modular synthesisers, sequencers and contact mics while Mihai Balabas will be using a guitar, a guitar synthesiser, a looper and effects while Rob Szeliga will play the bass clarinet.

British visual artist George Jasper Stone is taking care of the visuals, he will be modulating CGI like landscapes using digital software. The visuals will be synchronised to parts of the audio, the audio will trigger elements and the direction of the video.



Arkaoda
6-18 Karl-Marx-Platz - 12043 Berlin (DE)
berlin.arkaoda.com

Vooruit
Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 23 - 9000 Gent
www.vooruit.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

EIRWUD MUDWASSER DJ-SET

09.10.2019

ARKAODA

10.10.2019

VOORUIT

11.10.2019

BEURSSCHOUWBURG

The alias of young Romanian producer Vlad Matei speaks of a spiritual bond with nature and of a longing toward a purity of form in the eclectic tastes that make up his sound.

In his productions as well as DJ sets, the heady brew that defines his sound is a mix of New Beat, Dub, Tribal House and Berlin School electronics. He's also into that classic afro-cosmic sound and the leftfield take on 'balearic' that has gained ground in recent years.

Warm yet vicious, the balance between the metallic and the organic is like a vibrating core throughout the tracks on his debut *12* as well as on his new album on the Japanese Snaker label.

Much of his style can also be traced to his fascination with the aesthetics of Japanese martial arts movies, which lends substance to his disciplined approach: sometimes bordering on the minimalistic but always with a window open towards the wilderness.



Arkaoda
6-18 Karl-Marx-Platz - 12043 Berlin (DE)
berlin.arkaoda.com

Vooruit
Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 23 - 9000 Gent
www.vooruit.be

Beursschouwburg
Rue Auguste Orts 20/28 - 1000 Brussels
www.beursschouwburg.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

RAZE DE SOARE

03.10.2019

V11

04.10.2019

LES BRIGITTINES (OPENING NIGHT)

During the late '80s and early '90s, a parallel pseudo-industry of weddings developed in Romania. Hundreds of bands emerged all over the country and the new sound of family events either at restaurants or at home was born. A mix of electrified oriental pop with local flavour which EUROPALIA shows in its contemporary modernised version.

Raze de Soare - *Albatros* is a tribute EP to one of the most famous local bands, the eponymous Albatros.



V11
Wijnhaven 101 - 3011 WN Rotterdam (NL)
www.vessel11.nl

Les Brigittines
Petite rue des Brigittines 10 - 1000 Brussels
www.brigittines.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

FANFARE CIOCARLIA

20.11.2019

ELECTRIC BRIXTON

22.11.2019

ANCIENNE BELGIQUE

Fanfare Ciocarlia are a 24-legged brass beast whose eastern funk groove has torn up halls and festivals across the planet. Their energy and ingenuity having won them fans from Melbourne to Memphis, Tokyo to Toulouse. Having learnt their craft at the feet of their fathers and grandfathers Fanfare's members proudly approach every concert as a challenge to both entertain audiences and keep the true spirit of Gypsy music alive. Fanfare Ciocarlia went on to conquer the USA, Europe, Asia and Australia. The Gypsies may only have spoken their local Romany dialect but their music spoke an international language and audiences responded to their fierce Balkan funk by turning concerts into parties. What Fanfare Ciocarlia played was something new. The Times of London described it as "a heavy, heavy monster sound" and Fanfare's recordings have taken their eerie Balkan groove into dance clubs across the planet.



Electric Brixton
Town Hall Parade - Brixton, London SW2 1RJ (UK)
electricbrixton.uk.com

AB
Anspachlaan 110 - 1000 Brussel
www.abconcerts.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

DRAGOS RUSU: THE ATTIC

03.10.2019 **V11**

04.10.2019 **LES BRIGITTINES (OPENING PARTY)**

05.10.2019 **CAFÉ CENTRAL**

Dragos Rusu has been a constant presence in Bucharest's alternative music scene for over a decade now. A DJ, journalist and music adventurer, he is the co-founder and editor in chief of *The Attic Magazine*. *The Attic* is an online music platform that covers a wide variety of music and promotes Romanian artists and history worldwide. Dragos's radio show on the cult Dutch station Intergalactic FM showcases a comprehensive pick of local talents as well as renowned international guests such as Mick Wills, Lena Willikens, Broken English Club and Booty Carrell. His musical approach knows no boundaries of genre, style, time or space—he's been spotted playing hard, textural techno and acid house as well as intriguing international oddities, African, Greek, Turkish, Arabic rhythms and the occasional contemporary gypsy music.



