



**COSTEL SAFIRMAN** is a film critic, a historian and documentary film director. He studied literature and literary criticism at University of Bucharest, and theatre and film at the Bucharest Theatre and Film Institute. After he worked in Romania as a book editor, film researcher, producer and documentary film director, he immigrated to Israel. He served as the Head of Research and Documentation Department of the Jerusalem Film Centre and a member of the Jerusalem International Film Festival staff. In cooperation with the late historian Dr. Leon Volovici, he has been organizing, since 1993, the Jerusalem Romanian Cultural Center (Cercul Cultural din Ierusalim), its purpose being to facilitate the spiritual bridging between the Romanian and Israeli cultures.



**RIRI SYLVIA MANOR** was born in Bucharest. She studied medicine in Romania until she came to Israel in 1960, where she continued her medical studies and later on received the title of professor in ophthalmology and neuro-ophthalmology. She has published 3 collections of poetry in Romania, as well as articles and translations from Hebrew into Romanian and vice versa. She is a member of the Israeli Union of Hebrew Writers, of the General Union of Israeli Writers and of the Romanian Union of Writers and of the Romanian PEN-Club and she has been awarded the prizes „Ofier Lider” in Israel and „Lucian Blaga” in Romania. Her poems have been translated into Arabic, English, French, Russian, Italian and Albanian. Her recent poetry collection, *Still* (2013, Tracus Arte Publishing House), has been awarded the 2014 Romanian Author in Diaspora Prize of the Association of Literary Publications and Publishing Houses in Romania.

### Romanian Cultural Institute in Tel Aviv

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## THE PROGRAM OF THE ROMANIAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE AT THE 2015 JERUSALEM INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR

### I. LITERARY CAFÉ (in English)

Monday, 09.02.2015, at 20:00, the Gallery of the Jerusalem First Station

- **"Tension in the Air" - World Crime Literature, Origins and Future.** Participants: Dror A. Mishani (Israel) and Bogdan Hrib (Romania) – *organized by the Romanian Cultural Institute in Tel Aviv*

### II. BOOK LAUNCHES AND PRESENTATIONS AT THE ROMANIAN STAND (in Romanian and English)

Monday, 09.02.2015

- **14.00 – 14.30 “Virgil Duda – vocation and literary consciousness”.** Greetings: Bogdan Popescu, director of the National Book Center - Romanian Cultural Institute. Participant: Sorina Chiper (in Romanian) – *organized by the Romanian Cultural Institute*
- **14.30 – 15.00 “The «minor» genres vs. Mainstream in contemporary Romanian literature. On esthetic trends and editorial policies.”** Moderator: Sorina Chiper. Participants: Horia Gârbea, playwright and poet, and Bogdan Hrib, editor and crime literature author (in English) – *organized by the Romanian Cultural Institute*

Tuesday, 10.02.2015

- **16.00 – 16.30 “Black and Red by Ioan T. Morar – round table and book launch”.** Participants: Dr. Raphael Vago, historian; Riri Sylvia Manor, writer; Ioan T. Morar, author (in Romanian) – *organized by the Romanian Cultural Institute*
- **16.30 – 17.00 “Still by Riri Manor – book presentation”.** Participants: Riri Sylvia Manor, author; Ioan T. Morar, writer. (in Romanian) – *organized by the Romanian Cultural Institute*

Wednesday, 11.02.2015

- **13.00 – 13.45 “A world seen from Jerusalem. Other meetings at the Jerusalem Cultural Center 2007-2013 - book launch”.** Participants: Costel Safirman, Moshe Idel (in Romanian) – *organized by the Romanian Cultural Institute*



**BOGDAN HRIB** was born on 14 December 1966 in Bucharest. After graduating civil engineering in Bucharest, Bogdan Hrib embarked on a varied career encompassing the professions of photographer, journalist (from 1991), advertising agency director (1992) and book editor (from 1993). Bogdan Hrib's debut as a crime fiction writer came in 2007 with *Filiera grecească* (*The Greek Connection*), the first book in the Stelian Munteanu series. It was followed by *Blestemul manuscrisului* (*The Curse of the Manuscript*, 2008, co-author with Razvan Dolea), *Somalia, Mon Amour* (2009), *Ucideți generalul* (March 2011), translated and published by Profusion Publishers as *Kill the General* (November 2011). The most recent book authored by Bogdan Hrib is *Ultima fotografie* (*The Last Photography*, 2012 - not a crime fiction work). Since 2008, Bogdan Hrib has been the editorial director of Crime Scene Publishing in Bucharest. He is the director and organizer of the International Mystery & Thriller Festival in Rasnov (2011-2014), as well as the PR coordinator of the History Film Festival in Rasnov (from 2011). This year, the novel *The Greek Connection*, the English translation of his debut novel, will be published by Mosaic Press from Toronto, Canada.



