

Magda Radu

Curator / art historian

Salonul de proiecte

Current Position:

Founder, program coordinator, Salonul de proiecte, Bucharest, 2011–present

Curator, Member of the Curatorial Team Timisoara 2023 / Curator, “Connections” Territory, July 2023 – March 2024

Previous:

The National Museum of Contemporary Art Bucharest, curator/museographer, 2004–2016

Education

2014 PhD in art history and theory, Title of doctoral dissertation: *Neo-avant-garde and Artistic Autonomy in the Romanian Art of the 60s and 70s*, The National University of Arts, Bucharest (UNARTE), Supervisor: Prof. Anca Oroveanu, awarded with the distinction “summa cum laude”

2003-2004 MA (DEA), Aesthetics, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

1999-2003 BA, Faculty of Art History and Theory, National University of Arts, Bucharest

Curated exhibitions (selection)

ZONA &, exhibition, discursive platform and performance programme conceived as part of the closing event of Timișoara 2023, MX – “Corneliu Mikloși” Museum of Public Transport, December 2023, curated together with Corina Oprea; exhibition with works from the Zona Festival archive (1992-2002); performance program with SERAFINE1369, ILYICH, Elvissey Pisică, QUARTO and Manuel Pelmuș; <https://continua.timisoara2023.eu/en/focus-corneliu-miklosi/>

Juror and curator of the exhibition Promotion Prize of the Province of Styria for Contemporary Fine Arts 2023, Neue Galerie Graz | UM Joanneum, Graz (Austria), 2023/2024; artists: Julia Gaisbacher, Lena Violetta Leitner, Juliana Lindenhofer, Julius Pristauz, Maruša Sagadin, studio ASYNCHROME, Patrick Winkler

Paul Neagu Retrospective, together with Georg Schöllhammer and Friedemann Malsch, Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein, 2021; Neue Galerie Graz / BRUSEUM, Graz (Austria), 2022; Museum of Art Timișoara (Romania), 2022/2023

Ion Grigorescu: Cinema, KIOSK Ghent, in the framework of the Europalia Festival, 2019/2020

Displacement and Togetherness, Strombeek Cultural Center, Bruxelles, in the framework of the Europalia Festival, 2019, curated together with Alexandra Croitoru and Ștefan Sava; artists: Silvia Amancei & Bogdan Armanu, Filip Berte, Tudor Bratu, Jacques Charlier, Mekhitar Garabedian, Emilio López-Menchero, Vincent Meessen, Christine Meisner, Jimmy Robert, Iulia Toma

Geta Brătescu – *Apparitions*, Romanian Participation at the Venice Biennale, 2017; Romanian Pavilion – Giardini della Biennale and the New Gallery of the Romanian Institute for Culture and Humanistic Research in Venice

Beyond the Concept Frontier, ArtEncounters Biennale, Timișoara, 2017; artists: Horia Bernea, Roman Cotoșman, Ion Grigorescu, Pavel Ilie, Julian Mereuță, Paul Neagu, Eugenia Pop, Decebal Scriba

Geta Brătescu: The Artist's Studios, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León (MUSAC), 2013

Ion Grigorescu: The Curtains of Democracy, PHotoEspaña, Madrid, 2012

Here and Then: Artists at Work, Spinnerei, Leipzig; artists: Alexandra Croitoru & Ștefan Tiron, Ion Grigorescu, Julian Mereuță, Aurelia Mihai, Miklos Onucsan, in the framework of the project *Romanian Cultural Resolution*, 2010

Adrian Ghenie, The National Museum of Contemporary Art (MNAC), Bucharest, 2009-2010.

André Cadere. Peinture sans fin, MNAC, 2008; curator of the Bucharest venue of the exhibition conceived by Karola Graesslin, Astrid Ihle, Bernard Marcelis; organizer of the international symposium *Andrei Cadere: In and Out of the Territory*

Selection of exhibitions and programs **curated in the framework of Salonul de proiecte**, an independent art space focused on the production of new artworks, publications and discursive platforms. Salonul de proiecte was founded in 2011 in the framework of Anexa: The National Museum of Contemporary Art in Bucharest, and since 2016, it has functioned as an independent art space located in Palatul Universul, Bucharest. The team is comprised of: Alexandra Croitoru, Magda Radu, Ștefan Sava; www.salonuldeproiecte.ro

Sediments. The Matter-Image; artists: Andreea Anghel, Marieta Chirulescu, Nicu Ilfoveanu, Jimmy Robert, 2023

Mircea Nicolae. Shards, 2023

Mircea Nicolae. Small Things, Precious Things, Timișoara Garrison, part of the inaugural event of Timișoara 2023 Capital of Culture, 2023