V11

Wijnhaven 101 - 3011 WN Rotterdam (NL)
www.vessel11.nl

Les Brigittines
Petite rue des Brigittines 10 - 1000 Brussels
www.brigittines.be

Café Central
Borgval 4 - 1000 Brussels

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

BOGMAN

03.10.2019

V11

04.10.2019

LES BRIGITTINES (OPENING PARTY)

05.10.2019

CAFÉ CENTRAL

Bogman's history goes all the way back to the 90s, when he started a Hip Hop Radio Show for Radio Nova 22, and the first Romanian hip hop parties. The Laborator series of social events that he later on set up with DJ Vasile turned a small games house in the legendary place that every 'cool' kid in town has set foot in - The Web Club. In 2001, Bogman jumped the fence to New York, where he lived for 7 years, out of which 5 years illegally, as a manager for the Turntable Lab store, resident DJ for Apt and Nublu, and qualified hunter of obscure vinyls for a lucky few. Back in Bucharest in 2008, he set up the Fantastic Boogie parties, and nowadays co-works on the programming of Control Club. Bogman will do what he does best, make u swim and dance till dawn in deep waters



V11

Wijnhaven 101 - 3011 WN Rotterdam (NL)
www.vessel11.nl

Les Brigittines
Petite rue des Brigittines 10 - 1000 Brussels
www.brigittines.be

Café Central
Borgval 4 - 1000 Brussel

RESIDENCIES AND NEW CREATIONS

ALEXANDER ARPEGGIO AND MARIA BALABAS

05.12.2019

ARKAODA

06.12.2019

BRASS

The rising Berlin producer Alexander Arpeggio meets Romania's eclectic singer and sound- and field recording artist, Maria Balabas. His virtuosity as a producer finds a counterbalance in Maria's diaphanous vocals and lyrics. Together they created an album with a hint to experimental synthesizer music in the 80ties.

Inspired by Bucharest and Berlin's wintery neighbourhoods, vast post-communist boulevards and endless falling stars, DJ and producer Alexander Arpeggio worked for 2 weeks in residence with the Romanian singer, musician and journalist Maria Balabas. Through her show at the National Cultural Radio, she is one of Romania's voices who spreads diverse contemporary music all over Romania. Alexander Arpeggio is a DJ and founder of record labels EINE WELT and MONDMUSIK who focus on the re-release of obscure electronic private pressings which were made in the late 70s and early 80s. Arpeggio's influences range from New Wave, Italo Disco and Minimal Synth to contemporary electronic music.

During Europalia both artists will perform live together for the very first time to showcase what resulted from the residency. Be ready to immerse into a universe where the music reflects a homogenous feeling from both dance music and poetic dreamy atmosphere.



Arkaoda
6-18 Karl-Marx-Platz - 12043 Berlin (DE)
berlin.arkaoda.com

BRASS
Av. Van Volxem 364 - 1190 Brussels
lebrass.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

KARPOV NOT KASPAROV AND ANTHONY NTI

27.11.2019

WORM

28.11.2019

ANCIENNE BELGIQUE

29.11.2019

LA STATION

30.11.2019

TBC

The eccentric duo Karpov not Kasparov follow the rules and strategies of chess through action and reaction of drums, synthesizers and voice. Since chess is an oriental game they got deeply inspired by oriental folklore which shines out in their catchy danceable sound. Their live shows include aerobic classes, contemporary dance moves, silent movie screenings, ballet acts, or projections of live chess games played by the audience.

Rising star of the Belgian Cinema, Anthony Nti was born in Ghana and moved to Belgium when he was ten years old. Mesmerized by the movies he saw, he accomplished his studies in Brussels to become a film director. His videoclips and short films obtained several awards at international film festivals and some of them went viral on the internet. EUROPALIA sent Anthony and his assistant director Chingiz Karibekov to Bucharest for 10 days to encounter many Romanian artists and shoot the new video clip of Karpov Not Kasparov.



Worm
Boomgaardsstraat 71 - 3012 XA Rotterdam (NL)
worm.org

Ancienne Belgique
Boulevard Anspach 110 - 1000 Brussels
www.abconcerts.be

La Station
29 Avenue de la Porte d'Aubervilliers - 75018 Paris (FR)
lastation.paris

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

DEATHBYCOCONUT

27.11.2019

ARKAODA

28.11.2019

ANCIENNE BELGIQUE

29.11.2019

LE VECTEUR

Bucharest freshest talents ready to conquer the world! With the right Do-It-Yourself attitude these passionate creative spirits have caught our attention with a series of lo-fi recordings on their soundcloud page. Europalia invited them to do a 2 weeks residency in order to work on their debut release and tour.

Stemming from its members experience in the years of socio-economic transition of Bucharests post-communist world, Deathbycoconut draws its inspiration and name out of the stupefied innocence of the wild-east '90s. It's about the wasteful splurges of the neo-liberal turn of the century and the current never-ending downturn and policies of austerity. The band members belong to a generation which was promised vacations in the tropics and ended up doing long-hours in low-paying jobs. Deathbycoconut voices this experience by recalling the dream of a tropical island in an ocean-wide dystopian wasteland. As millennial consumption/production machines, Deathbycoconut cannot cease churning out energetic beats and catchy harmonies. Obsessively pulsating music that praises decadence with smart lyrics and spontaneous poetry. For lovers of Can, Sonic Youth, Silver Apples, Beak>.



