



ANS
AZURA

**ROMANIAN ARTISTS IN THE
SPOTLIGHT - ART IN
CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE**

Romanian artists in the Spotlight – Art in Central and Eastern Europe continues the contextualization of the CEE art by showcasing highlights of the most important Romanian Avantgarde and Post-Modernist artists.

6th of October



SUZANA VASILESCU

Co-Founder Ans Azura
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is a Romanian art historian, curator, gallerist and art advisor. She is the Founder and Director of SUPRAINFINIT, a contemporary art gallery in Bucharest, and is the curator and art advisor for important private art collections in Eastern Europe and Middle East. She is also a member of the board and the acquisition committee of the Museum of Recent Art—the first private art museum opened in the last century in Romania—which collects and exhibits Romanian art from 1965 to the present.

Prior to launching her own gallery (in 2015) and Ans Azura (2021), she was leading efforts to establish and cultivate the art ecosystem in Eastern Europe through leadership and curatorial roles at auction houses, galleries, and biennials. During her tenure at Artmark Auction House (2009 - 2012), the leading auction house in Romania, Suzana Vasilescu led the department of Post-modern and Contemporary Art and organized the first post-modern and contemporary art auction in the country. In 2015, she was the director of the first edition of 'Art Encounters Biennale', which took place in Timisoara and has been a milestone in the art context of Romania. Prior to that (2012-2015), she was the Director of the contemporary art gallery, Nicodim Gallery.

She graduated with a BA in Art History and an MBA at ASEBUSS School of Business Management, the most prestigious Romanian business school.



ANDREEA STANCULEANU

Co-Founder Ans Azura
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is a Romanian art advisor and cultural manager, founder of the Sector 1 Contemporary Art Gallery. A graduate of International Business and Trade at the Faculty of International Economic Relations at ASE Bucharest, she has an experience of over 20 years in international business and film production.

From 2017 Andreea has primarily focused on following her lifelong passion and opened Sector 1 Gallery, becoming a heard voice on the contemporary art scene in Romania.

Through a series of curatorial projects based on the artistic phenomenon coming out of the strong Cluj art scene, the representation of Post-avantgarde historical Romanian artists and an international programme focused primarily on CEE artists, Andreea has become part of a network of advisors for relevant East European collections.

CONDITIONS OF SALES

HOW TO BID IN OUR AUCTION

*The works of art which are subject to artist resale royalty rights ('droit de suite') are marked with an * in the title of the work of art. The amount of the royalties is calculated using a sliding scale of percentages of the Hammer Price.*

By registering to bid in auctions and by bidding on the [Ans Azura.com](https://www.ansazura.com) platform you agree to the Bidder's and Buyer's Terms and Conditions which you may consult [here](#). Please read these Terms and Conditions carefully. By bidding you accept personal liability to pay the Purchase Price consisting of the Hammer Price and the Buyer's Premium plus the applicable Buyer's Expenses.

Please note that the Total Cost Calculator will display the amount including the estimated Buyer's Premium, exclusive of related artist resale royalties and any shipping expenses and all duties, taxes, VAT, and/or custom processing fees payable by the Buyer.

INTRODUCTION

Romanian artists in the Spotlight – Art in Central and Eastern Europe continues the contextualization of the CEE art by showcasing highlights of the most important Romanian Avantgarde and Post-Modernist artists. Our selection features important pieces by Max Hermann Maxy, Marcel Iancu, Adrian Ghenie, Mihai Olos, Geta Brătescu, Ovidiu Maitec, but also highly renewed artists from the region like Mangelos, Edward Dwurnik and many more.

Romanian artists in the Spotlight is a curated selection disclosing a choice of rare works by major figures from the Avantgarde art scene. One very rare piece in this auction is Composition (1926) by Marcel Iancu, one of the fewest works from the Romanian period of the artist, before he left to Palestine, together with his family in 1941. Marcel Iancu was one of the most important promoters of the Avantgarde art, alongside Victor Brauner, present in our auction with an exceptional drawing made by him for his lifetime friend André Breton. The work was part of the collection of Andre Breton and represents a pictopoem dedicated to Breton, by Brauner. Another masterpiece highlighted in our action is the rare painting of Max Hermann Maxy from 1926, Still life with a celluloid doll and iron. The work was previously part of a very famous art collection belonging to the former Minister of Foreign Affairs of RDG, Lothar Bolz.

Detail: Max Hermann Maxy, Still Life with a Celluloid Doll and Iron, Lot 16.



HORIA BERNEA

*The Hill (1969)**

Painter Horia Bernea is a cornerstone for Romanian contemporary art. Placing emphasis on texture and the materiality of painting, his works captured ways of dealing with the spiritual challenges of contemporary times. One of the artists belonging to the neo-orthodoxist art movement, his practice is emblematic of the transition from the 1970s Avantgarde stage in art to the purest form of traditional art. Going backwards from post-cognitive conceptual iconography, his works redefined some of the major themes of figurative painting in a sacral note. The Roman period of his oeuvre coincides with the last part of his life, as a revelation that the millennial art of Rome is a paradigm that validates posthumously his prolific artistic path. During the period of his Roman trips, his works tend to emphasise an old and obsessive problem for the artist, the consistency and materiality of painting, but not in formalist terms, but as a means to certify the very substance of timeless art. From 1990 until his death in 2000, he was the director of the newly (re)opened Romanian Peasant Museum, an institution that received in 1996 the “European Museum of the Year” award. His works have been shown in the Vienna Biennale, in the Art Encounters Biennale; Timișoara, and they have been part of exhibitions at Centre Pompidou, Paris, Richard Demarco Gallery, Edinburgh; The Romanian Pavilion in the Venice Biennale, among many others.

During the ‘60s and ‘70s, the period when he was part of the artistic group at Poiana Mărului, Bernea worked on the extensive series of paintings titled *The Hills*. The artists gathered at Poiana Mărului, a traditional village near Brașov, Romania, sought to liberate their practice from ideological meaning by turning to nature and tradition. *The Hills* are an algorithmic exercise, in which the artist repeatedly paints the same subject - the hill - under a slightly different form. Transcending a geographical location, the hill becomes a symbol of rural, national and spiritual ethos in Bernea’s paintings.

Size:
69.5 x 74.5 cm
27.3 x 29.3 in

Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed lower right with brown “HB 6.69”

Provenance
Private collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€4,000 - €8,000

Starting price:
€3,400



GILI MOCANU

*The Artist Studio (2006)**

Painter, poet and musician, Gili Mocanu is the promoter of a total and radical art, both in the sense of art for art's sake and art for the market. He graduated from the National University of Arts Bucharest in 1999 and received his Master's degree in 2000 with the exhibition *Gili a murit* ("Gili died"). Cyclicality and repetition, the terrestrial and the imponderable, the outer shell and the core, (self-) irony and meta-narratives are some of the constant reflection themes of the artist.

Preoccupied with the intersection between sign and drawing, Gili Mocanu employs light, shadow and line for self-representation through the image. Engaging in various acts of anti-representation in painting, he optically reinvents visual structures through artificial colouring, exceeding dimensions and intensities. The high level of simplification and elimination characteristic of his canvases complicates reality, without offering solutions – the only conviction is that of the absolute painting. Gili Mocanu exhibited at museums and art galleries in Romania, Germany, Austria, the United States, Portugal, France and Estonia. In 2004 he received the Margareta Sterian Prize for plastic creation from the National Museum of Art of Romania, and a year later he was nominated for the international Henkel EEC Prize for Art in Vienna. He was one of the founders – alongside other artists and critics like Oana Tănase and Matei Câlția – of the artistic group and gallery Galeria deINTERESSE, later to become Galeria Posibilă.

Size:

100 x 120 cm

39.3 x 47.2 in

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Signed on the reverse

Provenance

Private collection, Bucharest.

Location

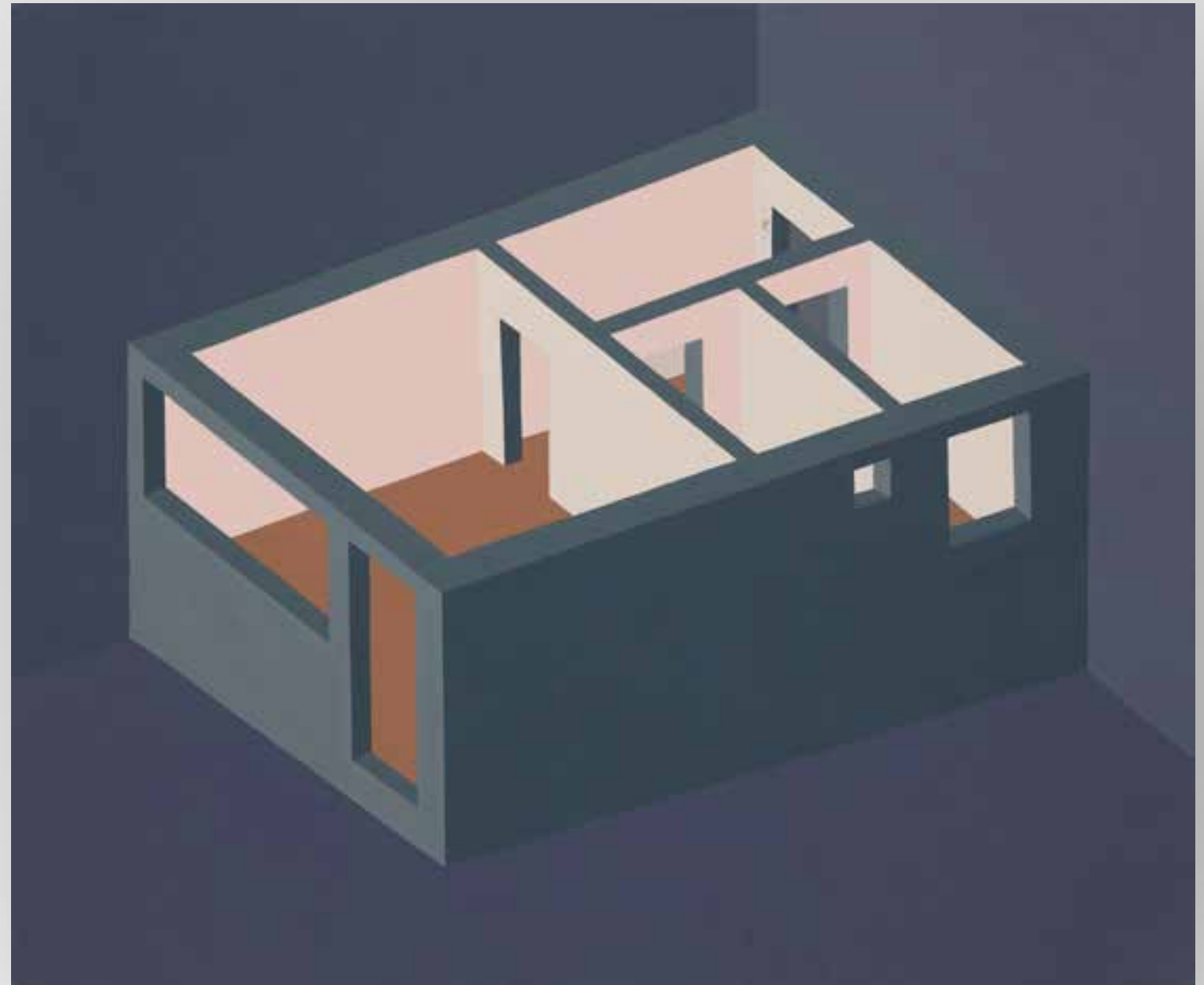
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€8,500 - €10,500

Starting price:

€7,000



JÓZSEF ÁCS

Organisation of the Space III (1959)

József Ács (1914–1990) was a painter, art teacher, art critic and without a doubt one of the most prominent figures of pre and postwar painting in Yugoslavia. From 1953 to 1956 he was the rector of the School of Applied Arts in Novi Sad, after which he was an art critic for the daily newspaper Magyar Szó for the Hungarians of Vojvodina.

In his paintings, Ács went through several stages of development, from Post-Impressionism to Surrealism and Abstraction. He exhibited outside Yugoslavia in places like Paris, Vienna, Szeged, Modena, Regensburg and Stuttgart.



Size:
45 x 72 cm
17.7 x 28.3 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Provenance

Private collection, Belgrade.

Location

Belgrade

Estimate:
€6,000 - €8,000

Starting price:
€4,500

HORTENSIA MI KAFCHIN

*Vârlezi (2012)**

Hortensia Mi Kafchin is known for her complex, surreal figurative paintings. In 2010, she graduated from the University of Art and Design in Cluj, where she specialised in pottery, glass and metal. Working with a broad range of media from drawing and painting to sculpture and installation, the artist immerses her viewer into dystopian and sensual scenarios backed by mythological and historical themes that invite us to question readings of the past and of the present.

The Romanian artist has had solo and group shows at major institutions such as the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Bucharest, Romania; the Austrian Museum of Applied Arts in Vienna, Austria; the Espace Cultural Louis Vuitton in Paris, France; the Palais de Tokyo in Paris, France; the New Museum in New York, the United States of America; the Centre for Contemporary Art in Warsaw, Poland; the MuMoK Museum Moderner Kunst in Vienna, Austria and the Kunsthalle Budapest in Budapest, Hungary. She participated in the 2013 Prague Biennale, Czech Republic and La Triennale in Paris in 2012, France and is collected by renowned private and public collections such as the Art Collection Telekom Centre, Germany; Centre National d'Art et de Culture Georges-Pompidou in Paris, France.

Size:

77.5 x 89 cm

30.5 x 35 in

Medium: Oil and acrylic resin on plywood

Signed, dated and titled on the reverse, "Mihuț Boșcu Kafchin, 2012, Vârlezi"

Provenance

Private collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€7,000 - €9,000

Starting price:

€5,500



MIHAI OLOS

*Space Module (c. 1980)**

Mihai Olos was a Romanian conceptual artist, essayist and poet. He achieved through his work a unique synthesis between the immemorial culture of the Maramureş region in Romania and the universal language of late Modernism. A gifted colourist, he became more attracted towards experimenting with various forms and materials later on. His central theme was the node. Olos transformed the spindle-head – a miniature of the nail-less junctions in the architecture of the wooden churches of Maramureş – into a constructive module for the project of a universal city that he theorised and represented in different forms and materials.

His work can be found in private and public collections in Baia Mare and Bucharest, Romania; the Fuji Museum Tokyo, Japan; Commanderie van Sint-Jan Nijmegen, the Netherlands; Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin; the Erich Marx collection, and has been part of exhibitions at the Milan Triennale, the Venice Biennale, Documenta Kassel, to name only a few..

Size:

43 x 43 cm

16.9 x 16.9 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Provenance

Private collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€7,000 - €9,000

Starting price:

€5,500



RADU COMȘA

*Coffee Break (after "The Coffee Tasters Flavor Wheel, 2019)**

The idea of "painting overall" or "expanded painting" provides a key to understanding Radu Comșa's artistic practice. Incorporating divagations, extractions and references, the works of Radu Comșa are transmutations from one material, one shape or one conceptual frame, to another. Informed by his interest in modernist architecture, concrete poetry, and atonal music, his diagrammatic transcriptions incorporate plates of cast concrete or panels of sewn fabrics which operate as visual utterances hovering between painting and sculpture. His most recent work is marked by geometric shapes and primary colours implementing a conceptual approach to the creative process of painting.

Comșa has exhibited at major institutions such as the Arken Museum in Copenhagen, Denmark; the Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle in Warsaw, Poland; the Műcsarnok Kunsthalle in Budapest, Hungary; the National Museum of Fine Arts, Valletta; the National Gallery Pristina, Kosovo and the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Bucharest, Romania. He has participated in the Prague Biennale (3 and 4) in Prague, Czech Republic; the Art Encounters Biennial in Timișoara, Romania and Documenta in Regensburg, Germany. His work is featured in important private and public collections such as the FRAC in Limoges, France or the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest, Romania. He is represented by SABOT Gallery in Cluj and Galerie Emanuel Hervé, Paris.