**HORIA GÂRBEA** was born on 10 August 1962 in Bucharest. He holds a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering and is a professor at the University of Agronomic Science and Veterinary Medicine in Bucharest. He made his literary debut in 1982 with poetry. After 1989, he was very active as a publicist and author, publishing poetry, prose, theatre, literary and theatrical reviews and essays. He is very prolific as a playwright, 14 of his plays being staged both nationally, in Romania, as well as, worldwide in Great Britain, France and Serbia. He is a member of the Union of Romanian Writers, the Romanian Association of Theatre Artists and PEN Club Romania. He has translated and adapted for stage numerous plays from internationally acclaimed playwrights such as W. Shakespeare, Pierre Corneille, S. I. Witkiewicz, Fernando Arrabal, A.P. Cehov, Dario Fo, Marivaux and so on. He is the recipient of literary awards such as: three national awards for the novel *Căderea Bastiliei* (1998), the Union of Romanian Writers Award for Drama (1999), Romanian Academy Award for Drama (2001) and the "Andrei Bantas" Award of the Union of Romanian Writers for the translation of the volume *Shakespeare - Opere*, vol. IV, together with George Volceanov and Violeta Popa. He is currently the president of the Bucharest Drama Department of the Union of Romanian Writers.



**IOAN T. MORAR** was born on 13 April 1956. He studied Romanian and French at the Philology Faculty of Timișoara University, graduating top of his year in 1981. In 1987 he became an editor for "Viața Studențească" and "Amfiteatru" magazines. Between 1990- 1991 he was editor in chief of the Romanian Television's show "Variatăți". He was a founding member of the "Academia Cațavencu" satirical weekly. Between 2004 and 2009 he was also a senior editor at the "Cotidianul" newspaper. He is a member of the Union of Romanian Writers. His collections of poetry include: *Indian Summer* (Albatros, Bucharest, 1984; winner of the Union of Romanian Writers Prize for Debut); *Smoke and Sword* (Cartea Românească, Bucharest, 1989), *Vacillation* (Brumar, Timisoara, 2000; winner of the Union of Romanian Writers Poetry Prize); *Shamelessness* (Brumar, Timisoara, 2003), and *Pallor* (Brumar, Timisoara, 2010). His poems have been translated into English, French, Polish, Spanish and Hungarian and have appeared in anthologies and cultural magazines. He is also the author of novels such as *Lindenfeld* (2005, 2006, 2013; winner of the Ziarul de Iași National Prize for Prose; it has been made into a feature film, directed by Radu Gabrea), the travel journal *Book from the World's End. New Caledonia: One Step from Paradise* (2007) and *Black and Red* (2013; nominated for the Book of the Year 2013 National Award).



**SORINA CHIPER** is a lecturer of Business English at the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iasi, Romania, and a Fulbright Ambassador of the same institution. Throughout her academic career, she has received numerous scholarships at various prestigious universities such as the University of Copenhagen, Konstanz University, University of California at Berkeley, Central European University, the University of Graz and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Her Ph.D. dissertation was ranked first among the dissertations defended in the academic year 2011-2012, and was awarded a prize by the Romanian Association of American Studies. Her current research focuses on transnational memory among Israeli authors who write in Romanian.



**MOSHE IDEL** was born in 1947, in Târgu-Neamț. Professor of Jewish Thought at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and researcher at the Shalom Hartman Institute, Moshe Idel holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy with a specialization in Kabbalah. In 1999 he was awarded the Israel Prize for Excellency in the field of Jewish Thought. He is the author of numerous studies and books such as: *The Mystical Experience in Abraham Abulafia* (1987), *Kabbalah: New Perspectives* (1988), *Hasidism: Between Ecstasy and Magic* (1995), *Messianic Mystics* (1998), *Absorbing Perfections: Kabbalah and Interpretation* (2002), *Kabbalah and Eros* (2005), *Ascensions on High in Jewish Mysticism: Pillars, Lines, Ladders* (2005), *Old Worlds, New Mirrors: On Jewish Mysticism and Twentieth-Century Thought* (2012), *Saturn's Jews: On the Witches' Sabbath and Sabbateanism* (2013), *Mircea Eliade: From Magic to Myth* (2014) and *Kabbalah: A Neurocognitive Approach to Mystical Experiences* (2015).