Arkaoda

6-18 Karl-Marx-Platz - 12043 Berlin (DE)
berlin.arkaoda.com

Ancienne Belgique

Boulevard Anspach 110 - 1000 Brussels
www.abconcerts.be

Le Vecteur

Rue de Marcinelle 30 - 6000 Charleroi
www.vecteur.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

TARAF DE IMPEX

20.11.2019

ELECTRIC BRIXTON

21.11.2019

ANCIENNE BELGIQUE

Haidouks are back! After over three decades of touring the world, founding members of the jaw-droppingly fast Taraf de Haidouks, who are now known as Taraf de Caliu after their lead violinist Gheorghe “Caliu” Anghel, are back in a brand new culture-clash outfit with leading figures from Romania’s underground scene. The legendary ‘Lautari’ musicians from the Gypsy village of Clejani west of Bucharest encounter the eclectic and electric Impex project, which brings together musicians from acts such as Steaua De Mare, Plevna, Zveena, Zebre and PC Harem, associated with Impex Studios in Bucharest. Six Haidouks and seven Impex blend tradition and contemporary music culture in a project that aims to stay true to the original spirit whilst making sparks fly.



Tradition is actually a contemporary matter. Conserving tradition by adapting it to a new era without losing the original spirit is the idea behind this project especially created for Europalia Romania. The aim is to build bridges between generations, between cultures, between tradition and modernity.

EX-HAIDOUKS :

Gheorghe ‘Caliu’ Anghel: violin / *Robert Gheorghe*: violin / *Ionica Tanase*: cimbalom / *Marius ‘Marin’ Manole*: acordeon - vocals / *Sile Neacsu*: bass / *Filip Simeonov*: clarinet / *Viorica Rudareasa*: vocals

IMPEX :

Andrei Dinescu: vocals, violin, percussion and synthesizer / *Horatiu*: harmony keyboard and effects / *Jerry Boaca*: solo gypsy oriental keyboard / *Daniel Busnea*: clarinet, saxophone and 3-4 types of traditional flutes / *Eugen Imecs*: percussion and electronic drums / *Thomas Höfer*: vocals and guitar + drum machines for the techno-house parts / *Alex Corlan*: bass / *Renato Chiciu*: vocals

Ancienne Belgique
Boulevard Anspach 110 - 1000 Brussels
www.abconcerts.be

Electric Brixton
Town Hall Parade - Brixton, London SW2 1RJ (UK)
electricbrixton.uk.com

RODION G.A.: MISIUNEA SPATIALA DELTA

09.10.2019

LE VECTEUR

10.10.2019

VOORUIT

28.10.2019

BOZAR

In 1984, a few Romanian musicians were asked to submit demos for the soundtrack of an early animated science fiction film, Misiunea spatiala Delta. Rodion GA, one of Romania's electronic music pioneers, sent in a 15-minute demo score that was rejected by the filmmakers and remained unknown to the public until 2014 when the UK record label STRUT discovered the demo and decided to release an album with Rodion's music.

Rodion Ladislau Roșca aka Rodion GA and his band enjoyed cult status in the late '70s and '80s during the communist regime in Romania. They created hybrid electronic music with psychedelic and progressive rock influences that was remarkably ahead of its time. After decades of obscurity, and only a handful of singles ever officially released, Rodion's music has finally received the international recognition it deserves. EUROPALIA has invited Rodion GA to finish his work from 1984 and the result will be world premiered along with the film Misiunea spatiala Delta during EUROPALIA ROMANIA.



Le Vecteur
Rue de Marcinelle 30 - 6000 Charleroi
www.vecteur.be

Vooruit
Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 23 - 9000 Gent
www.vooruit.be

BOZAR
Rue Ravenstein 23 - 1000 Brussels
www.bozar.be

MILAN W AND THE TULNIC ENSEMBLE OF AVRAM IANCU

03.10.2019 **STUK**

04.10.2019 **LES BRIGITTINES (OPENING NIGHT)**

One of EUROPALIA ROMANIA's residency highlights is the encounter between Belgian electronic music composer Milan Warmoeskerken and a tulnic Ensemble comprising 5 women from the village Avram Iancu. The tulnic is a 2,5m - 3m long traditional wind instrument, used since medieval times as a communication tool in village communities in the mountains.

Milan W spent 10 days in the Transylvanian mountains and will experiment with harmonies and textures of the traditional wind instrument to create a long electro-acoustic piece. How rhythmic can he go? What are the melodic capacities of the instrument? Is effect processing and dubbing possible on such a big instrument?

This project is realised in collaboration with The Attic, an online music magazine, which focuses on a wide spectrum of music genres and investigates how music is modeled by certain specific socio-cultural contexts.

The live show of Milan W will be premiered at the opening event of EUROPALIA ROMANIA's music programme at the Brigittines chapel in Brussels.



STUK
Naamsestraat 96 - 3000 Leuven
www.stuk.be

Les Brigittines
Petite Rue des Brigittines 10 - 1000 Brussels
www.brigittines.be

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

KINEMA IKON

10.10.2019

VOORUIT

11.10.2019

BEURSSCHOUWBURG

During the communist times, the artists of Kinema Ikon have found ways to access and recycle bits of film tape which, in the days of censorship and exorbitant state-control, was difficult and risky. The artists made collages with the leftovers of 16mm tape that had been mostly used for propaganda films and created a series of experimental films of rare beauty. Hence the unofficial character of these shorts, no soundtracks could be composed, so the music was taken from western recordings that had been circulating between music lovers in intellectual circles.