Size canvas 1:
diam 62 cm
24.4 in

Size canvas 2:
67 x 67 x 5 cm
26.3 x 26.3 x 1.9 in

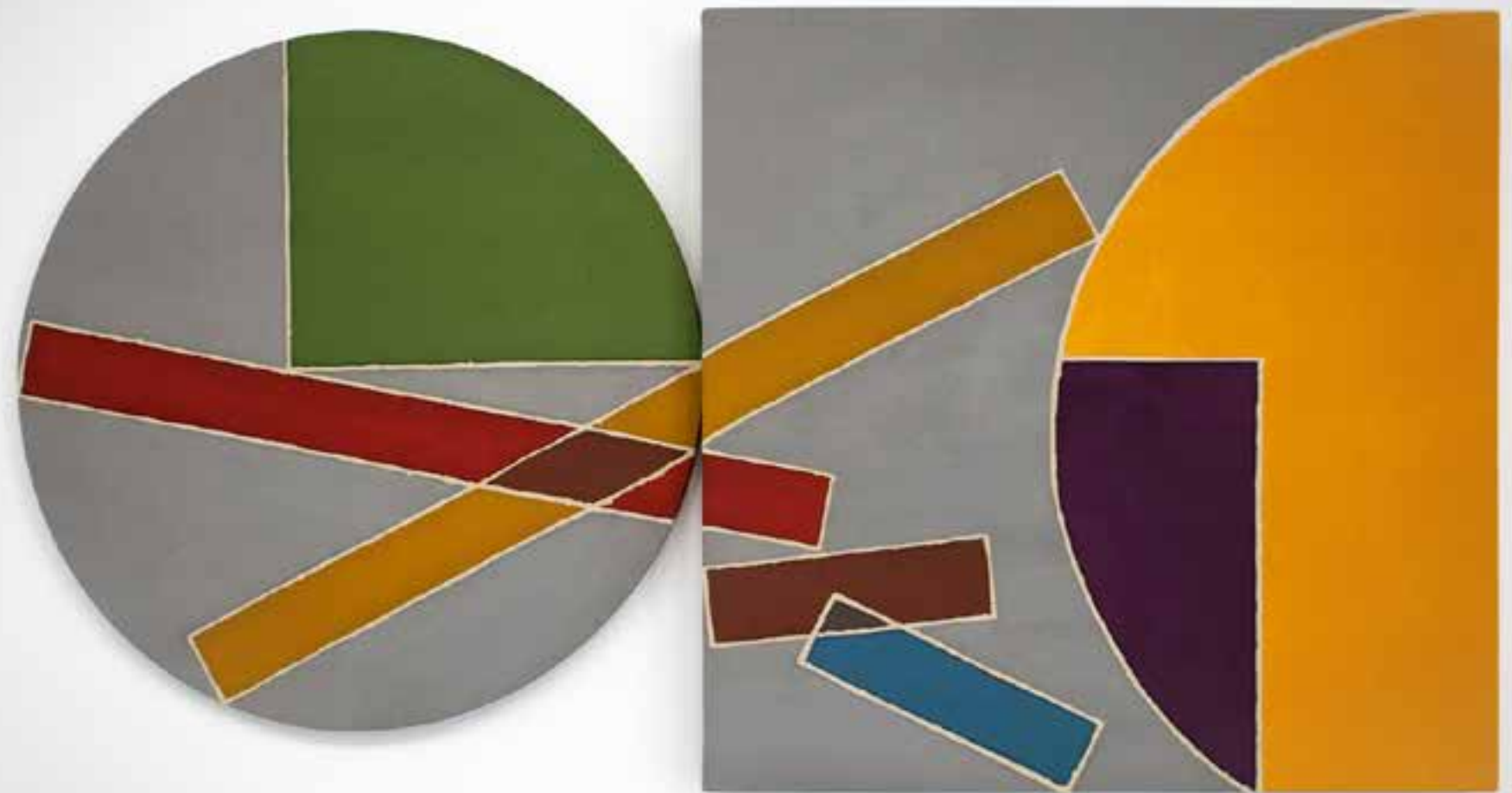
Medium: Hand-died cotton canvas (batik)
Signed and dated on the reverse

Provenance
Private collection, Cluj.

Location
Cluj, Romania

Estimate:
€5,000 - €7,000

Starting price:
€4,500



NICOLAE COMĂNESCU

*Untitled (Scrap Metal Kaboom Orchestra Series, 2021)**

Nicolae Comănescu is a contemporary visual artist and one of the founders of the Rostopasca art group. He is one of the first Romanian artists to record the impact of open, global communication systems on meaning-making processes based on traditional mediums of information. Experimentation becomes an instrument of research for inexhaustible realities and a natural component to his healthy awareness of the political conventions shaping the collective consciousness of his generation. Many of his works focus on Bucharest, integrating the life, architecture and politics of the city into his paintings. Comănescu studied at the Academy of Fine Arts Bucharest between 1991-1998. He has had exhibitions at art institutions and manifestations including MARE Museum of Recent Art Bucharest; National Museum of Contemporary Art Bucharest; Sofia Art Gallery; Trieste Contemporanea, Istituto Tommaseo; the 8th Venice Architecture Biennial; 49th Venice Art Biennial, CNIT de La Défense, Paris; H'Art Gallery, Bucharest; ITARICON Art Gallery, Dresden; Landeshauptstadt Düsseldorf - Kulturamt, Düsseldorf.

Untitled (Scrap Metal Kaboom Orchestra Series), 2021 is part of an artistic intervention at Casa Pittner, a former Arts and Crafts school in Reșița, which was a social housing, then a ruin and currently a historical monument. Taking as a starting point the vernacular architecture of the house, its manifold history and the post-industrial landscape, the artist creates paintings that reflect on the built patrimony and its preservation.

Size:
90 x 120 cm
35.4 x 11.7 in

Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Signed on the reverse

Provenance
Private collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€3,500 - €5,000

Starting price:
€3,000



SULTANA MAITEC

The Sun (2010)

Like many of her fellow Romanian artists, painter and graphic artist Sultana Maitec was trained in the school of realist figurative art of the 1950s, when socialist ideology tried to take control of the artistic discourse. Deemed as “the artist of gold”, she managed to maintain a distinct, individual profile from the imposed visual doctrine.

By working with gold-leaf as her chosen medium of expression, she succeeded in depicting a world that was in many ways impossible to represent. She positioned herself as a non-figurative painter and chose her own discreet path of resistance against the dominant ideology of her time.

Her works have been presented in various exhibitions in Romania and abroad, including in the Romanian Academy, Rome; Mall Galleries, London; National Art Gallery, Athens; The Art of this Century Gallery, New York; Richard Demarco Gallery, Edinburgh; Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris; Mücsarnok, Budapest; Fondation Nationale des Arts Plastiques, Paris and Gallerie Jeanne Castel, Paris.

Size:
65 x 130 cm
25.5 x 51.1 in

With frame:
68 x 133 cm
26.7 x 52.3 in

Medium: Gold leaf on canvas

Provenance

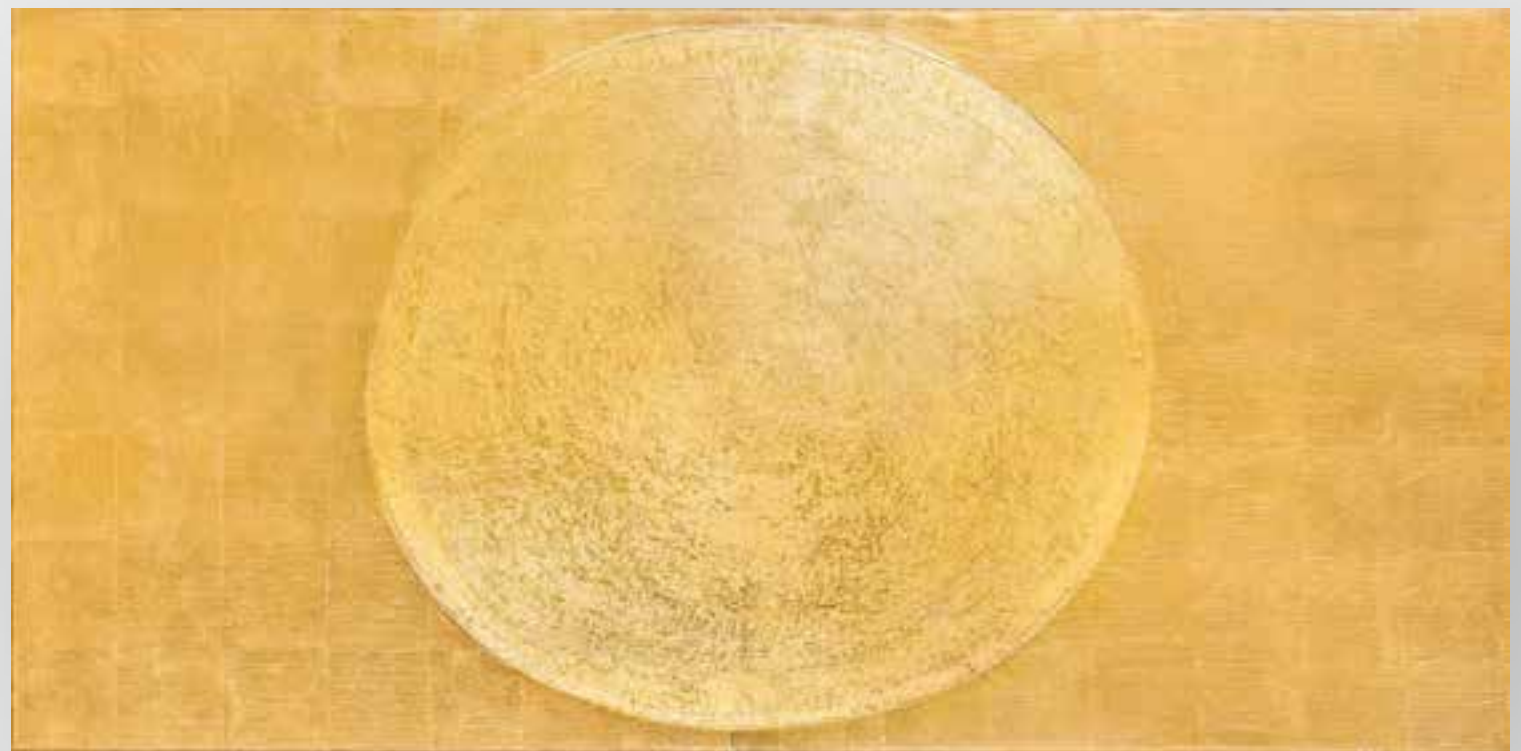
Private collection, Bucharest. Previously bought from the Artist Estate. This work is accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity from the Artist Estate.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€7,000 - €9,000

Starting price:
€5,500



HORIA DAMIAN

*Fortress (1986)**

Previously having studied architecture, painter, sculptor and architect Horia Damian arrived in Paris right after the establishment of the communist regime in Romania. The architectural structures in his works differ from monument design sketches, taking over the characteristics of a monumental art. Distinguishable from the contemporary works of American Minimal Art, his paintings, drawings and reliefs offer a metaphysical perspective on matter. In his rigorous compositions with pyramidal, terraced or profiled structures, an obsessive preoccupation with materials can be seen. Such archetypal, symbolic elements - as gates, temples, pyramids, capitals, and pediments populate Damian's oeuvre. Most often, his works invite the viewer to reflect on the way she perceives the surrounding world, invoking a celestial rather than a terrestrial space, and sacral rather than temporal realities. Damian's pieces have been part of many exhibitions and collections around the world, including in the National Museum of Art, Bucharest; the Musée Fabre, Montpellier; the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; The Venice Biennale; Documenta, Kassel; the Grand Palais, Paris; the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; the Museum of Modern Art, Rio de Janeiro; Neue Galerie, Aachen; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; the Bridgestone Museum, Tokyo and the Leo Castelli Gallery.

Fortress (1986) reflects Damian's fascination with the organisation of space and architectural elements. In 1986, he dedicated several works to the model of the fortress, which he explored in both painting, architectural models and small-scale installations.

Size:

52.5 x 74.5 cm

20.6 x 29.3 in

Medium: Tempera and charcoal on thin cardboard

Signed and dated on the front lower left, "Damian, 1986"

Provenance

Private Collection, Paris.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€5,000 - €8,000

Starting price:

€3,500





HORIA DAMIAN

*Black Castle (1987)**

Previously having studied architecture, painter, sculptor and architect Horia Damian arrived in Paris right after the establishment of the Communist regime in Romania. The architectural structures in his works differ from monument design sketches, taking over the characteristics of a monumental art. Distinguishable from the contemporary works of American Minimal Art, his paintings, drawings and reliefs offer a metaphysical perspective on matter. In his rigorous compositions with pyramidal, terraced or profiled structures, an obsessive preoccupation with materials can be seen. Such archetypal, symbolic elements - as gates, temples, pyramids, capitals, and pediments populate Damian's oeuvre. Most often, his works invite the viewer to reflect on the way she perceives the surrounding world, invoking a celestial rather than a terrestrial space, and sacral rather than temporal realities. Damian's pieces have been part of many exhibitions and collections around the world, including in the National Museum of Art, Bucharest; the Musée Fabre, Montpellier; the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; The Venice Biennale; Documenta, Kassel; the Grand Palais, Paris; the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; the Museum of Modern Art, Rio de Janeiro; Neue Galerie, Aachen; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; the Bridgestone Museum, Tokyo; and the Leo Castelli Gallery.

In Black Castle (1987), the structure of what seems to be a previously imposing castle is depicted by Damian using oil and gouache on cardboard. Devoid of the human presence, the solitary ruin is painted in shades of white, black and grey, accentuating a sense of contemplation. The colour black was used by Damian in many of his works to represent tombs, sarcophaguses or the night - mystical elements reinforcing the artist's inquiry into the metaphysical.

Size:

74 x 106 cm

29.1 x 41.7 in

Medium: Oil and gouache on cardboard

Signed and dated on the front, lower left

Provenance

Private Collection, Paris.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€5,000 - €8,000

Starting price:

€3,500



RADU COMȘA

*Play (2009)**

The idea of “painting overall” or “expanded painting” provides a key to understanding Radu Comșa’s artistic practice. Incorporating divagations, extractions and references, the works of Radu Comșa are transmutations from one material, one shape or one conceptual frame, to another. Informed by his interest in modernist architecture, concrete poetry, and atonal music, his diagrammatic transcriptions incorporate plates of cast concrete or panels of sewn fabrics which operate as visual utterances hovering between painting and sculpture.

Comșa has exhibited at major institutions such as the Arken Museum in Copenhagen, Denmark; the Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle in Warsaw, Poland; the Műcsarnok Kunsthalle in Budapest, Hungary; the National Museum of Fine Arts, Valletta; the National Gallery Pristina, Kosovo and the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Bucharest, Romania. He has participated in the Prague Biennale (3 and 4) in Prague, Czech Republic; the Art Encounters Biennial in Timișoara, Romania and Documenta in Regensburg, Germany. His work is featured in important private and public collections such as the FRAC in Limoges, France or the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest, Romania. He is represented by SABOT Gallery in Cluj and Galerie Emanuel Hervé, Paris.

Size:

195 x 195 cm

76.7 x 76.7 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Provenance

Private Collection, Cluj.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€5,000 - €7,000

Starting price:

€3,500



ALMA REDLINGER

*The Portrait of Daria (Portretul Dariei, 1980)**

Alma Redlinger was an Avantgarde Romanian painter and illustrator, and an important figure within the group of women artists belonging to the Maxy school of art, along with Eva Cerbu and Yvonne Hasan. For seven decades, Alma Redlinger was a consistent voice whose sobriety was devoid of complacency in its vitality. In painting, drawing or collage, her dynamic compositions epitomised her predilect topics – still life, the feminine portrait and flowers.

If in her earlier works, a cubist intuition prevailed, from the 1970s the artist was engaging in a synthesis of cubist shapes, transgressing it with plastic effects and transparencies. Her bold alternations of forms and shapes find their rhythm, suggesting a unity of the space in our reality. The recurring motif of a reinterpreted odalisque in the atelier constructs one of the most tranquil scenes, in opposition with the colour patches and brush strokes that also give the work its relief. Giving the viewer the undisturbed feeling that everything falls in its place, the image remains in the memory long after it is seen.

Exhibitions

Exhibited at Galeria Orizont, 1983

Literature

Reproduced in the catalogue of the exhibition at Galeria Orizont, 1983.

Reproduced in Alma Redlinger Monography, Alexis Publishing House, 2009, page 34.