The Journalistic Nature of Existence, exhibition investigating the history of the locus in which the Salonul de proiecte operates, the former Universul printing house, with artworks and materials from the following public collections: The Romanian Academy Library, The National Library of Romania, the ‘Sever Bocu’ Press Museum in Jimbolia, 2022

The Cipher of the Vast Planetary Rumour; artists: Irina Botea Bucan and Jon Dean, Irina Gheorghe, Nicoleta Moise, Larisa Sitar and Natasja Mabesoone, Mona Vătămanu and Florin Tudor, 2022

Artistic Director of the project *The Photographic Image Between Past and Future*, financed with the support of EEA Grants 2014 – 2021 within the RO-CULTURE Programme, June 2020 – November 2021. A project developed in partnership with Fotogalleriet Oslo, it entailed the partial digitization of one of Romania’s most important photographic collections, a series of exhibitions, talks and contemporary art interventions by Andrei Nacu, Linn Pedersen, Susanne Kriemann, Mihai Mihalcea, Matts Leiderstam, Maria Pasenau, Bjarne Bare, Yasmine Eid-Sabbagh, Adrian Ghenie; www.photopastfuture.ro

Evening Classes. Actions by Day and by Night. Conceived in collaboration with Manuel Pelmuș; participants: Pierre Bal-Blanc, Bojana Cvejić, Isabella Maidment, Manuel Pelmuș, Magda Radu, Jimmy Robert, 2018

Situations and Concepts; artists: Horia Bernea, Pavel Ilie, Julian Mereuță, Paul Neagu, Mihai Olos, Decebal Scriba, 2017

The Wretch of the Earth: Mona Vătămanu & Florin Tudor, 2016

Evening Classes. The Curatorial: Between Education and Institution Building; participants: Mona Vătămanu și Florin Tudor, Grupul h.arta, Jelena Vesić, Antonia Alampi, Kate Fowle, Vlad Morariu, The National University of Arts, Bucharest, 2016

Englishes: Lectures, debates and a video premiere; participants: Nicoline van Harskamp, Robert Phillipson, Vincent W.J. van Gerven Oei, Veda Popovici, French Institute, Elvira Popescu Cinema, 2016

Working From Language; artists: Ciprian Mureșan and Enric Fort Ballester, MNAC Anexa, 2015

The Romanian-Bulgarian Union. A Retrospective; artists: Marius Bercea, Dan Beudean, Răzvan Botiș, Rada Boukova, Radu Comșa, Pravdoliub Ivanov, Vikenti Komitski, Ivan Moudov, Vlad Nancă, Krassimir Terziev, 2014/2015, MNAC Anexa

Evening Classes; participants: Ciprian Mureșan, Maria Hlavajova, Sabina Sabolovic (WHW), Ștefan Constantinescu, Olga Ștefan, Dan Acostioaei, Olof Olson, Vladimir Us, 2014, MNAC Anexa

Banu Bar Mixt; artists: Banu Cennetoglu and Napoleon Tiron, 2013/2014, MNAC Anexa

From Fine Arts to the Visual Arts; artists: Matei Bejenaru and Dumitru Oboroc, 2013, MNAC Anexa

Ioana Nemeș: Sometimes We Shouldn't Pretend Everything is OK, 2013, MNAC Anexa

Geta Brătescu: The Artist's Studios, 2012, MNAC Anexa

Piggy Bank; artists: Daniel Knorr and Coate-Goale, 2012, MNAC Anexa

Global without Globalization: From Mathematics to China; artists: Anca Benera and Arnold Estefan, Tudor Bratu, Cristina David, Sebastian Moldovan, Ghenadie Popescu, Anca Munteanu-Rimnic, Cristian Rusu, 2012, MNAC Anexa

The Diplomatic Tent; artists: Anetta Mona Chișa & Lucia Tkáčová, Ion Grigorescu, 2011, MNAC Anexa

Between 2011 and 2016 the *Open Call* program launched by Salonul de proiecte generated eight exhibitions with new works produced by artists at the beginning of their trajectory. The selections were made by the following artists: Anetta Mona Chișa & Lucia Tkáčová, Ciprian Mureșan, Aurelia Mihai, Nicoline van Harskamp, Little Warsaw, Mona Vătămanu & Florin Tudor and Nedko Solakov

Publications

Catalogues and anthologies

Mircea Nicolae. All Alone, eds. Alexandra Croitoru, Magda Radu, Ștefan Sava, Salonul de proiecte and PUNCH Press, Bucharest, forthcoming 2024

Co-editor (with Georg Schöllhammer) of the monograph *Paul Neagu – The Monograph*, JRP|Editions, 2023; with essays by Ivana Bago, David Crowley, Tom Holert, André Lepecki, Friedemann Malsch, Anca Oroveanu, Ileana Pintilie, Magda Radu, Yehuda Emmanuel Safran, Kristine Stiles, and Diana Ursan (English)