Kinema Ikon multimedia atelier has undergone different stages. From 1970-1989 they worked on experimental film, from 1990-1993 with mixed media, from 1994-2005 with hypermedia; from 2006 with both hypermedia and hybrid media. Since 1994 the group also publishes the Intermedia magazine.

EUROPALIA has asked 5 Romanian and 5 Belgian artists to rescore a selection of 10 short films for a World Première at the Ghent Film Festival / Vooruit Ghent followed by a tour. The films will be screened for the very first time outside of Romania since 1990, when they were shown at Centre Pompidou in Paris.

Romania: Iancu Dumitrescu / Monica Vlad / dyslex / Self-MadeMusic / Makunouchi Bento

Belgium: Ben Bertrand / Céline Gillain / Velvet C / Inne Eysermans / Maxime Jacobs



George Sabau - Decupaje



Marcela Muntean - Pulsuni

Vooruit
Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 23 - 9000 Gent
www.vooruit.be

Beursschouwburg
Rue Auguste Orts 20/28 - 1000 Brussels
www.beursschouwburg.be

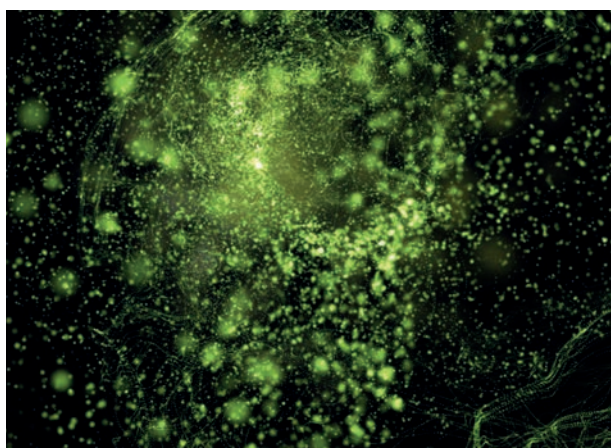
OCTAVIAN NEMESCU AND CAROLINE PROFANTER

04.10.2019

LES BRIGITTINES (OPENING NIGHT)

Octavian Nemescu is one of its country's avant-garde pioneers and initiator of the Romanian Spectralism. His seminal album GRADEATIA-NATURAL was the first fully-electronic album to be released in Romania under its culturally-repressive Communist regime in 1984. Gradeatia was commissioned by the Belgian Radio-Television and recorded at I.P.E.M. Ghent. It's an exploration into sonic primordial and universal archetypes recording ambient narrative blends, melodic electronic drones with field recordings to paint an 'electronic fresco'. After its reissue on Sub Rosa last year, EUROPALIA is proud to present the pieces in an acousmonium, interpreted by the Belgian composer and musician Caroline Profanter.

An experience devoted to pure active listening, where the public will be immersed into the sound of spatial polyphony.



Les Brigittines
Petite Rue des Brigittines 10 – 1000 Brussels
www.brigittines.be

EUROPALIA ARTS FESTIVAL ROMANIA

Cinema

VIDEOGRAMS OF A NATION: DE-CONSTRUCTING REALITY

Europalia's film program was built on the foundations laid by the New Romanian Cinema, which has gained worldwide critical acclaim, and which reignited a domestic industry that entered the 21st century with a nearly defunct production sector. It did so by garnering critical and public admiration for films that were anchored in reality, employing a distinct cinema language to tell 'slice-of-life' narratives that were as universal as they were local.

This tendency toward investigating the real and the immediate of the New Romanian Cinema (be it as a tool of social analysis or metaphysical inquiry), manifested itself at the same time as the country was opening up internationally (coming out of its pre-89 Communist insularity, and overcoming its transitional period of the 1990s). This openness allowed for not only international and artistic relevancy but for its foreign audiences, a window into the country, its society and its artistic scene.

Opening that window further back into the past, one notices the investigation and re/de-construction of reality as an ongoing, (un)conscious concern of Romanian cinema.

In essence, cinema reflects life. As such, an exploration of Romanian cinema's representation of contemporary reality through the country's changes over the years will offer not only insight into the socio-political climate at the time, but will also observe the experimentation of the cinematic language its directors were using.

Therefore, Videograms of a Nation aims to isolate lesser-known films as well as established works of Romania's cinematic canon, to better understand the historical and cultural transition of the country as well as its engagement with cinema as an art form.

Andrei Tanasescu, curator film

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

The 21st century saw Romanian cinema rise from the ashes of its industry's year zero (no films produced in 2000), to become one of the country's most recognizable and highly-regarded cultural exports. It did so by garnering worldwide critical acclaim and public admiration for a new generation of filmmakers whose films were anchored in a distinctly contemporary reality and which employed a particular cinema language to tell 'slice-of-life' narratives that were as universal as they were local. These films brought audiences closer to the artistic, social and political concerns of their filmmakers, in turn reflecting a culture in constant negotiation of its history.

Nearly twenty years after the cinematic wave broke on the world's shores, the ebbing tide of the New Romanian Cinema continues its renewal as it explores new directions in tune with global discourses.

Drawing inspiration from (and paying homage to) Harun Farocki and Andrei Ujica's seminal work which explores the moving image's representation of history, the Europalia-Romania Film program Videograms of a Nation recognizes the necessity of cross-cultural dialogue and proposes a thematic and chronological incursion into the historical and cultural transition of the country through the seventh art.

