

The artist's role in society has changed dramatically. From a good life and a certain influence (due to propagandistic reasons) in the free market-to-be society, the place and the role of the visual artist have become obscure and obsolete.

Romanian culture is a written culture. The writer is a symbol for culture and art. Romania's dissidents were writers while in today's political life you can find writers too (leading parties or influential political newspapers).

In the public space there's no visible visual artist.

There are no art market and no commercial galleries. There is no Museum of Contemporary Art, and the alternative art institutions are still a dream. The frame in which the visual artist exists has become smaller and insignificant.

Even artists with an international career make a living doing different jobs, mostly not connected with arts.

Forced by the way society develops and by their own habits, visual artists disappear at the peripheria. Their ideas are addressed to a decreasing audience and a small number of institutions interested in art (mainly state owned).

Counting on Western support is a schizophrenic strategy (working for a context and living in another). Although there's help (and a certain confidence) Western recognition is scarce. The offer is small and the available spots are limited and not very important. Not to mention that the Western art system is also closed and mostly commercially orientated.

In order to survive as an artist you have to make waves. To go public.

Dan PERJOVSCHI

PRESS

Since 1990 I have collaborated to a number of Romanian newspapers and magazines.

Since 1992 I have been on the staff of "22" magazine, one of the most influential national weekly publications.

Here I draw and I write. My drawings are extremely political and subversive. My texts too.

Through "22" magazine I have become a public figure and I have access to different levels of the society. In the last 10 years I gave over 50 interviews (and I wrote many texts for more than 20 other publications). I have published more than 200 drawings.

There is no difference between my art and my newspaper activity.

Dan PERJOVSCHI
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