## **ABOUT OUR GUESTS**

ELISABETA BOSTAN - In her long career, spanning over 40 years, Elisabeta Bostan stands out with her films for children, her musical films and art documentaries, most of which are remarkable for their affinity and understanding of the child's spirit. The most famous among her films are the ones dedicated to child-heroes (Năică, Veronica) and those which represent cinematographic adaptations to classical tales (*Mama*, *Fram*, the Polar Bear). The Clowns, which is included in the present retrospective, was greatly appreciated by its viewers and highly awarded both in Romania and abroad. We mention, as well, Youth without Aging and Veronica, as well as The Champion, finished in 1990, and award winner at numerous international film festivals, among which Cairo, Montreal and Bruxelles. As teacher of film directing she greatly contributed to the formation of new generations of filmmakers. Elisabeta Bostan participated as a member and president of jury in several important international film festivals.

CRISTINA CORCIOVESCU is a Romanian film critic and film historian. She is President of the Romanian Association of Film Critics and member in various FIPRESCI juries (Berlin, Mannheim, Moscow, Valladolid, Sofia, Viareggio, Cottbus and Ankara). She is the author of many books, most of which are film dictionaries, such as: "1234 Romanian Filmmakers", "The World of Cinema" and "Cinema: More Than a Century" and she is the chief editor of several monthly publications: "Cinema Documentation Notebook" (1968-1987), "ProCinema" (1995-1999) and "Cinema" (2002). As a freelancer she writes film reviews and articles about Romanian and foreign cinema in "Time Out Bucharest", "Bucharest Hebdo", and "HBO Revue".

**LAURENŢIU DAMIAN** was born in Giurgiu, in 1956. He is considered to be one of the main figures of Romanian documentary film. Both as a creator and as a teacher, he consistently contributed to the development of this chapter of Romanian cinema. During his career he created a series of documentaries revealing Romanian artists and writers, such as *Bitzan – In the Labyrinth* (1997), *A Self-Portrait on an Autumn Leaf – Ion Tuculescu* (1999), *So Much Silence Around* – Lucian Blaga (1999) and *Constantin Brancusi: The column or the lesson on Infinity* (2001). His film *Maria Tănase* (1986) was censored on political grounds during the communist times, then recovered and released after 1990. His filmography also includes two important feature films, *Forgotten by God* (Rămânerea,1991) and *The Way of the Dogs* (1992), selected in international film festivals.

**IOSIF DEMIAN** was born in Oradea in 1941 and became one of Romania's great filmmakers in the '70s. He collaborated with film directors Dan Piţa and Mircea Veroiu on the films *The Stone Wedding* (winner of the Oscar and Award for best photography at Ciudad de Panama) and *Gold Fever*, thus announcing the birth of a new generation of Romanian filmmakers. In 1980, he directed *A Girl's Tear* (selected at Cannes), followed by *Rainbow Balloons*, *To Kill a Bird of Pray* and *The Kid*. He continued his activity in Australia after 1985, as a teacher of cinematography at the Australian School of Cinema, Radio and Television, as a cinematographer (The 2000 Sydney Olympics directed by Bud Greenspan) and as a film director and producer. losif Demian made 22 motion pictures and over 100 documentaries, short films, clips, video and television productions as a director, cinematographer, producer, editor and writer.

**HANNO HÖFER** was born in 1967 in Timişoara, and is considered to be an excentric figure in Romanian performing art, music and film. He received awards in festivals like Munchen, Montpellier, Clérmont-Ferrand and Dakino for his films *International phonecall*, *Beyond* and *Humanitarian Aid*.

ANAMARIA MARINCA graduated from the University of Fine Arts, Music and Drama "George Enescu" in lasi, where she also taught for four years. Her work for the theater has included productions in Romania and the UK. She first came to public attention in 2005 when she won the "Best Actress" BAFTA award for her performance in the British Channel 4 TV mini-series Sex Traffic by David Yates. Her performance in the Golden Palm-winning drama 4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days brought her in 2007 a nomination as "Best European Actress" at the 20th European Film Awards in Berlin and the "Best Actress" prize from the jury of the Stockholm International Film Festival. Anamaria worked with Francis Ford Coppola on Youth without Youth, and played roles in Radu Muntean's Boogie and in Julie Delpy's latest feature, The Countess.

MAGDA MIHĂILESCU is a film critic and film historian. As a member of the Cinematographers' Union in Romania and of FIPRESCI, she collaborates with the major film journals and professional publications in the field of cinema in Romania and abroad (Italy, France), and is hosted as an expert on television and radio shows. She published a series of books on filmmakers, among which we note: "All These Smile-less Giocondas: Discussions with Malvina Ursianu", collaborator in "Lucian Pintilie – Guardare in Faccia il Male" and "François Truffaut – a Man who Loved Films" (in process). She is often invited to participate as member of jury at numerous important film festivals, such as the ones of Cannes, Montreal, Valladolid, Thessaloniki. Torino, Cracovia, Clérmont-Ferrand, Bordeaux and in Romania - Dakino, Cinemaiubit and Anonimul.

**COPEL MOSCU** was born in Piatra Neamt in 1953, and graduated from the Institute of Theater and Cinematography Art in 1978, after which he worked at the Al. Sahia film studio in Bucharest. He created over 50 short and long documentary films, as director and screenplay writer, among which we note: *The Evening School, On the Ozan Shore, My Beloved School, The Bronze Age, A Day Will Come*, and *I Chose Freedom*. Copel Moscu was awarded over 25 national and international prizes. In 2007, he published the essay "Film in the Digital Era". He teaches film directing at the National University of Theater and Cinema in Bucharest (UNATC) and video-art at Bucharest Art University (UNARTE), and is referred to as an artistic consultant for television and cinema.

CRISTIAN MUNGIU was born in lasi, in 1968, and is currently one of the most important creators of the Romanian New Wave in cinema. He began his artistic career with several short films such as Zapping, Mariana and The Hand of Paulista. His feature film Occident (1992) was officially selected for "Director's Fortnight" at Cannes and awarded in several film festivals such as Montpellier, Leeds, Sofia (FIPRESCI Prize) and Thessaloniki. His Palme d'or award winner 4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days became a major international hit.

**DAN PITA** was born in Dorohoi in 1938, and is considered to be among the most prominent and professional figures in Romanian cinematography. As director, screenplay writer and producer, he took significant part in the making of a series of films of great importance to Romanian cinematography. He stood out as a teacher as well, thus contributing immensely to the formation of the new generation of cinematographers in Romania. In 1970, he collaborated with other peers of his generation on the making of the documentary film *The Water* as a *Black Buffalo*. Alongside Mircea Veroiu, he later created *The Stone Wedding*, a film based on the writings of classic Romanian author Ion Agirbiceanu, a work which affirms his status as one of the most interesting representatives of the new wave of cinematographers. He created, along his career, many other films, all highly appreciated as much by the viewers as by international film critics. We note among these films: *Gold Fever*, *The Contest*, *Sandy Boardwalks*, *Paso Doble*, *November-the Last Ball*, *Hotel de Lux*, *Pepe and Fifi* and *The man of the Day*.