During the months of October 2019 and January 2020, ardent cinephiles and general audiences alike will be presented 35 films in one of the most comprehensive retrospectives of Romanian cinema, through a curated series of programs and special events that will span four cities and ten partnered venues in Belgium, with an extension in Amsterdam's EYE Film Institute.

December 8th 2019 – BOZAR, Bruxelles

Grand Opening: MANASSE Live Concert

The official opening of Europalia's FILM program pays homage to the early beginnings of cinema by screening Jean Mihail's 1925 silent film MANASSE, a chamber-drama based on Ronetti-Roman's 1900 theatre play that was banned at the time for its progressive portrayal of cultural division and religious (in)tolerance – topics which still resonate acutely today. Marking this special screening is the live musical accompaniment provided by the Shaun Williams quartet, performing a newly-commissioned score that reflects in concept and execution, the spirit and heritage of Jewish culture and klezmer music of 1920s Romania.

Featuring: Mihai Balabaş: violin / Benjy Fox-Rosen: contrabass, voice / Marian Şerban: cymbalom / Shaun Williams: accordion, caval, etc.

December 2019 - January 2020 – Cinematek, Bruxelles

Videograms of a Nation: De-Constructing Reality

Cinematek Bruxelles will host Europalia-Romania's main film program, a selection of 20 films curated alongside various themes. Aiming to familiarize audiences with canonical films as well as hidden gems of Romanian cinema, the retrospective will observe the social, cultural and political changes over the last century through the close-knit relationship between cinema and reality.

Propaganda & Subversion

THE ERUPTION / ERUPTIA (d. Liviu Ciulei, 1957)

I DON'T WANT TO GET MARRIED / NU VREAU SA MA INSOR (d. Manole Marcus, 1960)

REENACTMENT / RECONSTITUIREA (d. Lucian Pintilie, 1967)

MICROPHONE TEST / PROBA DE MICROFON (d. Mircea Daneliuc, 1981)

SEQUENCES / SECVENTE (d. Alexandru Tatos, 1982)

Rebels without a cause

A MOVIE WITH A CHARMING GIRL / UN FILM CU O FATA FERMECATOARE (d. Lucian Bratu, 1966)

FILIP THE KIND / FILIP CEL BUN (d. Dan Pita, 1975)

SELF-PORTRAIT OF A DUTIFUL DAUGHTER / AUTOPORTRETUL UNEI FETE CUMINTI (d. Ana Lungu, 2015)

Family portraits

MEANDERS / MEANDRE (d. Mircea Saucan, 1966)

SNAPSHOT AROUND THE FAMILY TABLE / STOP-CADRU LA MASA (d. Ada Pistiner, 1982)

THE SECOND GAME / AL DOILEA JOC (d. Corneliu Porumboiu, 2014)

MONSTERS / MONSTRI (d. Marius Olteanu, 2019)

(Mal)Adjustment - The transition years

THE CONJUGAL BED / PATUL CONJUGAL (d. Mircea Daneliuc, 1993)

ASPHALT TANGO / ASFALT TANGO (d. Nae Caranfil, 1996)

Genre: Reality through archetypes

OUR DIRECTOR / DIRECTORUL NOSTRU (d. Jean Georgescu, 1955)

A BOMB WAS STOLEN / S-A FURAT O BOMBA (d. Ion Popescu-Gopo, 1961)

THE IMMORTALS / NEMURITORII (d. Sergiu Nicolaescu, 1974)

Soul of a nation: Literary adaptations

THE MILL OF GOOD LUCK / LA MOARA CU NOROC (d. Victor Iliu, 1957)

THE STONE WEDDING / NUNTA DE PIATRA (d. Dan Pita & Mircea Veroiu, 1973)

WHY ARE THE BELLS RINGING, MITICA? / DE CE TRAG CLOPOTELE, MITICA? (d. Lucian Pintilie, 1982)

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

December 2019 - January 2020

Negotiating History: Cinematic Representations Past & Present

Conceived as a series of double-bill screenings, the program pairs together films which share representations of historical moments of Romania's past (and present). The cine-contextual dialogue created between the films will explore cinema's role in reflecting ideological perspectives at various points in the country's shifting socio-political landscape.

Negotiating History Pt. 1

The historical epic seen 45 years apart in MICHAEL THE BRAVE – a propaganda film of nation-building ideology – and its formal antipode, AFERIM – an 'anti' epic deconstructing historical myths.

Negotiating History Pt. 2

Cinema bearing witness to Romania's key civic uprisings: the (re)construction of the 1989 Revolution from multiple-sourced archival footage in Farocki & Ujica's seminal VIDEOGRAMS OF A REVOLUTION and Vlad Petri's digital-age singular, embedded perspective of the 2012 protests in WHERE ARE YOU BUCHAREST?

Negotiating History Pt. 3

Contemporary Romanian cinema revisiting its Communist past through the urban myths (TALES FROM THE GOLDEN AGE) as well as the surreal Imaginary (SOMEWHERE IN PALILULA) of its collective (sub)consciousness.

