

## THE ODD YEAR

**Anca Poterasu Gallery at litost Gallery, Prague**  
**Preview on Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> 2020**

**Artists:** Dragoș Bădiță, Irina Botea Bucan, Iulian Bisericaru, Matei Bejenaru, Megan Dominescu, Sebastian Hosu, Adelina Ivan, Aurora Király, Olivia Mihălțianu, Alexandru Solomon.

The artists reflect on how time moves differently amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, focusing primarily on the psychology of isolation as our minds and bodies are confronted with the shifting limitations of space.

The show revolves around the artists' studios or the otherwise familiar settings of their homes, with works created during the lockdown in various mediums and techniques, from photography to textile arts, from painting to drawing and video. The exhibition is structured as a journal of changes, adaptation and reaction through which the artistic process reveals its intimate exchange with the world at large and inner impulses.

With the kind support of the [Romanian Cultural Institute Prague](#)



**Aurora Király**

*Soft Drawings: Subconscious Narratives, Self Portrait as Pierrot, 2020*  
felt, cotton, mesh, 49 x 60 cm



**Aurora Király**

*Soft Drawings: Subconscious Narratives, Contours, 2020*

felt, cotton, mesh, 49 x 60 cm



**Aurora Király**

*Soft Drawings: Subconscious Narratives, Days Passing By, 2020*

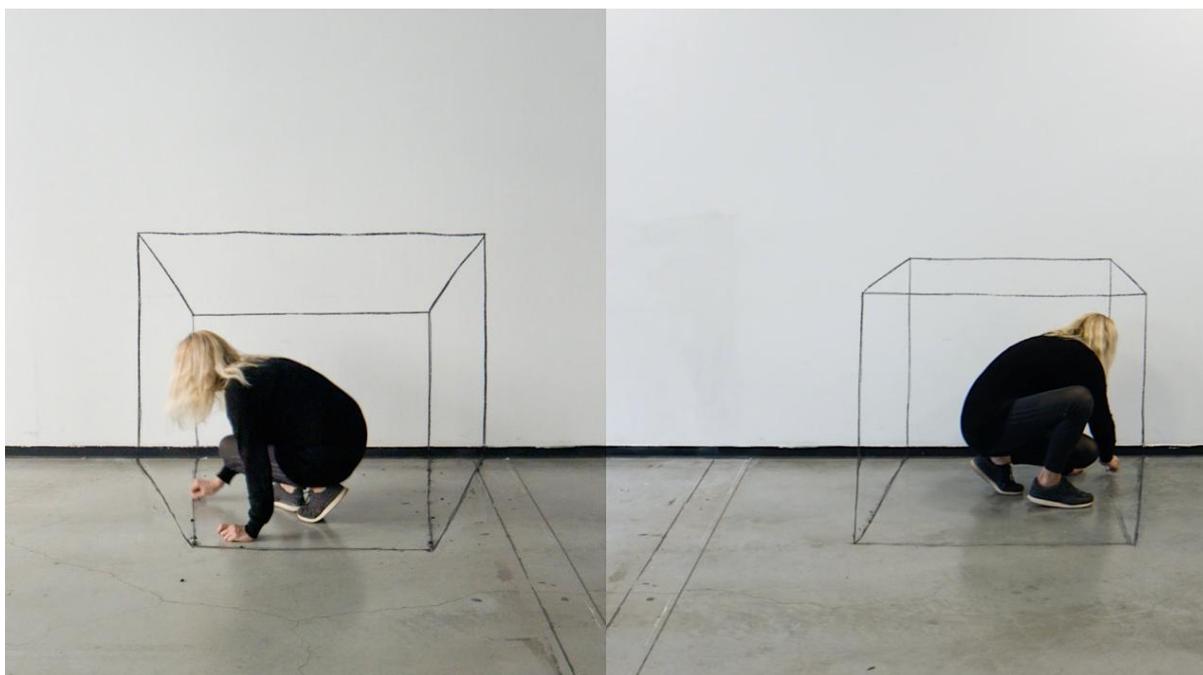
felt, cotton, mesh, 49 x 60 cm



**Aurora Király**

*Soft Drawings: Subconscious Narratives, Warrior Pose, 2020*

felt, cotton, mesh, 49 x 60 cm



**Adelina Ivan**

*Left Cube, Right Cube*, 2020

Full HD 16:9

03'39"