Size:

100x 114 cm

39.3 x 44.8 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Signed on the front lower left, Alma Redlinger

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€6,000 - €8,000

Starting price:

€4,500



ADRIAN GHENIE

*The World Is Falling Apart (2007)**

Adrian Ghenie is an acclaimed contemporary expressionist painter whose work, through the juxtaposition of personal memory and collective trauma, investigates the violent aspects of recent European and world history. His practice engages with the history of painting as well as with actual historical events, often taking as its subject the people whose actions have defined the course of history, whether as heroes or antiheroes. The formal expansion of the possibilities of the medium is always a central interest in Ghenie's painting and by the merging of grand narratives of historical painting with contemporary forms, his art becomes less about the analysis of the subject matter and more about the process of painting itself. Most of the situations that appear in the works of Adrian Ghenie are a mixture of relations between human beings, particular events from recent history, and occurrences in the entertainment industry. Ghenie conveys through his paintings a precise awareness of society and political conditions. The scenes he stages in his paintings are always stretched between the private and the public, which suggests that people are often exposed to historical violence, compounded by their own vulnerability. These scenes effectively represent socio-political realities and human behaviour, while at the same time functioning as a position from which the artist can watch or be watched.

Adrian Ghenie's works have been presented in many international solo and group exhibitions at, to name a few, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver; the Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst, Ghent; the Palazzo Cini, Venice; the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest; the Espace Culturel Louis Vuitton, Paris; the KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin; the François Pinault Foundation, Venice (Palazzo Grassi); Tate Liverpool; the Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco; the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; the Venice Biennale.

The work is reproduced in "Adrian Ghenie" Catalogue published by Hatje Cantz, 2009.

Size:
185 x 85 cm
72.8 x 33.4 in

Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed and dated on the reverse, "Ghenie, 2007"

Provenance

*Private Collection, Bucharest. Previously Private Collection USA.
Acquired from Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles.*

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€200,000 - €250,000

Starting price:
€150,000





OVIDIU MAITEC

*The Knight (1968)**

Ovidiu Maitec is recognized today as one of the most important Romanian sculptors after Brâncuși. Maitec's pioneering works with patterns of perforations in wood set him apart from his contemporaries. While other artists of his generation, notably the representatives of American Minimalism, favoured the introduction of cold, industrial forms into sculpture, Maitec turned instead to the natural material of wood. Finding inspiration in the archaic symbolism of myths and traditional objects such as gates, or elements from the natural world, his practice using various types of wood and sometimes bronze, was consistent with its visual hallmark.

His works have been presented in many prestigious exhibitions and are held in public and private collections in Romania and abroad, including in the Romanian National Museum of Art, Bucharest; Tate Gallery, London; Kettle's Yard, Cambridge; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney; the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; the Fond National d'Art Contemporain, Paris; Venice Biennale; the Lennon Foundation, Cleveland; Bluecoat Gallery, Liverpool; National Art Gallery of Romania, Bucharest; the Städtische Kunsthalle, Mannheim; Norrköping Museum of Art; Tyles Collection of Modern Art, University of Tasmania; Baukunst Galerie, Cologne; Manufactures, Hanover; and many others.

Exhibitions

The work was exhibited in 1969 at Cercle Gallery, London. The work was exhibited in 1973 at Kettle's Yard Gallery, Cambridge.

The work was exhibited in 1974 at Richard Demarco Gallery, Edinburgh; Bluecoat Gallery, Liverpool; Alwin Gallery, London.

Literature

The work is reproduced in the catalogue "Maitec - Sculpture 1968 - 1998" edited by Anastasia Foundation.

Size:

61.5 x 35 x 20 cm

24.2 x 13.7 x 7.8 in

Medium: Walnut wood

Signed and dated with monogram on the base "6M8"

Provenance

Private Collection, Paris. Previously Collection The Earl of Harewood, England. Acquired directly from the artist studio.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€10,000 - €15,000

Starting price:

€8,500





ȘTEFAN CÂLȚIA

*The Water Seeker (2008)**

Ștefan Câlția is a Romanian contemporary painter whose visually striking canvases are known for their oneiric feel. Reimagining, through certain symbols, the places that shaped him - the grandparents' village, or the Transylvanian landscape, Câlția illustrates precious still lifes, theatrical compositions or paintings with herbs and fields. His works are held in a number of private collections in Europe and in museums such as the Museum of Contemporary Art in Oslo, Norway; the HR Giger Museum in Gruyères, Switzerland; the National Museum of Contemporary Art Romania and the Brukenthal Museum in Sibiu, Romania. He was awarded the Grand Cross of the National Order for Faithful Service and the King Michael I Medal for Loyalty.

The water seeker (2008) takes up, perhaps, Câlția's most used motif, that of the fish. A ubiquitous theme in the artist's work, the motif is also found in his signature. Painted in gracious delicacy, the composition depicting a fish carrying a house and a solitary character might represent hidden meanings regarding living one's life in wealth, creativity, clearness and vital energy - all symbolisms of the fish motif. However, the title suggests a narrative tension at the centre of which the floating fish creates a story involving both tradition and fantasy.

Size:

110 x 120 cm

43.3 x 47.2 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Signed and dated with a monogram on the front

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€20,000 - €40,000

Starting price:

€14,000





MAX HERMANN MAXY

*Still Life with a Celluloid Doll and Iron (1926)**

Max Herman Maxy, also known as M. H. Maxy, was a Romanian painter, art professor, scenographer and professor of German-Jewish descent. He is known for cubist and semi-abstract figure painting and for his set designs, working for the Jewish theatre in Bucharest starting from 1939 and becoming its director in 1941. If Maxy's earlier works belonged to a constructivist style, his later ones turned to a more realist approach and to the exploration of a narrative.

While living and studying in Germany, he became a member of the Novembergruppe, a German cultural organisation of socialist orientation promoting Expressionism. Maxy exhibited at Der Sturm Galleries with, among others, Paul Klee and Louis Marcoussis and in the International Exhibition of the Avantgarde group Contimporanul in Bucharest, with Constantin Brâncuși, Victor Brauner, Hans Arp and others.

Taking the ideas of the Bauhaus school with him, he established the Academy of Modern and Decorative Art in Bucharest in 1928. In the decades to come, his involvement in the art scene in Romania, as director of art institutions and professor at the Nicolae Grigorescu Institute of Arts in Bucharest, had a great influence on generations of artists from the Romanian Neo-avantgarde.

Size:

51 x 35 cm

20 x 13.7 in

Medium: Oil on cardboard

Signed and dated on the front, lower left, "Maxy 926"

Provenance

Private collection, Germany. Previously Lothar Bolz Collection (Ministers of Foreign Affairs, German Democratic Republic 1953 - 1965).

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€60,000 - €80,000

Starting price:

€40,000



ANDREJ SAVSKI*Marinela and Raša (2020)*

Andrej Savski is a visual artist, active in the fields of contemporary art and painting. He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts, Ljubljana, and is a founding member of the artists' collective IRWIN, a group of five painters from Slovenia, active in the field of contemporary art since 1983. He is also a founding member of Neue Slowenische Kunst (NSK), 1984. The basic working methods and concepts of IRWIN are collective work and the so-called "retro principle", defined as a principle of thought and a way of behaving and acting. During the 1980s, the group created a series of predominantly painterly projects focused on the relationship between art, politics and ideology. Since the 1990s, they have been concentrating on a critical examination of the art history of "Western Modernism" and developed a line of conceptual projects that focus on the dialogue between East and West.

As a part of the IRWIN collective, Andrej Savski has exhibited in institutions and galleries such as the Reina Sofia, Madrid; Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven; Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow; Moderna Galerija, Ljubljana; Lehmbruck Museum, Duisburg; Galleria Civica di Modena; the House of World Cultures, Berlin; Tate Modern, London; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Centre for Art and Media (ZKM), Karlsruhe; the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Taipei Biennial and many others.



Size:
70 x 60 cm
27.5 x 23.6 in

Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed on the reverse

Provenance
Private Collection, Slovenia.

Location
Ljubljana, Slovenia

Estimate:
€4,500 - €6,500

Starting price:
€4,000

DUMITRU GORZO

*Clara (2003)**

Dumitru Gorzo is a contemporary artist living and working between Bucharest and New York. His paintings, drawings and public interventions allude to events occurring in Romania and contemporary society at large, the artist declaring himself to be against the isolation from “real life” through art. The parodic vision manifested in his works has turned him into a controversial artist who has always seemed to escape hindering categorizations with humour and nonchalance. For a number of years, Gorzo has conducted a studio-project called The Continuous Studio, in which people can visit and talk to him while he engages all the visual tools at hand, including the particular space, towards a feverish creation. Materiality resonate through the surface of his paintings, revealing their visual and tactile disposition. Evoking traces of De Kooning, Kippenberger and even Picasso, Gorzo’s Heads, an extensive series by the artist, permeate a world of emotions, shapes, primitive creatures, fairy tales, apparitions. Their visual lexicon is recirculated as a flow of stories told by the artist with insightful and careful observation of material and form. Sharp corners and edges become faces, with enhanced or modified traits that oscillate between pure abstraction and variations of expression. These characters scrutinise the world with eyes wide open – carrying the weight of paint, they bring us close to the human condition. Dumitru Gorzo was a co-founder, of the Romanian art group Rostopasca (1998-2001).

He exhibited at the National Museum of Art Bucharest; Kulturfabrik Luxembourg; Slag Gallery, New York; the Kingston Sculpture Biennial, New York; Marina Abramovic Institute, San Francisco; SAC / Malmaison Bucharest; Kunst Raum Noe Vienna; National Dance Centre Bucharest; Greenwich Street Outdoor, New York; etc.

Size:

62 x 52 cm

24.4 x 20.4 in

Medium: Oil on board

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€4,000 - €6,000

Starting price:

€3,500



ECATERINA VRANA

Braia (2008)

Ecaterina Vrana was born at the Romanian seaside in Constanța in 1969. Vrana graduated from the Academy of Art in Bucharest in 2014. She lived and worked in Bucharest. Her large sized paintings are traces of the artist biography, they are fragments from her life fused into an imaginary setting. The works, albeit usually large, contain few elements placed around the centre of the canvas, while the background is monochrome. Their style oscillates between naïve and pop culture, melded together through the personal vision of the artist.

This work is a portrait of Doru Braia made by the artist in 2008. The artist recollects, in the fragments from the Dulceamar catalogue (2019) that the character, Braia, posed to her for only 30 minutes, leaving with a sense of urgency; the artist was able to complete the portrait only after a while - initially “scraping off the entire portrait with a spoon”.

Combining words and numbers with images recurs often in Ecaterina Vrana's paintings. The two kinds of “signs”, the visual and the written, help each other in conveying the decrypted personal narrative of the artist. In the case of Braia (2008), the artist added the date on which Braia has fled communist Romania - September 28th, 1978 - subtly connecting the feelings she has experienced in her creative process with the personal history of the character.

Literature

Reproduced in Dulceamar catalogue published with the occasion of Galeria Anticariat exhibition, Curtea Veche, 2019. Will be reproduced in the catalogue raisonné “Mi-e frica sa pictez”, published by the Museum of Recent Art, Bucharest, 2022.

Size:
80 x 100 cm
31.4 x 39.3 in

Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed on the reverse, Ecaterina Vrana 2008

Provenance
Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€4,000 - €6,000

Starting price:
€3,500



FLORIN MITROI

3.8.986 (1986)*

Florin Mitroi was a Romanian contemporary expressionist artist whose striking portraits and depictions of the human body have been compared to Picasso's engravings of mythological characters. His work is divided between his prolific artistic activity – the artist being rather reserved regarding the communist ideological program – and his didactic contribution, an important constant in his life. His career as a mentor of other artists is reflected in the significant influence he had as a reference figure on future generations. Once his paintings and drawings were finally revealed and circulated among the public, they attested to a masterful development of a unique style and artistic identity. The central motif in Mitroi's work was the portrait. Produced over a period of 25 years, his tempera paintings, whether on canvas, wood, glass or metal cut-outs, depict a vast repertoire of human figures, represented frontally or from the side. Strong lines, reminiscent of German expressionist woodcuts, construct the head and the face of these stylized characters, while their posture and expressions recall Orthodox religious iconography. In its totality, Florin Mitroi's art captures both the tragic feeling and the inner strength inherent in the human condition.

Since his death, his work has been exhibited at the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest; the Contemporary Art Gallery of the Brukenthal National Museum, Sibiu; Johnen Galerie, Berlin; La Kunsthalle, Mulhouse; Espace Niemeyer, Paris; MARE – Muzeul de Artă Recentă, Bucharest; de Warande, Turnhout; Kunsthalle, Vienna; Museum Dhont-Dhaenens; Mogoșoaia Palace, Bucharest; the Museum of Art, Timișoara; The Museum of Art, Cluj; Catacomba Gallery, Bucharest and others.

Size:

50 x 35,5 cm

19.6 x 13.9 in

Medium: Tempera on paper

Signed and dated on the front, lower right, 3.8.986

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€4,000 - €6,000

Starting price:

€3,500



JULES PERAHIM

*Gate to the Moon (c. 1930)**

Jules Perahim was a surrealist Romanian artist of Jewish origin. During the 1930s, his paintings and drawings remark themselves through a powerful fantastic vision and a critical sense against an oppressive system of belief and power mechanisms. Taking refuge from antisemitic laws, he travels East in Moldova, Russia and Armenia, returning to Romania in 1945. For a significant period in the 1950s, Perahim contributed to the Socialist Realist style with forum art including public mosaic works and book illustrations.

In spite of his success during the communist regime, he craves more artistic liberty and leaves Romania for Paris, continuing to paint in Surrealist style. His explored themes relate increasingly to the symbiosis of the elements of life, the sensuality of form and matter, and universal communication.

His oeuvre was the object of over forty exhibitions in France and of many other exhibitions in international institutions including the Museum of Modern Art in Rome, the Museum of Art Jerusalem and the Venice Art Biennale.

Size:

53 x 53 cm

20.8 x 20.8 in

Medium: Oil on cardboard

Signed on the front, lower right, "Perahim"

Provenance

Private collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€6,000 - €8,000

Starting price:

€4,800



JACQUES HÉROLD

*Pupivore (1931)**

Jacques Hérold was a surrealist painter, whose works are associated with the late-surrealist period, Lyrical abstraction and Tachisme. Growing up in the Danubian port city of Galați, he later on studied at the School of Fine Arts in Bucharest, which he quit for working in an architecture office. Starting with the 1930s, he moved to Paris where he maintained a close friendship with Constantin Brâncuși, and became accepted in Breton's group. Hérold's works possess remarkable originality, and he was a skilled colourist. Many of his paintings have been debated by critics for their intriguing themes and titles.

The explosive depictions and colour patches in his studies are placed in a carefully organised disarray, full of unexpected gestures. One of the techniques that he employs, the écorchés, reflects a series of excessive accumulations that distinguish him. Jacques Hérold received the Copley Foundation prize in 1958 and in 1959 he had an exhibition at the Tate Gallery, London. In 1986, he was exhibited works at the Venice Art Biennale.

Size:
33,6 x 25,5 cm
13.2 x 8.8 in

With frame:
51 x 42,8 cm
20 x 16.8 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Signed, dated and titled on the reverse, "Pupivore, J. Herold, 1931"

Provenance

Private collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€2,500 - €4,500

Starting price:
€2,000





MARCEL IANCU

*Composition (c. 1926)**

Romanian and Israeli visual artist, architect and art theorist Marcel Iancu was the co-inventor of Dadaism and a leading figure of Constructivism in Eastern Europe. An influential figure within all these fields, Iancu was also involved in several key publications during his career - including Romanian Neo-avantgarde magazines *Contimporanul* and *Simbolul*, as founder, editor, writer and graphic designer.

In 1922, after a brief stay in Paris, Iancu returned to Romania. *Composition* (1926) belongs to the period following his return, when a transition from paintings of local landscapes, peasants and interiors depicted in a modernist style and a palette of dark browns started to turn towards abstract shapes in a more colourful palette. His search for harmony in abstraction manifested itself through lines and colours that, similar to music compositions, are placed in an "un-arranged symphony".