December 9-12 2019 – RITCS, Bruxelles

Lecture series – Incursions into the history of Romanian Cinema

Serving as a preparatory prelude to Europalia's main film program, the Royal Institute for Theatre, Cinema and Sound (RITCS) will host several days of masterclasses and lectures – incursions into the history of Romanian cinema.

December 9, 2019 – History of Romanian fiction cinema

Opening with a night curated by film critic and festival programmer Oana Ghera, the history of Romanian fiction cinema (from the silent period to the rise of the 'New Wave') will be presented by film academics Gabriela Filippi and Radu Toderici who will explore thematic and stylistic tendencies with the help of four commissioned video essays (conceived by different film critics from Romania).

December 10, 2019 – Animation masterclass

Matei Branea, one of the leading Romanian animation artists (and pro-rector of the National University of Theatre and Film) will host a 3-hr animation masterclass that will include a "best-of" film screening of Romanian animation – from Golden Age classics to contemporary works.

December 10, 2019 – History of Romanian documentary cinema

The evening of December 10th will be hosted by renowned academic Adina Bradeanu who will discuss the history of Romanian documentary cinema: from the founding of the national documentary studio Sahia through to the development of documentary cinema during the Communist period until today. Via demonstrative clips and short films, Sahia's defining subversive artistic character will be scrutinized against its propagandistic mandate.

December 11, 2019 – Screening: MONSTERS

Winner of the Tagesspiele Reader's Jury Award at this year's Berlinale Film Festival and the Grand Prix at Sofia International Film Festival, Marius Olteanu's MONSTERS will be screened as part of the Europalia-RITCS masterclass on feature debuts.

December 12, 2019 – Masterclass: Marius Olteanu & Luchian Ciobanu

Marius Olteanu (director) and Luchian Ciobanu (cinematographer) will host a masterclass, discussing the artistic and professional development that contoured their trajectory from short-to-feature length filmmaking.

December 2019 - January 2020 – BOZAR, Bruxelles In-Conversation With...

Over the course of three months, BOZAR will host Adina Pintilie, Andrei Ujica, Cristi Puiu and Radu Jude, four of the leading Romanian auteurs in a series of masterclasses where audiences will (re)familiarize themselves with key works of their filmography, followed by an in-depth conversation on their oeuvre.

December 13, 2019 – Cinematek, Bruxelles Book Launch – Romanian Cinema Inside Out:

Perspectives on Film Culture, Industry and Politics 1912-2019

For the first time in recent years, a publication of critical writing will accompany a retrospective of Romanian cinema, providing further insight into various topics that comprise its history. Coordinated by film academic Irina Trocan, the anthology will present 16 English-language articles tackling wide-ranging subjects from leading Romanian film critics and academics.

1. "Romania's Independence" and the beginnings of Romanian fiction films - Irina Trocan
2. Romanian Animated Films - Dana Duma
3. Sahia Studios documentaries - Andra Petrescu
4. The national epic and the inscription of Romanian history in cinema - Alex Vizitiu
5. Women directors in Romanian cinema - Alex Mircioi
6. The genres of Soviet cinema in Romanian films between '50-'60 - Radu Toderici
7. Romanian comedies and the reliance of humour on the historical era - Georgiana Muşat
8. The representation of sexuality in the films of Lucian Pintilie - Andrei Şendrea
9. Representation of youths in Romanian socialist cinema - Georgiana Madin
10. The context which created the filmography (and myth) of the "70s generation" - Gabriela Filippi
11. Comparisons between female star-actresses in the history of Romanian and Hungarian cinema - Andrea Virginás
12. History and class-consciousness in Romanian cinema of the '90s - Alex Cistelean
13. The gender of women and the power of men in Romania's 'transition cinema' [of the '90s] - Iulia Popovici
14. The realism of Corneliu Porumboiu - Andrei State
15. Interview with Dominique Nasta about the reception of the New Romanian Cinema worldwide
16. Roma representation in Romanian cinema pre-and-post '89 – Bogdan Iancu

December 16, 2019 – KASK, Gent Masterclass: Andrei Ujica & Johan Grimont

Two of cinema's greatest observers of the medium and its malleability in the face of / or service to history will gather for an on-stage masterclass/discussion following the screening of their work.

December 17, 2019 – BOZAR, Bruxelles

Panel: 30th Anniversary of the 1989 Revolution

Marking the anniversary of 30 years since the 1989 Revolution, BOZAR will inaugurate its Europalia Film masterclass with attending filmmaker Andrei Ujica through a panel discussion on the 1989 revolution and its representation through the moving image (as captured by Harun Farocki & Andrei Ujica's VIDEOGRAMS OF A REVOLUTION and a selection of essayistic, documentary and experimental short films).

Participants of the panel will discuss the way fiction and documentary cinema, alongside video art captured a turning point in history for Romania, and all of the consequent epistemological/ontological implications.

October - December 2019 – Strombeek Cultural Centre, Strombeek

Monthly Monday Documentaries

Strombeek will host monthly screenings of award-winning documentaries from celebrated Romanian filmmakers over the months of October through December – including an educational-format event, aimed at secondary-school audiences.