**Dragoș Bădiță**

*Diana*, 2020

oil on wood, 53.5 x 73.5 cm



**Dragoș Bădiță**

*Journal*, 2020

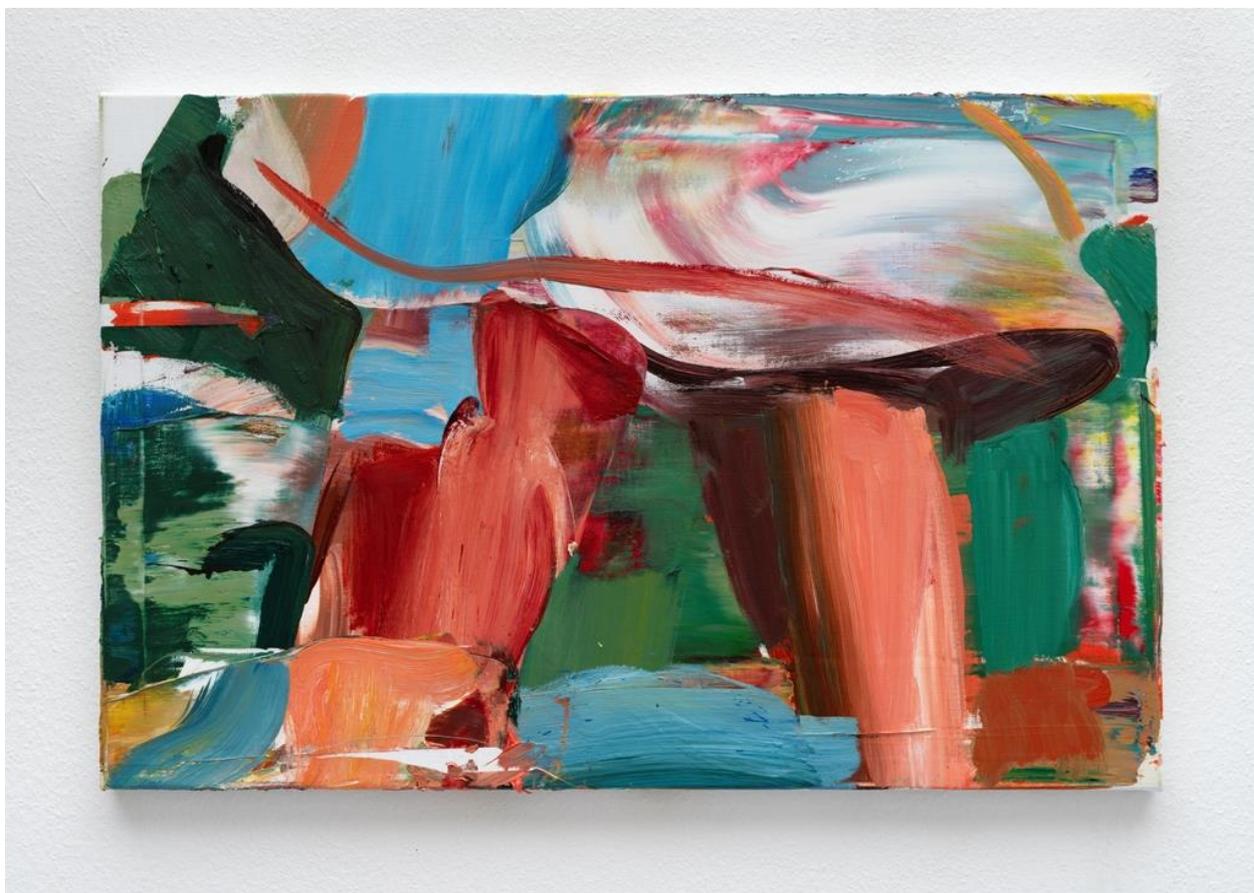
ink on paper, 21 x 30 cm



**Iulian Biserițaru**

*Damussi in Panteleria*, 2020

oil on canvas, 100 x 140 cm



**Sebastian Hosu**

*Player II*, 2020

oil on canvas, 65 x 100 cm



**Megan Dominescu**

*Anxiety has many faces*, 2020

wool and acrylic rug hooking, 43 x 62 cm



**Megan Dominescu**

*Botox*, 2020

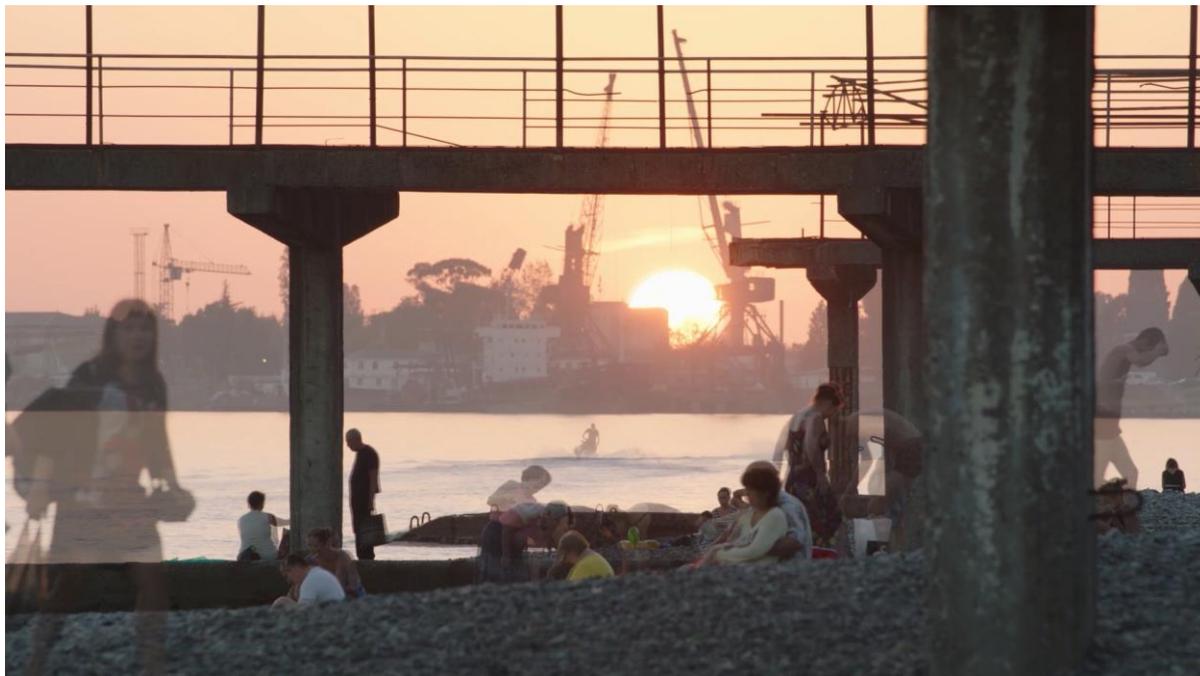
acrylic rughooking, 43 x 62 cm



**Megan Dominescu**

*Yes, this is the manager speaking*, 2020

woold and acrylic crocheted tapestry, 55 x 85 cm



**Alexandru Solomon**  
*Recycled Travels*, 2020  
HD, 16:9, 25FPS  
10'

produced by Hi Film Productions

this project is part of the "Cinem@Casă" section of the European Film Festival, 2020

camera: Radu Gorgos, Andrei Butică, Alexandru Solomon.

with an excerpt from Xavier de Maistre's essay „Voyage around my room”

A lockdown meditation - based on old pictures from a monkey colony in the Caucasus, some even older shots from the Bucharest and a few new images from home, plus some texts from a 18th century French gentleman called Xavier de Maistre.



**Materi Bejenaru**

*High Voltage Lab at the Technical University in Iasi, Romania 01 2011*, Printed in 2020

artist print, 42 x 60 cm

The image is part of a series of photographs printed by the artist and included in Portfolio 1  
Ed. 9 + 2AP

*Between two worlds* is a photo archive documenting Romanian museums, scientific labs, public spaces, factories which all have in common the scientific research of other forms of rational knowledge. After the fall of communism they are in a state of disrepair. The High Voltage Lab in Iași is one of the most iconic works of the artist's work. It was published on the cover of ARTA Magazine dedicated to Romanian Photography. ARTA is the most important contemporary art publication in Romania (No. 6–7 / 2012).



**Olivia Mihălțianu**

*Unisex Underwear Mask, One Size Fits All, 2020*

underwear piece, cardboard packaging, 16.5 x 17.5 cm

Ed. 1/10

After years of accumulating and discarding fashion, home decor, gadgets, air miles, holiday photos, memories, etc., this unprecedented total global lockdown has forced us to reassess our stock-in-trade, to start appreciate it and make the most of it, at least until the markets reopen.