Exhibitions

"Contimporanul", Bucharest, 1927 (February 13th – March 15th). "Central European Avant-Gardes: Exchanges and Transformation, 1910 - 1930", County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, 2002 (March 10th - June 3rd). "Central European Avant-Gardes: Exchanges and Transformation, 1910 - 1930", Haus der Kunst, München, 2002 (July 7th - October 6th). "Marcel Janco (1895 – 1984): Dadadist in hart ein nieren", Kunsthall, Rotterdam, December 2002 – May 2003. "Marcel Janco (1895 – 1984): Das graphische Werk", Museum Folkwang, Essen, 2003 (October – November). "Zukunftsräume. Kandinsky, Mondrian, Lissitzky und die abstract-konstruktive Avantgarde in Dresden 1919 – 1932", Albertinum, Dresden, 2019 (March 2nd – June 2nd). "Marcel Janco – The Memory of the Line", DADA Gallery, Bucharest, 2021

Size:
34 x 49 cm
13.3 x 19.2 in

With original frame:
47.5 x 62.5 cm
18.7 x 24.6 in

Medium: Oil on cardboard (with artist original frame)
Signed on the front, "Marcel Iancu"

Provenance

Present from the artist to his doctor, Petruț. Private Collection, Germany.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€35,000 - €45,000

Starting price:
€30,000



CORNELIU MICHĂILESCU

*Composition with Playing Cards (c.1930)**

Initially a student of Law, Literature and Philosophy Faculties in Bucharest, painter, sculptor and graphic artist Corneliu Michăilescu took the path of visual art in the wake of the era of industrialization. A chameleonic personality with a rich intellectual curiosity, Michăilescu leaves to study visual arts abroad and chooses to remain a few years in Zurich, where he is visibly influenced by the Avantgarde and the ideas of his friends Tristan Tzara and Marcel Iancu.

He returned to Romania in the interwar period, where he joined the constructivist group of the Integral Magazine, painting in a strong cubist manner and writing, at that time. Exploring themes such as the world of theatre and the intensity of conflicting emotions, his works remark through strong colours, well-defined volumes and sharp contours. After an enrolment in a medical experiment with mescaline, his artistic creation turns more towards the interior world, the corporeal sensations and the evolution of the human spirit.

Size:
50 x 35 cm
19.6 x 13.7 in

With frame:
64 x 49 cm
25.1 x 19.2 in

Medium: Tempera on paper
Signed on the front middle right "CM" with monogram

Provenance
Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€1,500 - €3,000

Starting price:
€1,000

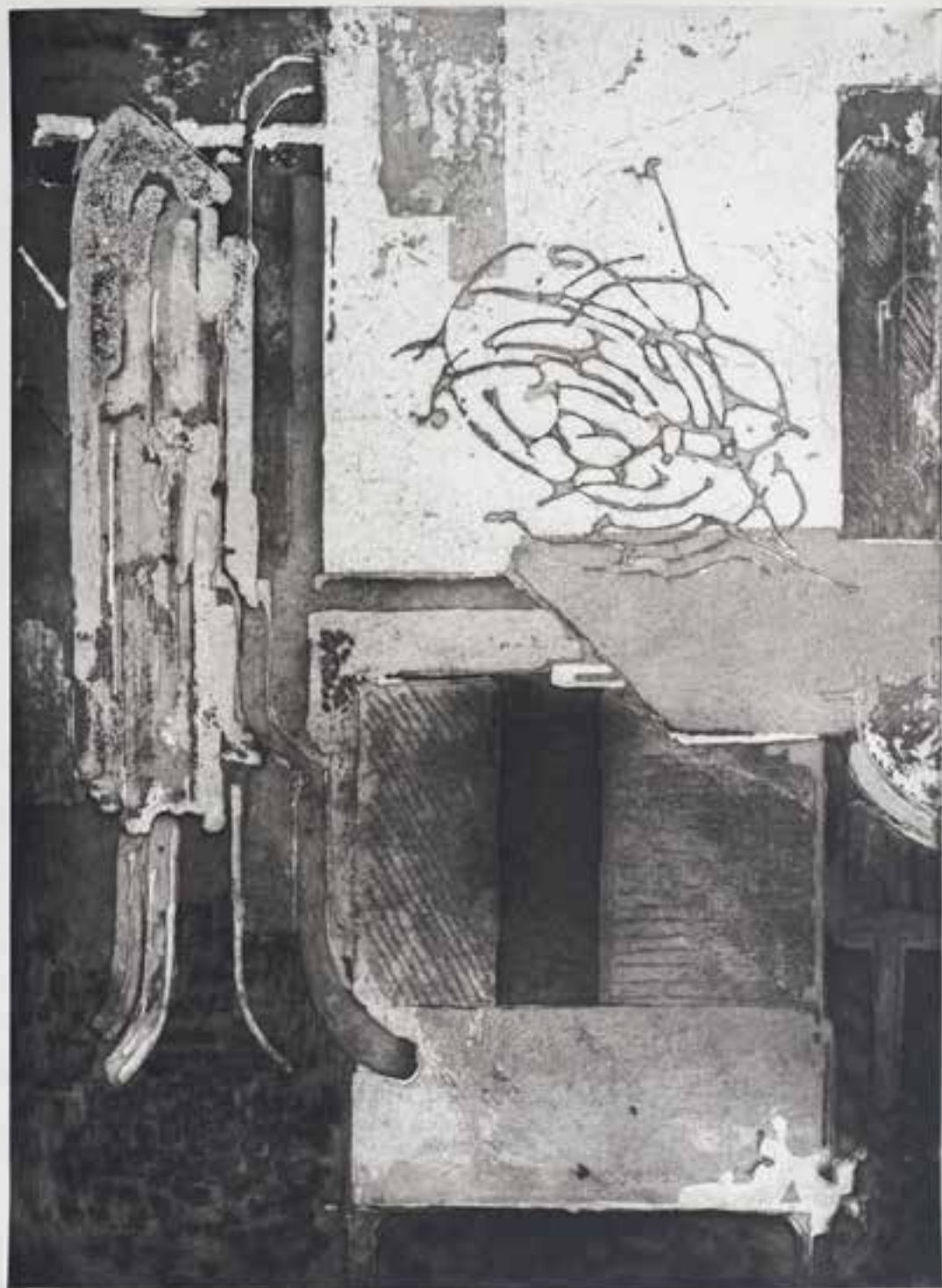


GETA BRĂTESCU

*The Artist Studio (1971)**

Geta Brătescu was one of the pioneers of conceptual art in Romania and has been a central figure of Romanian contemporary art since the 1960s. Her work includes drawings, collage, textiles, photography, performance, tapestry, illustration and film. Within her Avantgarde work, she continuously tackled questions related to female subjectivity, gender, memory and the ongoing examination of the limits of creative expression. As an artist with a long career, Brătescu produced a complex body of work that showed an integration of life and art. Brătescu's works are part of many collections and have been exhibited around the world in institutions including the Neuer Berliner Kunstverein; Hauser & Wirth, Los Angeles & New York; the Camden Arts Centre, London; the Museum of Fine Arts, Ghent; Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg; Tate Liverpool; the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive; documenta 14, Athens & Kassel; the Venice Biennale; the Palais de Tokyo and the Paris Triennial; New Museum, New York; São Paulo Biennial; and Istanbul Biennial. Geta Brătescu represented Romania in the 2017 Venice Biennale with the project "Apparitions", the first solo show of a female artist in the Romanian Pavilion.

During the 1970s, Brătescu created series of lithographs focused on the artist studio, later also developing the theme of the studio into a film script. Tackling a topic that would remain dear to the artist throughout her career in various forms, *The artist studio (1971)* depicts the entrance to the working space given to the artist by the Union of Visual Artists (UAP) during that time. "The studio is myself", Brătescu used to say. With the belief that art is form, Brătescu insisted that a work of art gets created at the working desk, not in the head. Through its confinement but also symbolic meaning, the studio served in creating the relationship between a domestic and imaginary interior world in Brătescu's practice.



Size:
69 x 56 cm
27.1 x 22 in

Medium: Litography, Edition 2/6
Signed and dated with the pencil, lower right, "Geta Bratescu, 1971"

Provenance
Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€1,000 - €2,000

Starting price:
€850

VICTOR BRAUNER

*Pictopoème pour André Breton (1948)**

Painter, sculptor and surrealist poet Victor Brauner was trained in Romania, Austria and France. Going through several stages - Dadaist, Abstractionist, Expressionist, his work is infused by the realm of dreams and the unconscious, with an emphasis on occultism. Ranging from mythologies to ancient world cultures, his art constitutes itself as a fertile melange of sources that find their meeting point in Surrealism. During the 1920s, Brauner published the manifest "Pictopoetry" - a visual kind of poetry - in the 75HP avantgardist magazine. Travelling between Paris, where he participates in all the surrealist group exhibitions, and Romania, where he publishes and exhibits, Brauner produces a consistent body of works in painting, drawing, collage, object-installation and picto-poetry. The recurring theme of the eye, present in previous works, can also be seen in *Pictopoème pour André Breton*.

Breton presented many of Brauner's exhibitions and wrote extensively about his work, including on the eye symbol in works, which he identified as satirical to the caricatural traits of bourgeois society. In 1966, Brauner was invited to represent France at the Venice Biennale. His works are included in some of the most important collections worldwide, including the Peggy Guggenheim Foundation in Venice, Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection and the Centre Pompidou, Paris.

Size:

27 x 21 cm

10.6 x 8.2 in

With frame:

55 x 45 cm

21.6 x 17.7 in

Medium: Chinese ink on paper

The work is accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity from Samy Kinge.

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest. Previously part of the André Breton Collection.

Location

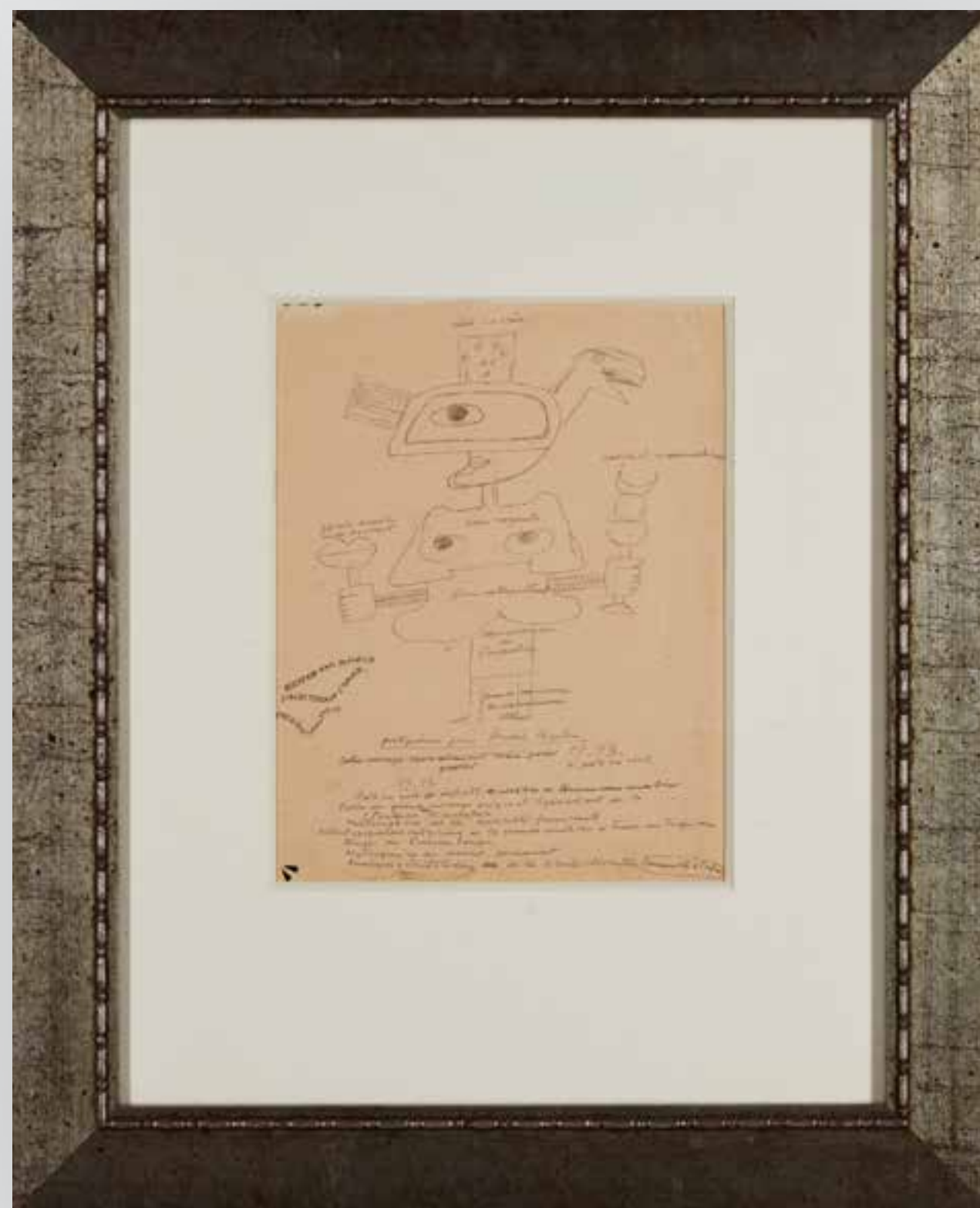
Bucharest, Romania

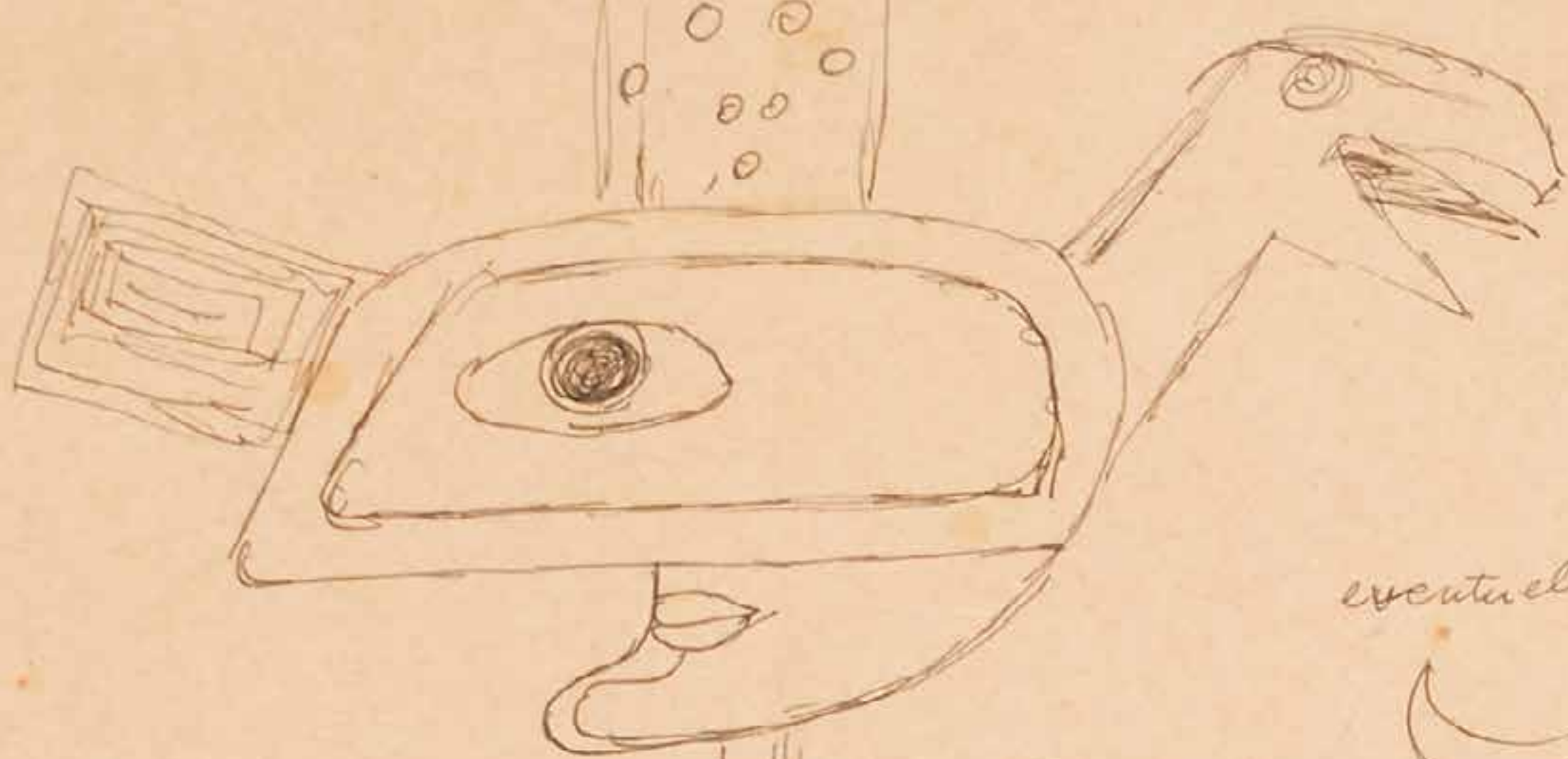
Estimate:

€10,000 - €15,000

Starting price:

€8,000





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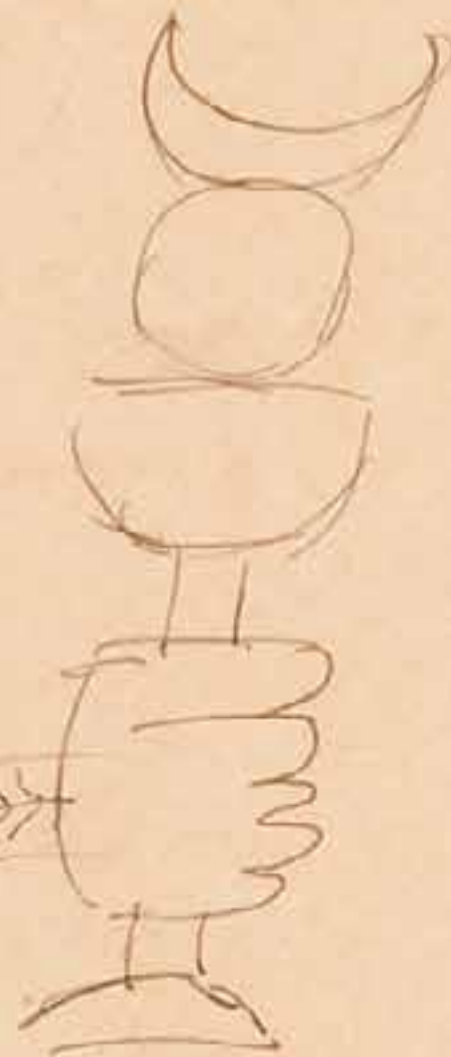
parole arabi
verbe agissant



eau voyante

feu catapultant

eau profonde
de
inspiration



MARCEL IANCU

*The Portrait of Constantin Brancuși (1925)**

Romanian and Israeli visual artist, architect and art theorist Marcel Iancu was the co-inventor of Dadaism and a leading figure of Constructivism in Eastern Europe. An influential figure within all these fields, Iancu was also involved in several key publications during his career - including Romanian Neo-avantgarde magazines *Contimporanul* and *Simbolul*, as founder, editor, writer and graphic designer. Iancu's experiments in abstract art stemmed from a theorization of abstract-expressionistic decorations as part of a basic architectural design. In 1926, he was present at the Hasefer Art Show in Bucharest, and created what is often described as the first constructivist structure in Bucharest. He had several personal exhibitions, in Tel Aviv, Milan and Paris and attended the 1966 Venice Art Biennale. He won the Israel Prize of 1967, the highest cultural honour of the State of Israel, in recognition of his work as a painter.

Iancu's involvement with several other groups of Romanian artists who were similarly striving to promote the principles of modernism, together with his work at the Neo-avangarde magazines led him to create portraits and write articles on fellow artists such as Tristan Tzara, Urmuz or modernist sculptor Constantin Brâncuși, the later of which several portrait drawings exist, including the watercolour in Indian ink on paper.



Size:
20.5 x 17 cm
8 x 6.6 in

With frame:
38.5 x 39.5 cm
15.1 x 15.5 in

Medium: Drawing and watercolor in indian ink, enhanced with yellow pencil on paper
Signed on the front, "Marcel Iancu"

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€3,000 - €5,000

Starting price:
€2,400

ȘTEFAN BERTALAN

*Mother and Father (1989)**

Ștefan Bertalan is one of the first Romanian artists of the Neo-avantgarde, co-founder of the Sigma experimental art group with Constantin Flondor and Doru Tulcan. He developed a multi-layered artistic process in which he combined the study of geometry and natural science. Carefully observing natural forms from seed to blossom, he transposed them into drawings and studies with a feverish eagerness. In his work, two impulses meet each other: finding, through rigorous study, the aesthetic order of exact science and creating spiritual forms surrounded by mystery.

His work has been exhibited at La Kunsthalle, Mulhouse; La Biennale di Venezia; City Museum, Ljubljana; Espace Niemeyer – Siège du Parti communiste français, Paris; de Warande, Turnhout; Muzeul de Artă, Timișoara; Mogoșoaia Palace, Mogoșoaia; Johnen Galerie, Berlin; Constructivist Biennial, Nürnberg (1969); Sonja Henje Gallery, Oslo; Sala Kalinderu, Bucharest; Triennial of Decorative Arts, Milan; Richard Demarco Gallery, Edinburgh and others.

Size:

65 x 50 cm

25.5 x 19.6 in

Medium: Oil, paste and aquarelle on paper

Signed on the front lower right corner.

Provenance

Private Collection, Germany.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€10,000 - €14,000

Starting price:

€8,000



CONSTANTIN PILIUȚĂ

*Still Life with Flowers (1978)**

Constantin Piliuță is a Romanian artist with a profound interest for human types and attitudes who developed the pictorial language of the line as a primary element of expression in drawing, painting, book illustration and theatre set designs.

A student of the Romanian master Alexandru Ciucurencu, he preserves the bold expressivity of his tutor's art, yet he chooses to continue without emphasising colour in his oeuvre. Instead, the playful, bohemian and nonconformist Piliuță creates elegant, apparently fragile silhouettes that border abstraction and emanate an impressive strength. He captures the world in heights that dominate through sobriety and plays with the revelries of everyday life through an economy of means that evokes inner clarity and harmony.



Size:
60 x 60 cm
23.6 x 23.6 in

With frame:
77.5 x 77.5 cm
30.5 x 30.5 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Signed on the front, lower right, "C. Piliuta, 1978"

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€3,000 - €5,000

Starting price:
€2,800

SORIN ILFOVEANU

*The Flower Seller (1998)**

With an unmistakable remarkable symbolic language, Sorin Ilfoveanu draws and paints in an all-consuming freedom of expression through suggestion and mystic transference. His universe is encrypted in primitive signs from the subconscious matrix of archaic heritage and with a certain nobleness and refinement characteristic of the model of the Byzantine icon.

He discovers his originality of style under the guidance of Corneliu Baba and is part of a generation of Postwar Romanian artists, such as Ștefan Câlția and Sorin Dumitrescu, who promoted a renewed sense of spirituality in relation to the materialism of contemporary culture. He participated in the Venice Biennale in 1987 and his works are exhibited in important museums and included in private collections around the world, from Paris to Tokyo, from Bucharest to Oslo and Perugia.

Size:

76 x 70 cm

29.9 x 27.5 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Signed and dated on the front, upper right, "Ilfoveanu 98"

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€2,000 - €4,000

Starting price:

€1,800



MIRCEA CIOBANU

*The Countess**

Little known in Romania, but famous in Western Europe, Mircea Ciobanu was a painter, sculptor and writer. He was born in a family of intellectuals, who instilled, through education, in their two sons the desire for intellectual performance. Between 1969 -1973 he attended the courses of the Nicolae Grigorescu Fine Arts Institute in Bucharest, with Corneliu Baba as his tutor, whose influence marked him. Nonconformist, visionary, he quickly configured his own artistic individuality. In a short time, his impetuous personality no longer "fit" in the suffocating space reserved by the communist regime for artistic manifestations. With the first opportunity, in 1981, the young artist emigrated and settled in Switzerland, in Lausanne. The art of Ciobanu portrays him as a follower of Rembrandt, Goya and El Greco, tackling the great themes of painting, both mystically and satirically.

In 1983, he created for the Catholic church of Saint-Sulpice, near Lausanne, frescoes and stained-glass windows of particular beauty. In 1984, he exhibited paintings in both Paris galleries of Katie Granoff, the same art dealer that launched Marc Chagall, among others. In the same years, he was hosted with his creation by the prestigious Museum of Modern Art in São Paulo – Brazil, and in 1986 at the Rockefeller Collection in New York.



Size:
65 x 50 cm
25.5 x 19.6 in

With frame:
81 x 67 cm
31.8 x 26.3 in

Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed upper right, "Ciobanu"

Provenance
Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€1,000 - €2,000

Starting price:
€900

ȘTEFAN CÂLȚIA

*The Dreamer Girl (1984)**

Ștefan Câlția is a Romanian contemporary painter whose visually striking canvases are known for their oneiric feel. Reimagining through certain symbols the places that shaped him, such as the grandparents' village, or the Transylvanian landscape, Câlția illustrates precious still lifes, theatrical compositions or paintings with herbs and fields. His works are held in a number of private collections in Europe and in museums such as the Museum of Contemporary Art in Oslo, Norway; the HR Giger Museum in Gruyères, Switzerland; the National Museum of Contemporary Art Romania and the Brukenthal Museum in Sibiu, Romania. He was awarded the Grand Cross of the National Order for Faithful Service and the King Michael I Medal for Loyalty.

Meticulously painted, The Dreamer Girl (1984) shows a feminine character with her look facing down, caught in a contemplative moment. The portrait contains something of Câlția's burlesque characters, yet the composition with a dark background and the depiction of her rather simple, daily clothes renders a more tempered magical realist style, with the promise of an unknown story held by the girl's object of gaze.

Size:
54 x 38 cm
21.2 x 14.9 in

With frame:
61 x 45 cm
24 x 17.7 in

Medium: Oil on cardboard
Signed and dated on the front lower left

Provenance
Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€3,000 - €5,000

Starting price:
€2,800



PAUL NEAGU

*Oil Abstraction (2003)**

Paul Neagu was a Romanian artist who lived and worked in London throughout his life. His multifaceted and universal practice integrates performance, sculpture, video, photography, painting and drawing. Influenced by Cubism, Constantin Brâncusi, Marcel Duchamp, and Joseph Beuys, Neagu's works express desire in the face of systems that attempt to inhibit it. He criticised art's purely aesthetic function, demanding that considerations of art be based upon all sensory perceptions, supplemented by touch, smell, taste and hearing. One of his emblematic inventions was the hyphen, an entity that despite its apparent simplicity relies on complex inquiries into the formal and symbolic meanings of basic geometric shapes. The presence of the metaphysical can be felt in Neagu's processes that also aimed towards an overall unity. The last years of his career exposed the fissures within the artist's diasporic identity and reflected on its perpetually oscillating nature.

Works by Paul Neagu were included in exhibitions and collections around the world at the British Museum, London; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo; the Philadelphia Museum of Art; Tate Gallery, London; Victoria and Albert Museum, London; the Kontakt Collection, Vienna; the Henry Moore Institute, Leeds; New Museum, New York; Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art; BOZAR Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels; Grand Palais, Paris; The National Museum of Art, Bucharest.

Exhibitions

Muzeul de arta Cluj-Napoca, 29.11.2014 - 25.01.2015

Literature

"Paul Neagu, Endless Edges - artworks from Mircea Pinte Collection", 2014

Size:

50.5 x 66 cm

19.8 x 25.9 in

Medium: Oil on plywood

Signed, titled and dated on the reverses, "P. Neagu, 3 June 2003, Oil Abstraction"

Provenance

Private Collection, Cluj.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€5,000 - €7,000

Starting price:

€3,500





CONSTANTIN FLONDOR

*Symbol (1967)**

Constantin Flondor studied painting at the Nicolae Grigorescu Institute in Bucharest and became a teacher at the Timișoara Fine Arts High School in 1962, the city where he currently lives and works. He is a founding member of the artistic groups 1 1 1 and Sigma 1 Group established during the period between the 1960s and the 1970s. The preoccupation for interdisciplinarity in the Sigma ideas is aligned with Flondor's art practice, in which the continuous research of the visible and invisible relations between organic structures and geometry can be found. His interest in studying the primary elements – the air and the earth, led him to a series of large-scale drawings that reflect an integrative comprehension of the world.

Constantin Flondor has been a university professor at the Faculty of Fine Arts in Timișoara and an invited lecturer at the Sommerakademie Beratzhausen in Germany. His works were displayed in museums and galleries around the world including the Art Museum of Craiova; Mumok Museum of Modern Art, Vienna; the Ludwig Foundation; Volker Diehl Gallery, Berlin; Gervasuti Foundation, Venice; Richard Demarco Gallery, Edinburgh; Kalinderu Constructivist Biennial; Decorative Art Triennial, Milan.

Exhibitions

1968 UAP Gallery, Timisoara, Romania. 1987 Sala Dalles, Bucharest, Romania.

Size:

70 x 100 cm

27.5 x 39.3 in

Medium: Gouache, chalk, pastel on cardboard

Signed on the front lower left, "Flondor, 1967"

Provenance

Private Collection, Timisoara. Acquired directly from the artist studio.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€8,000 - €12,000

Starting price:

€7,500





VASILE GRIGORE

035

*The Japanese (1977)**

Vasile Grigore was a modernist Romanian painter, as well as a university lecturer and an art collector. Through an expressive painting with clear lines and carefully balanced contrasts, he managed to capture the reality of a personal vision in images that create a dialogue between himself and the surrounding world. The colour patch served as an important element in his paintings by creating a shape and defining it, the result being a harmonious oscillation between abstraction and figuration.

The works of Vasile Grigore are present in various museums, art institutions and in private collections in Romania and internationally. He was part of exhibitions in Prague, Köln, Freiburg, Ruse, Novi-Sad, Zagreb, London, Belgrade, Talin, Athens, Lima, Buenos Aires and Teheran, among several others during his career. He was awarded the Frederic and Cecilia Cuțescu Storck Scholarship and received several art prizes, including the Award for Belle Arts in Szczecin, Poland; the Critics Prize of the Romanian Artists Guild; the Prize of the Caravaggio Cultural Centre in Italy.

Size:
54 x 65.5 cm
21.2 x 25.7 in

With frame:
67 x 78 cm
26.3 x 30.7 in

Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed on the front, middle right, "Grigore"

Provenance
Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€1,500 - €3,000

Starting price:
€1,300

SULTANA MAITEC

Black Sea (1988)

Like many of her fellow Romanian artists, painter and graphic artist Sultana Maitec was trained in the school of realist figurative art of the 1950s, when socialist ideology tried to take control of the artistic discourse. Deemed as “the artist of gold”, she managed to maintain a distinct, individual profile from the imposed visual doctrine. By working with gold-leaf as her chosen medium of expression, she succeeded in depicting a world that was in many ways impossible to represent. She positioned herself as a non-figurative painter and chose her own discreet path of resistance against the dominant ideology of her time.

Her works have been presented in various exhibitions in Romania and abroad, including in the Romanian Academy, Rome; Mall Galleries, London; National Art Gallery, Athens; The Art of this Century Gallery, New York; Richard Demarco Gallery, Edinburgh; Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris; Mücsarnok, Budapest; Fondation Nationale des Arts Plastiques, Paris; and Gallerie Jeanne Castel, Paris.