December 17, 2019 – BOZAR, Bruxelles

Panel: 30th Anniversary of the 1989 Revolution

December 13, 2019 – Vooruit, Ghent Film Festival, Gent kinema ikon

During the communist times, the artists of Kinema Ikon have found ways to access and recycle bits of film stock which, in the days of censorship and exorbitant state-control, was difficult and risky. The artists made collages with the leftovers of 16mm film that had been mostly used for propaganda films and created a series of experimental works of rare beauty. Hence the unofficial character of these shorts: no soundtracks could be composed, so the music was taken from western recordings that had been circulating between music lovers in intellectual circles.

Kinema Ikon multimedia atelier has undergone different stages. From 1970-1989 they worked on experimental film, from 1990-1993 with mixed media, from 1994-2005 with hypermedia; from 2006 with both hypermedia and hybrid media. Since 1994 the group has been publishing the Intermedia magazine. Europalia has asked 5 Romanian and 5 Belgian artists to re-score a selection of 10 shorts for a World Premiere at the Ghent Film Festival / Vooruit Ghent followed by a tour. They will be screened for the very first time outside of Romania since 1990 at Centre Pompidou in Paris.

1. BIRD HUNTING (d. Emanuel Tet, 1980) – rescored by Ben Bertrand
2. PULSIONS (d. Marcela Muntean, 1983) – rescored by Céline Gillain
3. SELF-PORTRAIT (d. Iosif Stroia, 1984) – rescored by Velvet C
4. CUT-UPS (d. George Sabau, 1980-85) – rescored by Inne Eysermans
5. SPRING-COMING EFFECTS (d. Ioan Pleş, 1978) – rescored by Maxime Jacobs
6. ALONE WITH THE SNOW (d. Romulus Budi, 1975) – rescored by SelfMadeMusic
7. AUTOPSY OF FORGIVENESS (d. Ioan T. Morar, 1977) – rescored by Iancu Dumitrescu
8. SUBLIMINAL EXERCISE (d. Alexandru Pecican, 1979) – rescored by Dyslex
9. BEGINNING OF COHERENCE (d. Valentin Constantin, 1981) – rescored by Monica Vlad
10. LIQUID LANDSCAPE (d. Viorel Simulov, 1988) – rescored by Makunouchi Bento

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

January 2020 – KASK, Gent

Truth / Fiction: Propaganda in cinema

Renowned academic Adina Bradeanu will explore the relationship between truth and fiction in documentary cinema produced under Communism, through a program of short films made at the state-run film studio, Sahia.

January 8 – 22, 2020 – EYE Film Institute, Amsterdam

Videograms of a Nation Redux

Reaching across the Benelux region, Europalia-Romania is proud to present a program of films at the world-renowned EYE Film Institute in Amsterdam.

Curated in collaboration with the EYE's senior programmers, the film selection will focus on a series of classic and rarely-seen films, as well as a program of shorts from established and promising auteurs. Several reference works (pre-and-post New Wave) will be screened, thus contextualizing the running thematic thread of the Videograms of a Nation program.

EUROPALIA ARTS FESTIVAL ROMANIA

LITERATURE

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

Cioran, Ionesco, Eliade, Celan ... are famous names in the field of literature. One would, however, almost forget that these major twentieth-century figures are of Romanian descent. But do you know any other Romanian authors besides these celebrated artists? In an attempt to bridge this gap, EUROPALIA invites around twenty Romanian authors, novelists, poets, dramaturges and philosophers.

A not-to-be-missed guest is **Mircea Cartarescu**, the most translated Romanian writer and one of the most influential literary voices in Eastern Europe. Dramaturge and poet **Matei Visniec** talks to **Jacques De Decker, Adrian Cioroianu, and Baudouin Decharneux** about the matters that connect us in a shared European context.

Transylvanian poet, novelist and essayist **Simona Popescu** is a true connoisseur of the work of surrealist poet Gellu Naum and was previously invited for a literary residence at the Maison d'Amay.

The young **Carmien Michels**, whose writing and stage presence are equally incredible, leaves for Timisoara, a symbol of the anti-communist struggle and, in 2021, the cultural capital of Europe.

A round table discussion about the 30th anniversary of the 1989 revolution will bring together, among others, two emblematic figures of Romanian literature: the great **Gabriela Adamesteanu**, the flag-bearer of the Romanian dissidence and **Ioana Parvulescu**, winner of the 2013 European Union Prize for Literature who dedicated her latest novel 'O voce' to **Monica Lovinescu**, the voice of Radio Free Europe between 1962 and 1992.

A conference about **Tristan Tzara**, one of the founders of the Dada movement, will be an opportunity to rediscover the Romanian and European avant-garde and their Dadaist and Surrealist avatars, in the presence of specialists like **Mica Gherghescu, Michel Carassou, Petre Răileanu and Sebastian Reichmann**.

Franco-Romanian poet and translator **Linda Maria Baros** was given carte blanche by Midis de la Poetry and will bring together four female voices, from three generations, with four different styles in the poetry of **Angela Marinescu, Floarea Tutuianu, Moni Stănilă, and Marta Petreu**.

Poet, translator, and prolific publisher **Jan H. Mysjkin** will present the poets **Irina Nechit, Doina Ioanid, Cosmin Perta, and Teodor Duna**.