The Unisex Underwear Mask, One Size Fits All is an easy solution to the mask crisis, related to the 2020 Corona virus pandemic, as a relief to the medical system supply shortage, a bypass of market driven price gouging or the black market. The funds can be redirected in this way to supporting the arts.

Unisex Underwear Mask, One Size Fits All is part of long term complementary projects: home economics\* and art miles\*\*

\*Home Economics started after the 2008 recession, the project was looking at the home which until relatively recent was a creative and productive platform providing not only food and goods for the family but also generating incomes. During the booming economy years in developed countries, home has become the most wasteful and least productive structure, but the recession could be a moment of reconsidering home economy and home ecological solutions.

\*\*art miles is an artistic platform enabling knowledge, understanding and use of art, both for artists and art consumers. The entire process is relying on the desalienating function of creation. art miles functions according to the air miles model, used in the consumer society while turning it into an artistic process.



**Irina Botea Bucan**

*Untitled, 2020*

embroidery on canvas, 40 x 60 cm

## Artist biographies

**Dragoș Bădiță** (b. 1987) lives and works in Bucharest, Romania. He graduated from the University of Arts and Design in Cluj-Napoca, specialising in painting. In 2009 he finished his MA studies at the same university. In 2015 he exhibits at the National Portrait Gallery as part as the BP Portrait Award event, and also at Scottish National Portrait Gallery/ Edinburgh, UK (2015) and Ulster Museum/ Belfast, UK (2016). Dragoș Bădiță chooses the subjects of his extensive portrait series from deeply personal surroundings, transforming the artworks into frames-of-consciousness, glimpses of the human psyche and its mind palace. Friends, lovers and strangers are met with the same care, an extension of senses and origin points of self-discovery. Their inner states of mind caught by Dragoș in soft brush-strokes and playful transparencies become an outside statement to the hidden selves.

[Read more about the artist](#)

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**Irina Botea Bucan** (b. 1970) lives in Bucharest, Birmingham and London. After graduating from the Art University in Bucharest, the artist earned her Master's degree from The School of the Art Institute in Chicago. She is currently undergoing her PhD studies at Goldsmiths. In 2014, Irina received the 3Arts award, for exceptional professional activity. Her role as an artist is in a continuous flux, as she transitions from the position of the observer to that of a reflexive, participative and performative module.

Irina Botea Bucan's most recent films focus on strategies to undermine dominant socio-political discourses and to create the framework where minor, unknown or forgotten histories rise to the surface, forming an unsuspected field of force and ideas.

Solo and group shows include: 55th Venice Biennale; International Film Festival Rotterdam; New Museum, New York; MUSAC (Museum of Contemporary Art of Castilia and Leon); Pompidou Centre, Paris; National Gallery, Jeu de Paume, Paris; Kunsthalle Winterthur, Reina Sofia National Museum, Madrid; Gwangju Biennale 2010; U -Turn Quadriennial, Copenhagen; 51st Venice Biennale; Prague Bienale; Kunstforum, Vienna; Foksal Gallery, Warsaw, Argos Center for Art and Media, Brussels; MNAC (National Museum of Contemporary Art), Bucharest; Museum of Contemporary Art, Szczecin, Poland, Center for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw. Festivals: Artefact Festival, Leuven, Rotterdam Film Festival, Impakt Panorama, Utrecht; Polis Adriatic Europe Festival; Awards: 3Arts Visual Artis Award, Impakt Film Festival Silver Award, International Residence at Recollets, Cité des Arts, Paris, Constantin Brancusi and many others.

[Read more about the artist](#)

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**Iulian Bisericar** (b. 1987) lives and works in Sibiu and Cluj-Napoca, Romania. The artist creates complex compositions where he expresses the tensions between the natural and the artificial in figurative contexts and lyrical abstractions. Germanic Romantic influences resonate strongly in Iulian Bisericar's works, inspired by the surroundings of Sibiu (Hermanstadt). While his painting is shaped by the Cluj art school, the artist quickly shifted from its influences in order to create his own distinct compositions. Bright and daring colour screens come together in multiple visual languages into one painting. In his latest series exhibited during Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris, Iulian Bisericar playfully extends his references to abstract-expressionism, especially towards Richard Diebenkorn, Motherwell, or otherwise impressionist brushstrokes towards Degas or Matisse, creating captivating and unexpected worlds. His first artist book is launched in the autumn of 2020.