Co-editor (with Diana Ursan) of *Geta Brătescu – Apparitions*, publication made in conjunction with the Romanian participation at the Venice Biennale 2017, Koenig Books, London, 2017 (English)

Co-editor (with Anca Oroveanu, Călin Dan, Iosif Király) of the anthology *Art in Romania between 1945-2000. An Analysis and a Reassessment from a Present-day Perspective*, New Europe College, Editura UNARTE and MNAC, 2016 (Romanian)

Co-editor (with Anca Oroveanu) of *Horia Bernea. Notebooks 1969-1976*, Editura MNAC, Bucharest, 2016 (Romanian-English); texts by Sanda Agalides, Călin Dan, Anca Oroveanu (Romanian – English)

Co-editor (with Alexandra Croitoru) of *OPEN CALLS*, an overview of Salonul de proiecte's open call program spanning five years, between 2011 and 2016, Salonul de proiecte Association, 2016 (Romanian-English); texts by Jelena Vesić, Diana Ursan (Romanian – English)

Editor of *subREAL*, MNAC and Verlag für Moderne Kunst Nurnberg, 2015 (Romanian-English); texts by Anca Oroveanu, Sven Spieker, Zoran Eric, Cristian Nae (Romanian – English)

Co-editor of *Dear Money*, Salonul de proiecte Association, 2014 (Romanian-English); texts by Michael Baers, Bogdan Ghiu, Suzana Milevska, Diana Ursan (Romanian – English)

Co-editor of the publication „Sometimes we shouldn't pretend everything is OK”, included in the magazine *IDEA. Arts + Society*, No. 43/2013, texts by Ioana Nemeș, Livia Paldi, Alina Șerban (Romanian-English)

Editor of *André Cadere/Andrei Cădere*, MNAC and Editura UNARTE, Bucharest, 2011; texts by Sanda Agalides, Mica Gherghescu, Magda Radu, Ioana Vlasiu, Simone Neuenschwander; interviews with Jean Le Gac, Yvon Lambert, Anka Ptaszkowska, et al. (Romanian-English)

Co-editor (with Oana Tănase, Nicu Ilfoveanu, Matei Câlția) of *Petite Histoire*, Galeria Posibilă, Bucharest, 2009 (Romanian-English)

Articles and studies (selection)

“Paul Neagu’s Displays”, in *Paul Neagu – The Monograph*, JRP|Editions, 2023

“Miklos Onucsan: Without a Title, or On Creation”, in *Miklós Onucsán*, Mădălina Brașoveanu, Mihnea Mircan eds., Kerber Verlag, 2021

“Turning the tables: émigré artists and the West during the Cold War”, *Studies in Visual Arts and Communication - an international journal*, Vol. 7, No. 1, 2020

“Situations and concepts – ‘a space with an affective discourse’”, *(In)visible frames. Rethorics and experimental exhibition practices in Romanian art between 1965-1989*, Cristian Nae ed.,

IDEA Design & Print, Cluj, 2019

“The Journal of an Exhibition”, in *Geta Brătescu – Apparitions*, Koenig Books, London, 2017

“O contextualizare a lucrărilor timpurii ale lui Paul Neagu” [A Contextualization of Paul Neagu’s Early Works], in *Art in Romania between 1945-2000. An Analysis and a Reassessment from a Present-day Perspective*, 2016

“One or Two Things About Institutions and the Necessity of Their Preservation, in *Open Calls*, 2016 (Romanian-English)

“Sigma at ArtEncounters”, *Arta*, No. 14-15/2015

“UAP [The Union of Artists] Between Systems: Contradiction, Divisions and Caesuras”, *IDEA Arts + Society*, No. 48, 2015 (Romanian-English)

“Paul Neagu: Anthropocosmos”, in *Paul Neagu: Palpable Sculpture*, exh. cat., Lisa Le Feuvre ed., Henry Moore Institute, Leeds, 2015

“Funding”, in *Curatorial Dictionary*, a web-platform developed by tranzit.hu/Budapest, Hungary. Available at: <http://tranzit.org/curatorialdictionary/index.php/dictionary/funding/>

“Magda Radu in Conversation with Adrian Ghenie”, in *Adrian Ghenie: Darwin's Room*, Hatje Cantz, Ostfildern, 2015 (English); republished in *Adrian Ghenie: Darwin's Room*, Mihai Pop and Corina Șuteu (eds.), Humanitas, Bucharest, 2015

“Somewhere, Something Is at Stake”, in *Ioana Nemeș: Artist Book*, Alina Șerban ed., Spector Books, Leipzig and Asociația Pepluspatru, Bucharest, 2014

“Geta Brătescu and the Transnational Narratives in the Making”, in *artevida*, exh. cat., Adriano Pedrosa ed., Editura Cobogo, Sao Paolo, 2015