The brilliant **Liliana Lazar**, born in the region of Moldova, grew up in the Slobozia forest, and later settled in Paris after the fall of communism. She will share part of her journey as an author with the audience.

With **George Arion** and **Alain Berenboom**, two important voices of the European thriller genre, we will talk about crime novels.

We will of course also pay tribute to **Gherasim Luca**, one of the greatest poets of the twentieth century and commemorate the 25th anniversary of the death of famous poet and writer **Eugène Ionesco**, and celebrate his 110th birthday.

LIBRARIES

In keeping with tradition, many libraries across Belgium will host an exhibition during the festival and organize events linked to Romania: encounters with authors, seminars, culinary afternoons... Romanian authors will be given pride of place.

EUROPALIA ARTS FESTIVAL ROMANIA

Organisation

EUROPALIA ROMANIA FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH THE ROMANIAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE

Nineteen years since its establishment as a self-managed organisation, the Romanian Cultural Institute continues to pursue its mission in cultural diplomacy: to represent, promote and protect the national heritage of Romania all over the world.

The RCI network spreads across three continents and 18 cities: Beijing, Berlin, Brussels, Budapest, Chisinau, Istanbul, Lisbon, London, Madrid, New York, Paris, Prague, Rome, Stockholm, Tel Aviv, Warsaw, Venice and Vienna. Since 2007, the Romanian Cultural Institute has been a member of the European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC), a European partnership of national cultural institutes that invest in transnational projects.

An essential part of RCI's activity is to encourage and support collaboration between Romanian artists or cultural organisations and their counterparts abroad. Our belief is that openness to other cultures, mutual knowledge and interaction foster creativity and the development of each of the parties involved.

The RCI is a model of creativity and communication, an institution that promotes cultural heritage values, while also attracting talented young people and professionals from diverse backgrounds who wish to contribute their outstanding results to the overall cultural diplomacy agenda.

ICR - BUCHAREST :

Liliana Turoiu – President of Romanian Cultural Institute
Daniela Soros – Head of Major Projects Department
Horia Barna – Artistic Director of Europalia Romania
Claudia Lazar – Visual Arts Expert
Alexandru Gligor – Visual Arts Expert
Marina Roman – Performing Arts Expert
Marina Malaia – Performing Arts Expert
Ligia Marin – Music Expert
Catalin Rogojinaru – Music Expert
Andrei Tanasescu – Film Curator
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Simona Chitan – Communication Expert
Claudiu Stefan Marin – RCI representative in the Interinstitutional Working Group
Mirela Carmen Grecu – Director at The Department for Public, Cultural and Scientific Diplomacy, Ministry for Foreign Affairs ; MFE representative in the Interinstitutional Working Group

Andreea Opris – referent at The Department for Public, Cultural and Scientific Diplomacy, Ministry for Foreign Affairs ; MFE representative in the Interinstitutional Working Group

Dan Raneti – Deputy Director at the Department for Policies and Priorities Coordination, General Secretariat of the Government; Government representative in the Interinstitutional Working Group

Monica Giurgiu - Adviser at the Department for Policies and Priorities Coordination, General Secretariat of the Government; Government representative in the Interinstitutional Working Group

Mihai Alexandru Gherghe - Secretary of State, Ministry of Culture; Ministry of Culture representative in the Interinstitutional Working Group

RCI BRUXELLES:

Carmen Ducaru - Director, Romanian Cultural Institute Brussels

The Romanian commissioner general is Ovidiu Sandor (1970), a great collector of contemporary art. He lives and works in Timisoara. He is co-organizer of all of contemporary Romanian Art exhibitions. Since 2005, he has been the founder and chairman of the Art Encounters Foundation. He is, among other things, organizer of the Timisoara Art Encounters Biennial.

EUROPALIA

Every two years since 1969, the EUROPALIA international arts festival invites a country to present its arts, culture, and heritage in Brussels, Belgium, and a number of other locations in Europe. After previous editions dedicated to Italy, France, Germany, Japan, Brazil, China, India, and Indonesia, it is now Romania's turn. The highly-interdisciplinary festival aims to stimulate dialogue between different cultures and consists of a four-month-long series of exhibitions, concerts, film screenings, lectures, scientific symposia, and theatre and dance performances.

EUROPALIA collaborates with nearly one hundred cultural partners in, among other, Brussels. With their help, and that of curators and international experts, the festival reaches a wide audience and compiles an extraordinarily diverse and exciting program; from large-scale retrospectives to innovative video installations, intimate poetry readings, and provocative punk rock nights.

EUROPALIA always chooses the road less travelled and juxtaposes the traditional and the modern, the old and the new, and the renowned and the emerging. The festival never shies away from showcasing new talent, and in dialogue with the guest country, a multitude of artistic residencies and new creations come about.

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Marie-Eve Tesch - Project Coordinator Exhibitions

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Christoph Hammes - Project Coordinator Music, Film

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Ghislaine Peeters - Production team

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Parliament

The Board of Directors of EUROPALIA appointed Baron Vlerick as Commissioner General of EUROPALIA ROMANIA. He is CEO and chairman of UCO and the Vlerick Group. He is active in Romania in various domains and a member or chairman of numerous companies, both in Belgium and Romania.

EUROPALIA — ARTS FESTIVAL — ROMANIA

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