[Read more about the artist](#)

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**Matei Bejenaru** (b. 1963) is a visual artist and professor of photography and video art at George Enescu National University of Arts in Iasi. He was the founder and artistic director of Peripheric Biennial for Contemporary Art in Iasi, which he ran from 1997 to 2008. His recent projects explore the politics of representation through the prism of photography, video and public performance. Using documentary



photography and film, he generates hybrid art projects at the confluence of visual arts, poetry, experimental music and scientific research.

He has been invited in numerous residences, as guest artist and invited professor: Associate artist Kettle's Yard, Cambridge University, 2012 –2013; Visiting Professor at Université du Québec a Montreal (UQAM), Canada 2011-2012; Artist in residence at Futura Art Center in Prague, 2011; Artist in residence at Kulturkontakt Vienna, 2012; Artslink Fellowship (residence at the "Around The Coyote" Gallery), Chicago, 2012. Selected exhibition include The National Museum of Contemporary Art in Bucharest (2018 –2019); Orient, travelling exhibition presented at Kim? Laikmetīgās mākslas centrs, Riga; BOZAR, Bruxelles; Galeria Sztuki Współczesnej Bunkier Sztuki, Cracovia; Timisoara Art Encounters Biennial (2017); Camera Plus –Biennial for Contemporary Photography, Iași; Maskinhuset, Grängesberg, Sweden (2016); Salonul de Proiecte, Bucharest (2016); Museum Europäischer Kulturen, Berlin (2015); The National Museum of Contemporary Art Bucharest (2015); Timisoara Art Encounters Biennial (2015); Korea Foundation Seoul (2015); Summer of Photography Bruxelles (2014); Athens Biennial (2013); ICA London (2011); Mucsarnok Museum Budapest (2010); The Drawing Room London (2010); INDEX Stockholm (2010); Salzburger Kunstverein (2009); Taipei Biennial, Taiwan (2008); Futura Art Center Prague (2008); Prague Biennial 3 (2007); Tate Modern London (2007); NGBK Berlin (2007); Museum for Contemporary Art Belgrade (2005); 49th Venice Biennial Venice (2001); Poznanski Factory, Lodz (2001); Ludwig Museum, Budapest (1997). Matei Bejenaru's artworks are part of important collections such as: Contemporary Art Collection Finstral, Nomas Foundation Italy, Museum of Recent Art ( MARE) Romania, The Contemporary Museum of Art in Bucharest, the private collections of Guillaume de Saint Seine and Maris Vitols.

[Read more about the artist](#)

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ANCA POTERASU Gallery | 26 Popa Soare Street, Sector 2, Bucharest 023983

[Read more about the artist](#)

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**Megan Dominescu** (b. 1997) is a visual artist, living and working in Bucharest, Romania. She graduated from the Department of Painting at the National University of the Arts, Bucharest in 2018. Born in the Netherlands to Romanian and American parents, Megan grew up in Washington, D.C. and later moved to Bucharest, Romania. Megan's clashing background is a strong inspiration in her practice. Using humor as a weapon, Megan's work is focused on observing and documenting the absurd, shedding light on cultural contrasts and celebrating the bizarre. Megan is a member of the multi-disciplinary art space MOXA20 in Bucharest and is one half of the DJ duo Miss Clitoral.

[Read more about the artist](#)

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**Sebastian Hosu** was born in Satu Mare in 1988 and lives and works in Leipzig. He studied at the Art and Design University (UAD) in Cluj-Napoca and at the Albertina Academy of Fine Arts in Turin. His Master's degree in painting at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Liège was followed by postgraduate studies at the Academy of Fine Arts (HGB) in Leipzig. Hosu's works have been shown in numerous exhibitions, including the solo exhibitions *Leisure Life* (Anca Poterasu Gallery, 2019 – 2020), *In the light of a lake* (Fluid Project, 2019), Friends of Current Art Association, Zwickau; *Green Meat* (2018) at the Museum of Fine Arts (MdbK) in Leipzig; *Outscape* (2017) at the Josef Filipp Gallery in Leipzig; and *Creating Realities* (2017) at the Rutger Brandt Gallery in Amsterdam. He has received various awards, including the Elisabeth Greenshields Award, Canada (2019 and 2017) and first prize at *ArtWalk-Park 2015* in Leipzig. His works are included in the Hildebrand Collection, the collections of the MdbK in Leipzig and the Technical University in Darmstadt, as well as the Dresden State Art Collections.