Size:
53.5 x 80.5 cm
21 x 31.5 in

With frame:
56 x 83.5 cm
22 x 32.8 in

Medium: Gold leaf and oil on canvas

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest. Acquired by the above from the Artist Estate.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€6,000 - €8,000

Starting price:
€4,500



ROMAN TOLICI

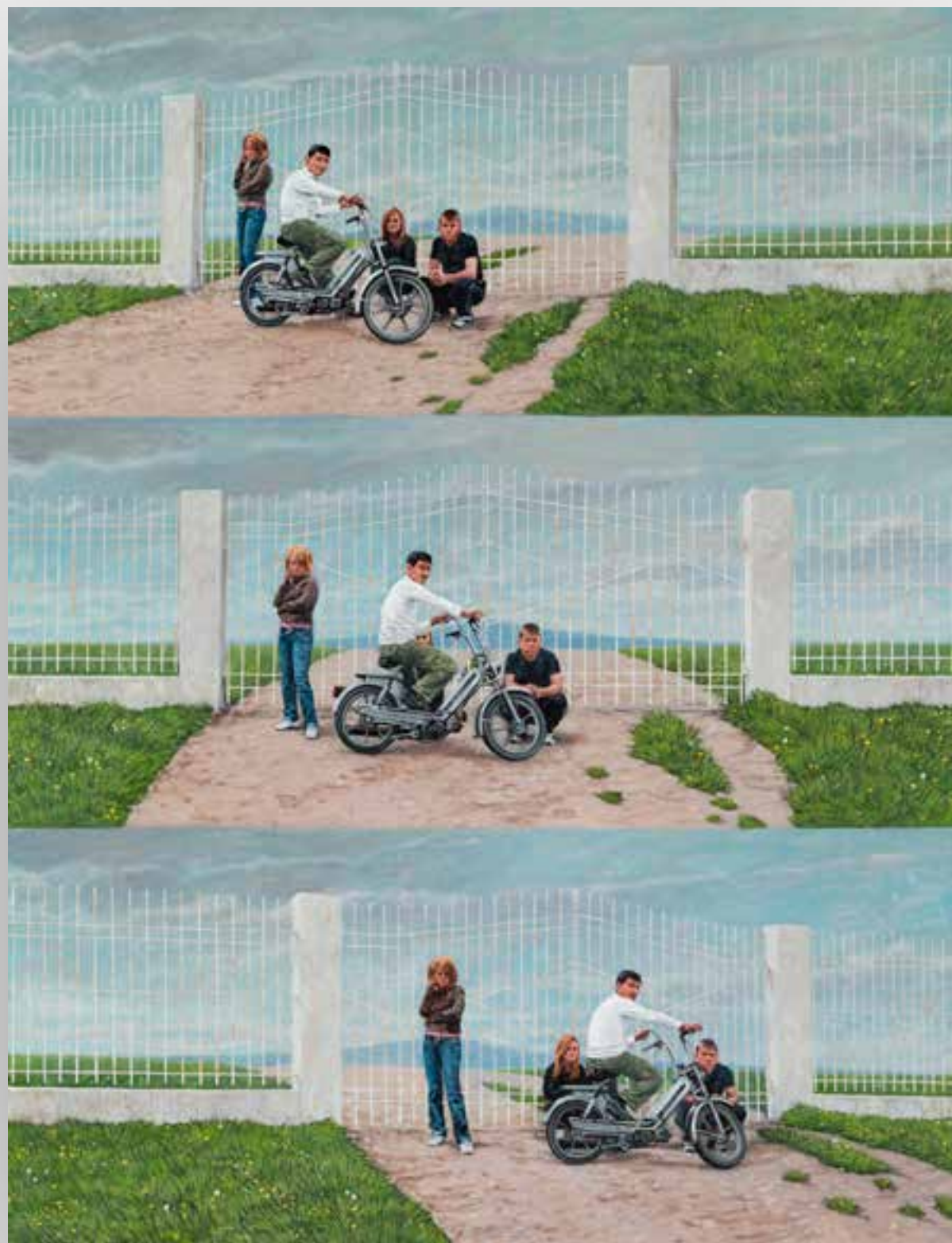
*One Gate (2008 - 2011)**

Roman Tolici is a contemporary artist whose photographic realist works are pierced by humour, irony, reflection and hope. His classical training in visual arts in the Republic of Moldova influenced his creation.

The poetic, sometimes ambiguous paintings by Tolici capture mundane moments of life, moods and memories. He creates them in a variety of scales, sometimes repeating an image within the surface of a canvas, which reinforces its reflective, time-quality. In spite of their seductive and dreamy coating, the underlying psychological implications and straightforwardness constitute a challenge that lingers with the viewer.

Exhibitions

*Exhibition "Grafik Und Malerei", Ross+Ross Galerie, Stuttgart, 2011.
Exhibition "Ceremonies", Museum of National Art, Chisinau, Moldova, 2014.*



Size:
130 x 100 cm
51.2 x 39.4 in

*Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed and dated on the reverse.*

Provenance
Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€7,000 - €12,000

Starting price:
€6,000

TEODOR GRAUR

*Christmas Tree (2016)**

Teodor Graur's practice includes sculpture, installation, performance, photography and painting. While most of his body of work reflected on the transition period of the 1990s in Romania through performance, Graur then turned to art objects of critical, ironic and sometimes nostalgic resonance. Recycling symbolic remains from Eastern European contemporary culture, his ensemble pieces touch upon various topics, from sports to the culture of monuments.

Christmas Tree (2016), the installation-like assembly of objects, forms part of a series reflecting on the modernist imaginary, through recycling objects belonging to the symbolism of a grey everyday existence during Communism. Through strikingly evocative associations of the vernacular and the novel, Graur's object-installations poignantly reflect on recent history and the rapid changes we are subjected to.

Graur participated in the Venice Biennale and the Istanbul International Art Biennale. He exhibited at art institutions and galleries around the world, including the Ludwig Museum, Budapest; Sammlung Essl, Vienna; National Museum of Art, Bucharest; Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles; Tranzit, Bucharest; The Contemporary Art Gallery of the Brukenthal National Museum, Sibiu.

Size:

55 x 60 x 190 cm

21.6 x 23.6 x 74.8 in

Medium: Installation, mixed media, modernist table with lamp, tree, and vase

Signed and dated on the base, "Graur .16"

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€3,000 - €5,000

Starting price:

€2,400



OVIDIU FENEȘ

*Eight (2021)**

The works of Ovidiu Feneș are characterised by a minimalism that corresponds to the artist's life and philosophy. In his rare public exhibitions, he presents to his audience conceptual works that recuperate and reutilize different materials in installation, painting, collage and digital photography. An Arte povera spirit surfaces from his use of natural materials and the ultimate simplicity of his gestures.

His works investigate hidden mechanisms reflected in visual symbolism that embody individual or collective memory. In this process, fragments of newspapers, working tools and packaging of everyday objects become maps referring to cultural, social and political status. He is part of the collection of the Museum of Recent Art, Bucharest, Romania.



Size:
62 x 41 cm
24.4 x 16.1 in

With frame:
74 x 52 cm
29.1 x 20.4 in

Medium: Oil and millimetric paper on plywood
Signed lower right, "OF"

Provenance
Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€3,000 - €5,000

Starting price:
€2,400

TARA VON NEUDORF

In the Name of Peace?! (2010)

Tara von Neudorf is one of the Romanian artists who contested the official brand of art represented by Romania's Union of Visual Artists. His artistic practice included the use of ready-mades such as old communist-era schoolroom maps and educational posters. The artifacts of the previous totalitarian regime become the support for his sensitive subjects pertaining to a society in transition, negotiating issues previously considered to be taboo, such as sexual freedom, religion, war crimes and the challenges of systemic corruption and geopolitical culture.

The context of the place from where Tara comes – Transylvania – is his starting point for his artistic narratives about identity, difficult history, the coexistence of cultures, unhealed wounds and the emptiness of now depopulated towns and villages.

His most famous series, "Black Rumania" (2005), comments on the relations between Romania and the European Union and underpins the existential dread of a community whose destiny is at the mercy of forces which complicate the realization of any political ideal: poverty, stupidity, racism, terror, manipulation, bureaucracy, greed and despair.

Exhibitions

Personal exhibition "Trans(a)gressive Millennium", MODEM - Centre for Modern and Contemporary Arts, 2011

Literature

Published in "Trans(a)gressive Millennium" exhibition catalogue, MODEM - Centre for Modern and Contemporary Arts, Debrecen, Hungary, page 30, 2011

Size:

170 x 130 cm

66.9 x 51.2 in

Medium: Black and coloured marker and paint on old map

Signed on the front lower right

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€4,500 - €6,500

Starting price:

€4,000



CORNELIU BRUDAȘCU

*Untitled (2016)**

*Cornel Brudașcu is a Romanian artist whose extensive practice - starting from the 1960s until today - is marked by historical moments, political and social realities, and personal passions such as ballet. During the 1970s, he created vividly coloured paintings, drawing on photos and magazine clippings secretly brought into the country from abroad, being one of the few Romanian artists to use Pop art during Communism. In a surprising manner, his later and current works explore classical themes such as landscapes, flowers, portraits and nudes. *Untitled (2016)* belongs to a series of works depicting a homo-erotic imaginary inspired by dreams and poetry, where characters melt into the natural surroundings while walking, taking off their clothes or singing an instrument.*

His oeuvre and teachings inspired and potentiated a younger generation of artists from Cluj, for whom he served as mentor. Brudașcu features in public collections including Centre Pompidou, Paris; Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris and the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest. His works have been exhibited in international exhibitions at Tate Modern, London; the Gwangju Biennale, South Korea; Plan B, Berlin; Fondation Thalie, Brussels; PS120, Berlin; Espace Niemeyer, Paris; Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris; Ludwig Museum of Contemporary Art, Budapest; The National Museum of Contemporary Art (MNAC), Bucharest and the Art Encounters Biennale, Timișoara, among many others.

Size:
20 x 25 cm
7.9 x 9.8 in

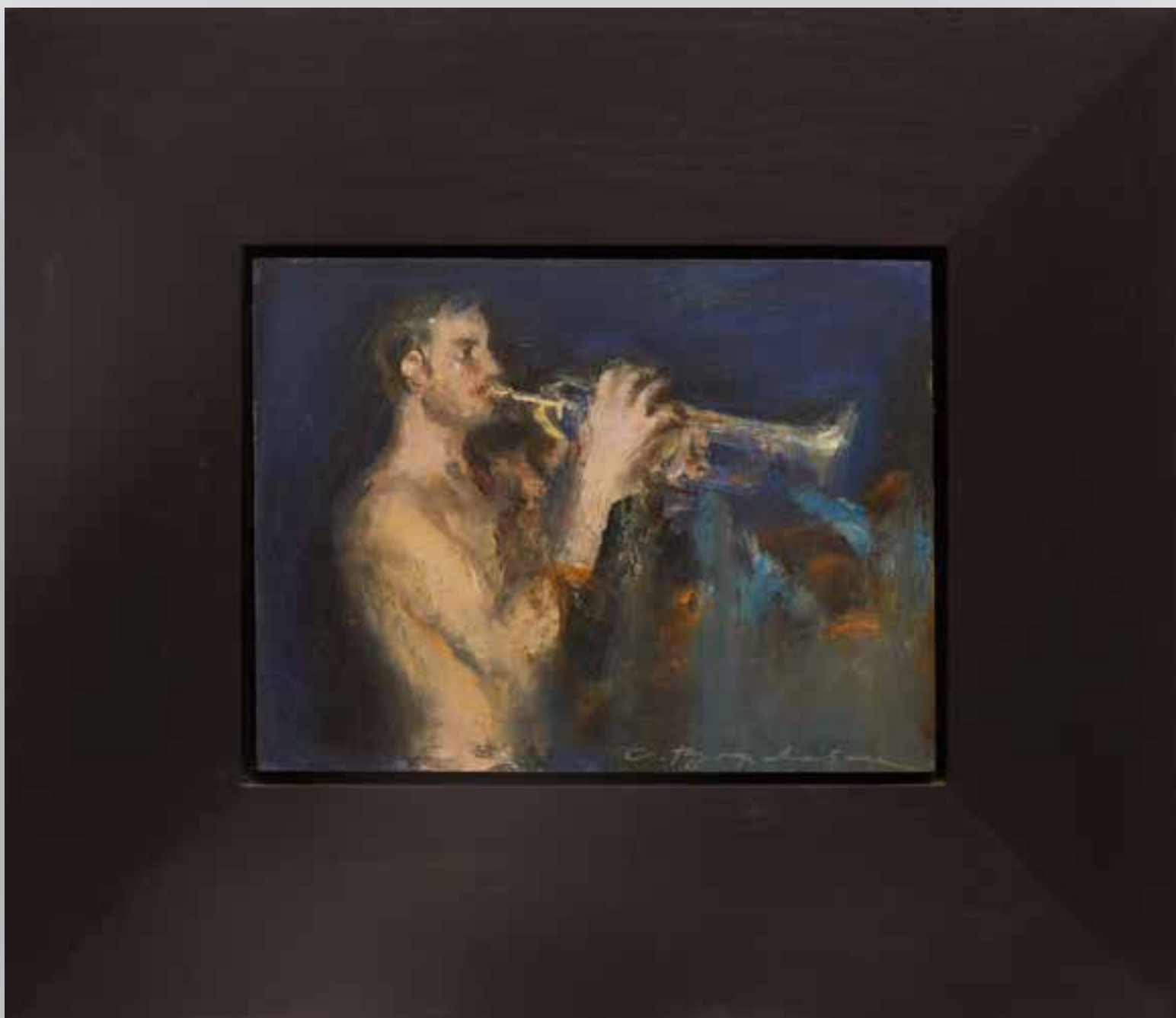
Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed on the front lower right, "C. Brudașcu"

Provenance
Private Collection, Cluj.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€5,000 - €8,000

Starting price:
€3,500





CORNELIU BRUDAȘCU

*Untitled (2010)**

Cornel Brudașcu is a Romanian artist whose extensive practice - starting from the 1960s until today - is marked by historical moments, political and social realities, and personal passions such as ballet. During the 1970s, he created vividly coloured paintings, drawing on photos and magazine clippings secretly brought into the country from abroad, being one of the few Romanian artists to use Pop art during Communism. In a surprising manner, his later and current works explore classical themes such as landscapes, flowers, portraits and nudes.

*In contrast with his pop art creations, made during the communist period, *Untitled (2010)* is part of the works that, from the 2000s onward, underwent this radical shift. He proposes a classicist or impressionist inspired painting characterised by simplicity and freedom, with bucolic, pastoral scenes and a fresh brushstroke.*

His oeuvre and teachings inspired and potentiated a younger generation of artists from Cluj, for whom he served as mentor. Brudașcu features in public collections including Centre Pompidou, Paris, Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris and the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest, and had works exhibited in international exhibitions at Tate Modern, London, the Gwangju Biennale, South Korea, Plan B, Berlin, Fondation Thalie, Brussels, PS120, Berlin, Espace Niemeyer, Paris, Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris, Ludwig Museum of Contemporary Art, Budapest, The National Museum of Contemporary Art (MNAC), Bucharest, the Art Encounters Biennale, Timișoara, among many others.

Size:

23 x 35 cm

9 x 13.8 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Signed on the front lower right, "C. Brudașcu"

Provenance

Private Collection, Cluj.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€3,000 - €5,000

Starting price:

€2,400



FLORIN MAXA

*August (1978)**

Florin Maxa is a visual artist, known for his abstract works. Having graduated in 1966 from the Ion Andreescu Institute of Fine Arts, now the University of Art and Design, in Cluj-Napoca, Maxa later became head of the painting department and dean of the faculty. He distinguished himself through a modernist style that abandoned the rectangular format of easel, painting by proposing new, anamorphic shapes. Suspended objects painted on both sides were another format that he employed, exploiting the traits of the support material. Maxa was a member of the Union of Fine Arts in Romania from 1968 and had solo and group exhibitions in Romania and abroad. As an artist and an intellectual, part of the 1970s-80s generation of artists in Romania, he inflected new life into the local scene, contributing to the formation of Neo-avantgarde art in Romania.

He received several awards including the 20th Century Award of Achievement in 1992 and the World Intellectual of 1993, Cambridge, England. Among the institutions that hosted his work are the Museum of Art, Cluj-Napoca; the Prague Biennale, Prague; Kampen, the Netherlands; Quadro Gallery, Cluj-Napoca; Frezia Gallery; Dej; Gaudel de Stampa Gallery, Paris; Galeria Nouă, Bucharest. In 2004, he was decorated by the Romanian government with the Order of Cultural Merit in the rank of Grand Officer.



Size:
120 x 100 cm
47.2 x 39.4 in

Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed on the front lower right, "Maxa"

Provenance
Private Collection, Timișoara.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€4,500 - €6,000

Starting price:
€4,000

MARIN GHERASIM

*The Road (1986)**

Marian Gherasim was a painter, writer, professor and an important figure of Romanian Neo-Orthodox art. His work was deeply inspired by his fascination with the beauty of Bucovinean monasteries he saw as a child. Along with artists including Vasile Gorduz, Horia Bernea, Sorin Dumitrescu, he is one of the founding members of 9+1 Group created as a reaction to the communist regime and its artistic ideology.