“Geta Brătescu: Reflexivity”, in *Geta Brătescu: The Studio*, Alina Șerban ed., Sternberg Press, Berlin, 2013

“What We Think about the Object is Far More Important Than its Making: Some Notes on Horia Bernea’s Early Works”, *Artmargins* 2:3, MIT Press, 2013

“André Cadere /Andrei Cădere”, in *The Desire for Freedom: Art in Europe since 1945*, exh. cat., Deutsches Historisches Museum, Berlin, 2012

“Here and Then: Artists at Work” and „Conversation with Ion Grigorescu”, in *Romanian Cultural Resolution*, exh. cat., Hatje Cantz, 2011

“Ion Grigorescu: Contextual Biography”, in *Ion Grigorescu: In the Body of the Victim*, Marta Dziewanska ed., Museum of Modern Art Warsaw, University of Chicago Press, 2010 (Polish-English)

“Essential Particles”, *IDEA. Arts + Society*, No. 33-34/2010 (Romanian-English)

“Interview with Adrian Ghenie”, *Flash Art*, No. 269/2009

“André Cadere: Promenades and Refrains”, *Flash Art*, No. 266/2009

Dada East, review of Tom Sandqvist's, *Dada East: The Romanians of Cabaret Voltaire*, *Artmargins* online, October 2007.

Teaching

2015-2016, the course “Curatorial Studies”, UNARTE Bucharest

2011-2016, the course “Introduction to Contemporary Art”, UNARTE Bucharest

2010-2016, the course “Eastern European Art under Communism: The Romanian Case”, implemented in the framework of the Patterns_Lectures program, supported by Erste Foundation, Vienna, and Wus Austria, UNARTE Bucharest

2005-2013, seminars of aesthetics and philosophy, UNARTE Bucharest

2005-2011, seminars of modern and contemporary art, UNARTE Bucharest

Conferences and Talks (selection)

Participation in the international seminar “The Captive Mind”, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (Us), 2020

“Turning the Tables: Émigré Artists and the Cold War”, international conference *Exhibitions as Sites of Artistic Contact during the Cold War*, 2019 | The George Enescu National University of Arts, Iași (Ro)

“Performance in Romania: History and Current Discourse”, Salonul de proiecte, Bucharest, May 2018, in the framework of *Evening Classes. Actions by Day and by Night*

“Towards a New Vocabulary: Art History and the Socialist Period”, COST Action: CA16213, New Exploratory Phase in Research on East European Cultures of Dissent, 2018, Institute of Czech Literature of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague

“Paul Neagu: Anthropocosmos”, ArtEncounters, Museum of Art, Timișoara, October 2015

Conversation with Klara Kemp-Welch and Eleanor Clayton about the art of Geta Brătescu, Tate Liverpool, October 2015

Conference and participation in the workshop *Curatorial Dictionary: Case Studies*, Free School for Art Theory and Practice, tranzit.hu/Budapesta, March 2015

International conference *Artevida*, Biblioteca Parque Estadual, Rio de Janeiro, September 2014, organized by Adriano Pedrosa and Rodrigo Moura.

“Paul Neagu: From Body to Sculpture”, *After Brancusi* symposium, George Oprescu Institute of Art History, Bucharest, October 2013

“Salonul de proiecte: an Overview”, *Good Girls* symposium, organized by Bojana Pejic, MNAC Bucharest, October 2013

“A Contextualisation of Paul Neagu's Early Works: from *Neagu's Boxes* to the *Palpable Art Manifesto*”, Henry Moore Institute, Leeds, October 2012

“Horia Bernea's Notebooks”, *Material Meanings* international conference, University of Kent, organized by European Network for Avant-Garde and Modernism Studies (EAM), Canterbury (UK), September 2012

“Conceptual Art and the Writing of Art History”, Clark Seminar, New Europe College Bucharest, May 2013

Grants/fellowships

Participation in the project COST – New Exploratory Phase in Research on East European Cultures of Dissent COST ACTION CA16213 (2017–2021)

FOCUS Arts Visuel, November 2017, curatorial research trip in France, organized by the French Institute and Direction Générale de La Création Artistique, le Service des Arts Plastiques, Ministry of Culture and Communication, France

Artis Travel & Research Grant, curatorial research trip in Israel, April-May 2015

Getty Travel Grant for participation at the CIMAM Congress, Doha, Qatar, November 2014

GE-NEC III Fellowship, New Europe College, March 2010-February 2011

Grant Patterns_Lectures, Erste Foundation and WUS Austria for the implementation of the course "Eastern European Art under Communism: The Romanian Case" at UNARTE Bucharest in the academic year 2010/2011

Part of the UNARTE team for the CNCSIS project, Art, Urban Communities, Mobilization (ACUM), 2006-2009, in partnership with „Ion Mincu” University of Architecture and Urbanism in Bucharest