[Read more about the artist](#)

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**Adelina Ivan** (b. 1971) is a visual artist who works with light and memory through textiles, photography, installations and video. Her personal discourse explores the overlap of time, space and memory, their winding and intimate interactions. Just like the fabrics used in her works, time space and memory fold and unfold into sleek silky surfaces and solid depths. The identity discourse debates the concept of 'the other' by problematizing otherness and discussing how to perceive diversity. The obsession for the body and its transformation over time and for the personal past was replaced by experiments approaching the building of the relations between objects and space. The artist states that these explorations resulted in a sort of mutual transformation in which the object is contained by space, and the space is swallowed by the object, determining an organism built out of pieces with an innate fragility, ready to fall apart only to recompose themselves afterwards. The continuous transformation process of the clothing object, of the fabric, the preservation of its memory, the interaction between the different materials, the space and time dynamics are transposed in the spatial installations, structures and geometries with grids and patterns stemming from this perspective.

[Read more about the artist](#)

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**Aurora Király** (b. 1971) is one of the best-known Romanian artists of her generation, working with photography and installation in a variety of media. During the 1990s and the 2000s, her projects explored the capacity of photography to record the quotidian, by combining auto-referential fragments with documentary aspects of day-to-day life (e.g. *Melancholia*, 1997 - 1999). The self-reflecting images have provided an interesting point of departure for further installations that included collage (*Viewfinder 2014 – 2015* and *Viewfinder Mock-ups*, 2016 - ongoing), text (*News Convertor*, 2016 and *News Remix*, 2016 - 2017), textiles (*Soft drawings*, 2020), and even painting (*Heroines*, 2013 - 2015). Her most recent works question the sources or artistic inspiration depending on the context, the recent history as well as the references in art history of the status of women artists.

Her works are in important local and international collections such as The National Museum of Contemporary Art Bucharest and have been exhibited extensively in Europe including Bozar Bruxelles or Espace Niemeyer in Paris on the occasion of the French – Romanian cultural season 2019. Aurora Király will take part in Paris Photo 2020 with Anca Poterasu Gallery.

[Read more about the artist](#)

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**Olivia Mihălțianu** (b. 1981) has studied visual arts at the University of Arts Bucharest. She currently lives and works in Bucharest. For the past decade, Olivia Mihaltianu has developed long-term conceptual projects referring to themes such as nowadays image consumption, self-expression or power-shifts in various social political contexts. Her artistic approach is related to cross-media and process-oriented projects involving video, film, photography, object-making, installation and performance.

Her work has been presented among others at: Moderna galerija, Museum of Contemporary Art Metelova (MG+MSUM), Ljubljana, Slovenia (2020); Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilisations (Mucem), Marseille, France (2019); National Museum of Contemporary Art Athens (EMST), Greece (2018); Frac des Pays de la Loire, France (2018); Anca Poterasu Gallery, Spinnerei, Leipzig, Germany (2018); Tranzit / Bucharest (2015); 55th Venice Biennale (2013); Kunsthalle Krems, Factory (2013); National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest (2013); Salonul de proiecte, Bucharest (2012); Secession, Vienna (2010); NGBK, Berlin (2008); KSAK, Chisinau (2007); Kunsthalle, Vienna (2004).

[Read more about the artist](#)

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In the early 1990s, **Alexandru Solomon** emerged as a young director of photography and he started making documentaries aside from filming feature films. Solomon was among the first Romanian film-makers who committed themselves to a then compromised genre; he became one of the leading political film-makers from Eastern Europe, active on the international documentary scene.

Solomon's first long feature, *The Great Communist Bank Robbery* (2004), broadcast on Arte and on BBC's prestigious Storyville, was a multi-awarded hit. *Cold Waves* (2007) is a chilling slice of political history that played for 12 weeks in Romanian theatres. It deals with the love and hate story between Radio Free Europe, the Romanian audiences and the communist regime. *Kapitalism - our secret recipe* (2010), a feature doc on the rise of a new ruling class in the East, was presented at IDFA and Sarajevo. His latest film, *Tarzan's Testicles* (2017) is an eerie trip to the world's first primate institute, that premiered in Karlovy Vary. The experimental films he made with acclaimed artist Geta Brătescu (like Cocktail Automatic) are part of the collections at MoMA and Getty Institute. In 2016 he published his monograph "Representations of Memory in Documentary Film". Alexandru is teaching at the University of Arts in Bucharest and is the president of the One World Romania Association.

[Read more about the artist](#)