As the systematic destruction of churches was carried out in Romania until 1989, Gherasim recreated them symbolically in his paintings. He saw painting as a confessional act, in which the work of time, universal entropy and the traumas of history would find their place.

The geometry of church architectural elements and symbols such as the apse, the gate, the road or the church tower, represent the sacred constituents of all his work dedicated to remembrance.

Size:

100 x 80 cm

39.4 x 31.5 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Signed on the front, "M.G 86"

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€5,000 - €7,000

Starting price:

€3,500



GEORGETA NĂPĂRUȘ

*The Tower (1992)**

Romanian painter Georgeta Năpăruș studied at the Nicolae Grigorescu Institute of Fine Arts in Bucharest in the 1950s, where strict Socialist Realism influenced her initial formation. Often described as weavings, her intriguing compositions with crowds of characters and symbols include various influences and references, from mediaeval miniatures, Egyptian frescos, or Romanian folk costumes. Figurative but also abstract, her elegant works with minced brushstrokes applied in a methodical way, signs and an organic integration of colour are reminiscent of Gustav Klimt or the Flemish primitives.

She participated in national and international art shows and fairs, including at the São Paulo Biennial; Valparaiso Biennale; Museum of Art Cluj, Romania; Dalles Room, Bucharest, Romania; Emst Michael Winter Gallery, Hamburg, Germany; the Romanian Museum of Literature, Bucharest, Romania. She received several prizes including The Prize of the Sophia Triennale in 1982, the Raffaello Prize in 1985 and the Special prize of the Jury of the Artist Guild in 1991.



Size:
73 x 60 cm
28.7 x 23.6 in

Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed on the front, upper right "G. Năpăruș, 1992"

Provenance
Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€3,500 - €5,500

Starting price:
€3,000

RADOMIR DAMNJANOVIĆ DAMNJAN

Still Life with Bottles (1990)

Radomir Damnjanović Damnjan is a Serbian artist whose work deals with painting, drawing, graphics, photography, film, video, and performance. His art practice can be seen as an active and critical re-examination of the phenomenal and conceptual borders of painting and other mediums of expression in the second half of the twentieth century.

He began his exhibition activity in the late 1950s and participated in numerous solo and group exhibitions at home and abroad. Among the most notable ones were his participations at documenta in Kassel, numerous participations at Venice Biennale, São Paulo Biennial, Tokyo Biennial, Centre Georges Pompidou, Carré d'Art Musée d'Art Contemporain, HKW and many others. Damnjan was also a Fulbright scholar in Los Angeles and New York. His work can be found in many notable private and public collections.

Exhibitions

Exhibited in Radomir Damnjanović Damnjan, Retrospective exhibition, The Belgrade City Museum, 2018.

Exhibited in the exhibition Trajković Collection in Cvijeta Zuzorić Art Pavilion, 2010

Literature

Reproduced in the catalogue of Radomir Damnjanović Damnjan, Retrospective exhibition, The Belgrade City Museum, 2018.

Size:

65.5 x 75 x 19 cm

25.8 x 29.5 x 7.5 in

Medium: Oil on wood and glass

Signed on the reverse

Provenance

Private Collection, Belgrade.

Location

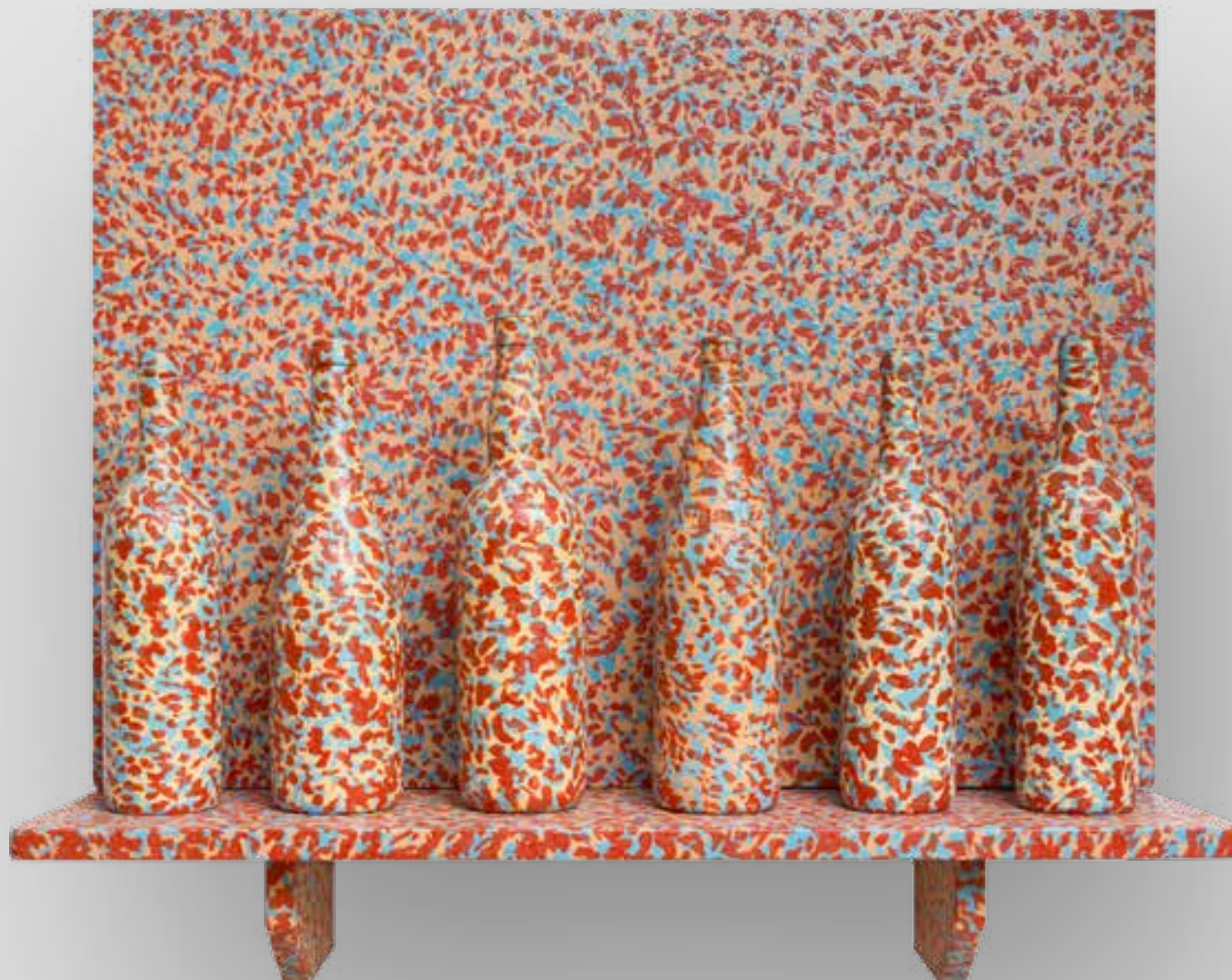
Belgrade, Serbia

Estimate:

€12,000 - €15,000

Starting price:

€9,000



CZESŁAW PIUS CIAPAŁO

Polish Eva (Polska Ewa) - Opus S-73 Nr 10 (1973)

Czesław Ciapało is a Polish visual artist and art teacher. During 1963–1964, he studied at the Monument Conservation Department and at the Art and Didactic Department of the University of Nicolaus Copernicus in Toruń. Then he moved to Warsaw, where he graduated from the studio of Aleksander Kobzdej at the Academy of Fine Arts. His work was influenced by a six-month stay in England, where he had a chance to see the work of artists from the circle of New Figuration. After returning to Poland, he created several series of works inspired by the achievements of Western European artists, including a series entitled “Incredible and Incredibly Similar Forms”. Later, he created large-format works, often the result of his fascination with the architecture of American agglomerations, which he had a chance to admire during his time at the Eastern Illinois University in Charleston.

The artist experimented with various artistic techniques, such as dripping or pointillism, at the same time paying great attention to the harmony of colours and the expressive value of the painted surface. For some time, he also created monumental reinforced concrete sculptures. Influences of pop art can be seen in his works including in the 1973 oil canvas Polish Eva.

Size:
65 x 81 cm
25.6 x 31.9 in

Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed and dated in the top right corner and on the reverse

Provenance
Private Collection, Poland.

Location
Poland

Estimate:
€3,000 - €5,000

Starting price:
€2,400



NATALIA LL

*Consumer Art (1972/1991)**

Natalia Lach-Lachowicz, or Natalia LL, is a pioneer of feminist art in Poland. Her photographs, drawings, moving image works and installations have from the outset addressed the female subject in a patriarchal, increasingly consumerist society. She was soon noticed by Western feminist critics, including Lucy Lippard, which provided her with international exhibition opportunities from the mid-1970s onwards. Natalia LL's works have been part of many exhibitions and collections around the world, including the Museum of Art, Łódź; Ludwig Museum, Cologne; National Museum of Contemporary Art, Paris; International Center of Photography, New York; Frauen Museum, Bonn; Museum of Modern Art, Ljubljana; Regional Contemporary Art Fund of Lorraine, Metz; Kontakt. The Art Collection of Erste Group, Vienna; Art Museum, Stavanger; Freies Museum, Berlin; Zachęta Narodowa Galeria Sztuki, Warsaw; MUMOK, Vienna; Badischer Kunstverein, Karlsruhe; Fotomuseum, Winterthur and Shoto Museum of Art, Tokyo.

Size:

27 x 37 cm each without frame

39.4 x 33.4 in

Medium: Vintage, black and white photography, Edition 3/6

Signed and dated on the reverse.

Provenance

Private Collection, Poland.

Location

Warsaw, Poland

Estimate:

€18,000 - €24,000

Starting price:

€12,000



VASILE GORDUZ

*Chimera (Himeră, c. 1980); The Beginning of a Chimera, after Paciurea (Startul unei himere, după Paciurea, 1979)**

Vasile Gorduz was a Romanian sculptor, professor at the Bucharest Fine Arts Academy and founder of Group 9+1 who worked primarily in stone, metal and wood. He realised statues of important Romanian intellectuals, such as poet Mihai Eminescu or christian dissident Petre Țuțea. Taking inspiration from Brâncuși, he developed some of the themes in a reversed or different manner, closer to a mythical dimension. His sculptures were meant to acquire the patina of an ancient time, being left by the artist in the sea or in gardens for Gorduz received numerous awards and distinctions, and his works are in a number of collections in France, Italy, England, Germany, the United States, the Netherlands, and other countries. He worked and exhibited often together with his wife, Romanian sculptor Silvia Radu, who organised a consistent retrospective exhibition of his body of work at Mogoșoaia Palace, close to Bucharest.



Size sculpture:
40 x 41 x 17 cm
15.7 x 16.1 x 6.7 in

Size sketch:
10.5 x 14 cm
4.1 x 5.5 in

Medium: Unique bronze sculpture; Unique drawing marker on paper

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest. Acquired directly from the Artist Estate.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€4,000 - €6,000

Starting price:
€3,400

GETA BRĂTESCU

*Game of Forms (Jocul formelor, 2011)**

Geta Brătescu was one of the pioneers of conceptual art in Romania and has been a central figure of Romanian contemporary art since the 1960s. Her work includes drawings, collage, textiles, photography, performance, tapestry, illustration and film. Within her avant-garde work, she continuously tackled questions related to female subjectivity, gender, memory and the ongoing examination of the limits of creative expression. As an artist with a long career, Brătescu produced a complex body of work that showed an integration of life and art.

Brătescu's works are part of many collections and have been exhibited around the world in institutions including the Neuer Berliner Kunstverein; Hauser & Wirth, Los Angeles & New York; the Camden Arts Centre, London; the Museum of Fine Arts, Ghent; Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg; Tate Liverpool; the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive; documenta 14, Athens & Kassel; the Venice Biennale; the Palais de Tokyo and the Paris Triennial; New Museum, New York; São Paulo Biennial; and Istanbul Biennial. Geta Brătescu represented Romania in the 2017 Venice Biennale with the project "Apparitions", the first solo show of a female artist in the Romanian Pavilion.

In her collage series *The Game of Forms*, she plays with cuts out of the world, in a symbolic manner - she includes them, designates and circumscribes them, "draws" them during a manual as well as a cognitive process. Geta Brătescu talked about drawing with scissors to describe this manner of work. Sometimes made with her eyes closed, the drawings are traces of her hands, dwelling between the cerebral eye and imagination.

Size each collage:

18 x 12.5 cm

7.1 x 4.9 in

Medium: Collage (8 pieces)

Signed "Geta Brătescu" and dated on the cover. Signed, dated and titled on each collage.

