



The eighth edition of Balkan Trafik! is bound to be a festive occasion once more, with concerts, films, discussions, and workshops relating to south-eastern Europe. This year the festival broadens its horizons to include, for the first time, groups from Ukraine and Poland and will also include special focuses on Roma culture and original Balkan jazz. The festival headliners are Mahala Rai Banda, with special guest singer Jony Iliev, along with Turkish icon Selda Bağcan, the Macedonian gypsy queen Esma Redžepova, the Greek living legend George Dalaras, and an original show entitled *Femmes des Balkans*. To make the Balkan experience complete, you can drop in at any hour of the day or night to the Rembetiko Kafé or the brand new Istanbul Meyhane, a traditional bar in authentic 1920s style! **But first of all a Focus on the Romanian Artists at the Festival !**

FRIDAY 02.05.2014

Mahala Rai Banda & Jony Iliev (RO | BG)

Salle Henry Le Boeuf - 22:45 > 23:45

The eleven-strong Gypsy-funk band Mahala Rai Banda has set venues alight worldwide. Their stirring music comes straight from Bucharest's Gypsy quarters and blends edgy brass with raw violin and melodic accordion sounds. The band performs dance numbers rooted in tradition but with added touches of dub, soul, and characteristically Arab sounds. You almost certainly know their 2007 summer hit, [Mahalageasca](#), an infectious remix of the Balkan god Shantel. Try standing still – impossible!

<http://www.asphalt-tango.de/banda/artist.html>

Grigore Leșe (RO)

Salle M - 18:15 > 19:15

Grigore Leșe is Romania's most important folk artist, known for singing with the "horea din grumaz", an extraordinary vocal technique that translates as "singing from the throat". Not only is Leșe a star in his homeland: he has also won fame abroad and has represented Romanian music at many international festivals.

<http://www.tedxbucharest.ro/kotki-visuals-more-details-2/> video <http://youtu.be/go4J1bH1WK0>

DJ Click ft. Tziganiada (FR | RO)

Vino Zirkus - 00:45 > 03:30 (Friday 02.05.2014)

Vino Zirkus - 01:15 > 03:30 (Saturday 03.05.2014)

Whether on his own or accompanied by musicians, DJ Click captivates all-comers with his compelling performances. He explores the riches of a variety of cultures, combines them, and does his own thing with them until he gets everyone up dancing. Here he will be joined by Tziganiada, Romanian multi-instrumentalists from Gypsy families for whom the music of their region holds no secrets. Together, they present their take on traditional genres such as *hora* and *sirba*, combined with a dash of electronica.

<http://www.nofridge.com/> Video <http://youtu.be/MrCHpCte60Y>

SUNDAY 04.05.2014

ROMANIAN FILM DAY

The closing day of Balkan Trafik is all about film. You can take a master class in Romanian cinema with **Dominique Nasta**, a professor of film studies; her book *Contemporary Romanian Cinema: The History of an Unexpected Miracle* will be launched on the same occasion. You can also take in a conversation with the acclaimed Romanian director and screenwriter **Corneliu Porumboiu** about his film career and see a selection of his films.

14:00 @ STUDIO

Masterclass by Dominique Nasta (ULB): *Romanian new wave and European cinema: friends of long standing?*

Dominique Nasta is Professor of Film Studies at the Université Libre de Bruxelles. She has published two books, *Meaning in Film* (1991) and *New Perspectives in Sound Studies* (with Didier Huvelle, 2004), as well as numerous essays and encyclopedia chapters on Romanian films and directors.

Language: FR

16:00 @ SMOKING ROOM

Book Launch: *Contemporary Romanian Cinema: The History of An Unexpected Miracle*

Over the last decade, audiences worldwide have become familiar with highly acclaimed films from the Romanian New Wave such as *4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days* (2007), *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu* (2005), and *12:08 East of Bucharest* (2006). However, the hundred or so years of Romanian cinema leading to these accomplishments have been largely overlooked. This book is the first to provide in-depth analyses of essential works ranging from the silent period to contemporary productions. In addition to relevant information on historical and cultural factors influencing contemporary Romanian cinema, this volume covers the careers of daring filmmakers who approached various genres despite fifty years of Communist censorship. An important chapter is dedicated to Lucian Pintilie, whose seminal work, *Reconstruction* (1969), strongly inspired Romania's 21st-century innovative output. The book's second half closely examines both the 'minimalist' trend (Cristian Mungiu, Cristi Puiu, Corneliu Porumboiu, Radu Muntean) and the younger, but no less inspired, directors who have chosen to go beyond the 1989 revolution paradigm by dealing with the complexities of contemporary Romania.

17:00 @ STUDIO

***Liviu's Dream*, by Corneliu Porumboiu** (2004, 39', subtitles : FR)

"Liviu's Dream" tells the story of a young man who was born by mistake. That is, to be precise, by the fault of a communist decree which was forbidding abortions.

The movie was inspired by a real event. In 1966, in the communist era, Ceausescu, the former dictator, gave a decree which was forbidding abortions. Because of it, many unwanted children were born and young people were forced to form unhappy families. Recent statistics show that 4 million young people were born because of this decree. "Liviu's Dream" is the story of such a young man.

18:00 @ STUDIO

Screen Talk with Corneliu Porumboiu

Corneliu Porumboiu was born in 1975 in Vaslui. He studied film at the I.L.Caragiale University in Bucharest and received his degree in 2003. The two short films he directed that same year drew international attention: *A Trip to the City* (Cinéfondation's second prize in 2004), followed by *Liviu's Dream*. In his first feature film, *12:08 East of Bucharest*, Porumboiu offers a very humorous view of Romania's 1989 revolution. The film was presented in Cannes at the Directors' Fortnight in 2006 and won the Caméra d'Or. Corneliu Porumboiu carried on subtly combining his work on cinematic form with a dissection of the Romanian society in *Police, Adjective*, selected for *Un Certain Regard* in 2009 (Jury Prize and Fipresci Prize). Porumboiu's trademark humour and deconstruction of the real continue in his film, *When Evening Falls on Bucharest or Metabolism*, which charts the making of a film through the romantic/analytic relationship between the director and lead actress.

Language : FR

>>>Screen Talk: [free upon presentation of a ticket for one of the films or the masterclass.](#)

19:30 @ HALL M

Première of *Metabolism*, by Corneliu Porumboiu (2013, 89', subtitles : EN)

It's the middle of a film shoot and Paul, the director, is having an affair with Alina, an actress playing a supporting role. With Alina's last day on set imminent, Paul decides to rewrite the script in order to shoot a nude scene with her. But tomorrow is always another day. Paul wakes up in the morning and decides not to shoot the scene after all. Instead, he calls the producer and tells her he's having problems with his ulcer...

Testament to the New Romanian Cinema's continued interest in exploring the relationships between reality, cinema, and truth, Porumboiu's directorial evolution becomes evident in the way he reduces cinema to its simplest form. Employing an acute sense of framing and awareness of time, Dumitrache and Avramut's performances are blended with the *mise en scène*, and shot with natural beauty by Tudor Mircea. Dense with meaning in every frame, *When Evening Falls on Bucharest or Metabolism* delivers a thought-provoking rumination on our engagement with reality through cinema.

Info & Tickets:

www.balkantrafik.com

Centre for Fine Arts, Rue Ravenstein 23 1000 Bruxelles

[+32 \(0\)2 507 82 00](tel:+3225078200) - tickets@bozar.be

With special thanks: [Romanian Cultural Institute Brussels](#) and [Embassy of Romania to the Kingdom of Belgium](#)