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

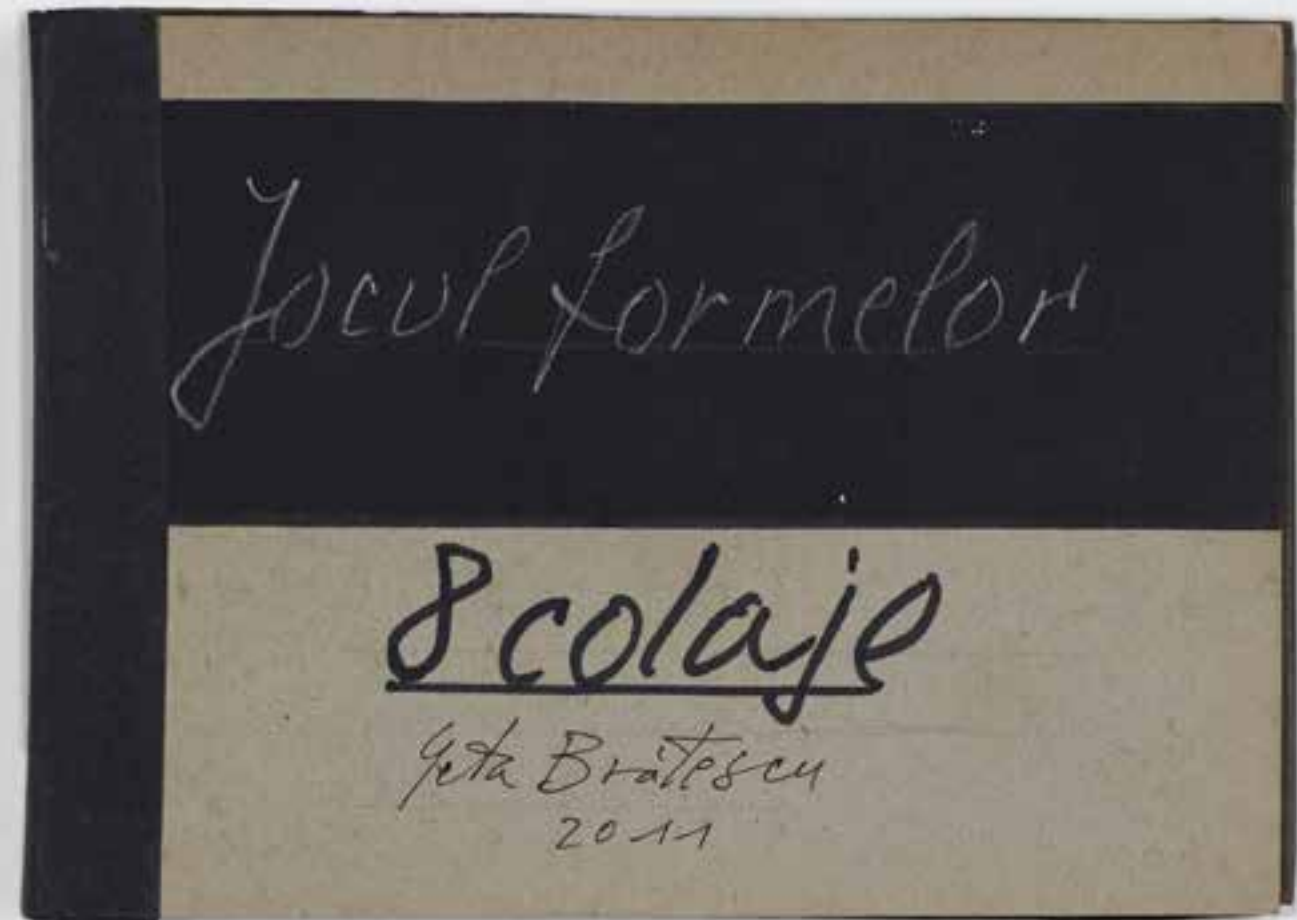
Bucharest, Romania

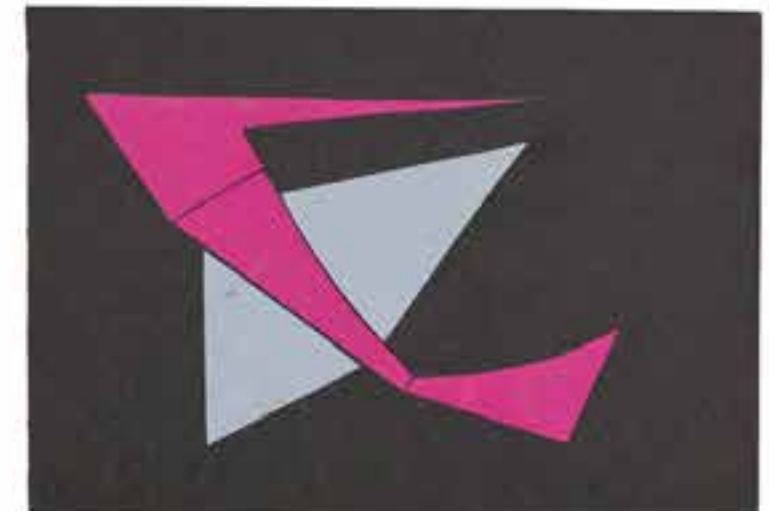
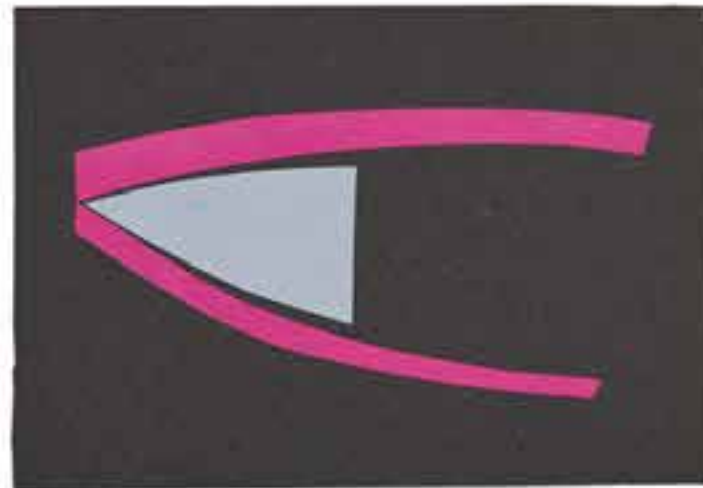
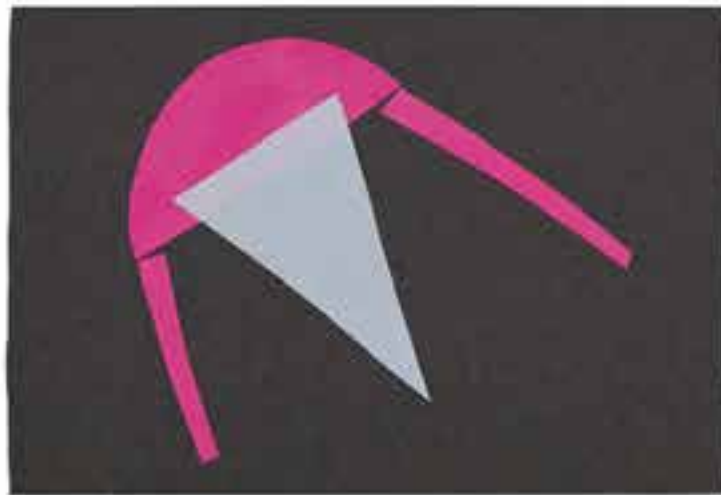
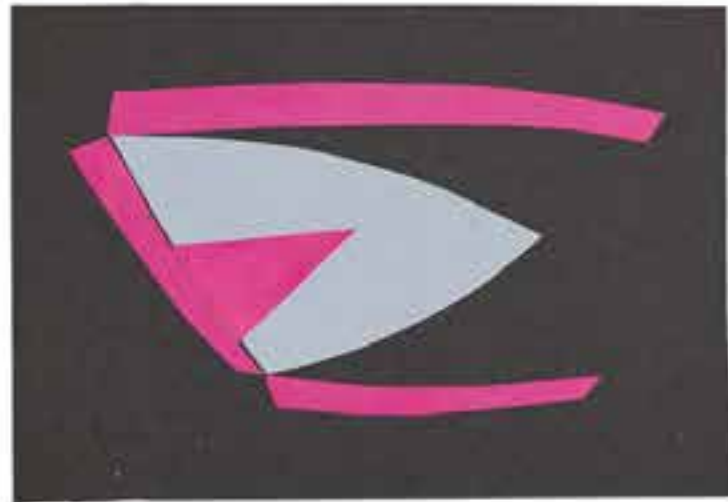
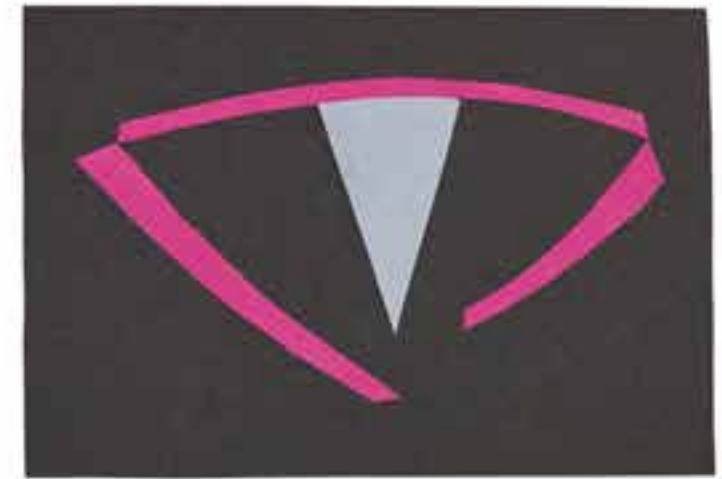
Estimate:

€12,000 - €18,000

Starting price:

€9,000



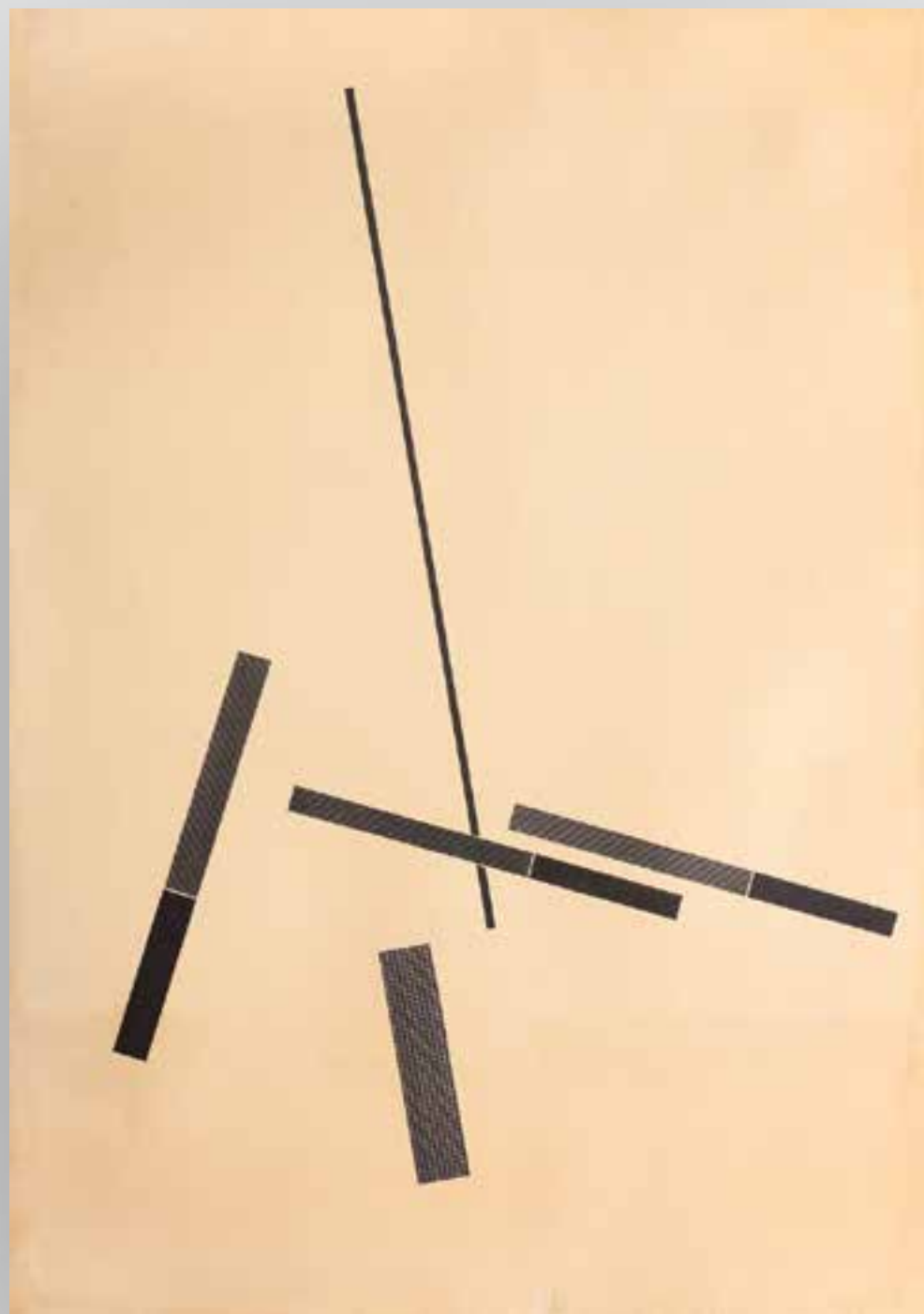


DIET SAYLER

*Variations (A.K. 45, 1969)**

*Diet Sayler is a Romanian painter and sculptor of German ethnicity and a leading figure of the Romanian artistic Neo-avantgarde of the 1960s–1970s. Distancing himself from the regime in Romania, he settled on a visual language deeply rooted in mathematics, music, architecture, movement and seriality. Concerned with the principles of Constructivism and geometric abstraction, Sayler aimed to develop an aesthetic of the “rigour,” translated into a visual system based on the dialectic of contrasts and chance. His early series of works include ambitious aesthetic programs, such as *Monotypes* (1963–1967) and *Arhythmical Compositions I–XII* (1968–1969). Sayler relocated to Germany in 1972, where he continues to live and work, and carried out a significant academic and theoretical activity as Professor at the Academy of Fine Arts in Nurnberg from 1992 to 2005.*

*Sayler’s works are featured in the collections of international museums and galleries around the world, one of the series of serigraphs which is part of the collection of the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York being based on the work *Variations* (1969) included in this auction.*



Size:
100 x 70 cm
39.4 x 27.6 in

Medium: Oil on paper
Signed on the reverse, “Diet Sayler AK45/969”

Provenance
Private Collection, Romania

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€3,500 - €5,500

Starting price:
€3,000

DIMITRIJE BAŠIČEVIĆ MANGELOS

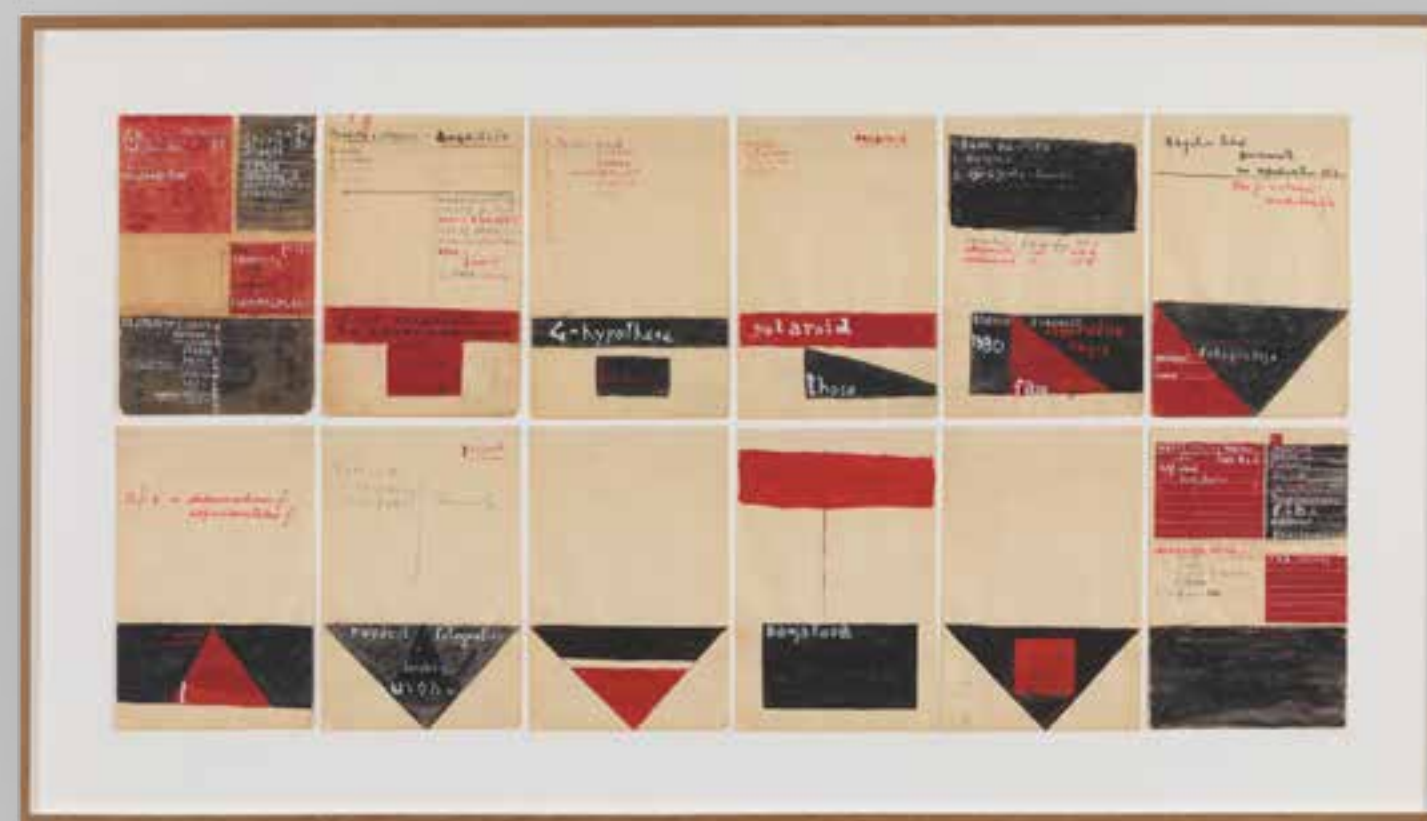
Projects and Topics (Projects and Topics Projekti i teme, 1978)

Dimitrije Bašičević Mangelos was an influential artist, curator and art critic who was associated with the Avantgarde Gorgona Group, a renowned collective of Yugoslav artists and thinkers who worked together from 1959 to 1966. From the beginning of his art activity, his primary materials were notebooks, slates, globes, and ready-mades, which he transformed and reinterpreted by inscribing them with letters, words, sentences, Cyrillic or Glagolitic characters and sometimes longer texts in Latin. His approach was deeply grounded in philosophy and aimed to investigate the prospect of painting after the experience of wartime and devastation.

The result of his investigation was a unique form of anti-art that established a direct relationship between image and text. The work of Mangelos has been presented in various notable international exhibitions at the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Tate Modern, London; Serralves Museum, Porto; Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo; Venice Biennale; Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Carré d'Art Musée d'Art Contemporain, Nîmes; HKW, Berlin and many others. His works are found today in eminent public and private collections

Exhibitions

Exhibited in the exhibition Gorgona, Postgorgona, P420, Bologna, 2017



Full size:
80 x 45 cm
31.5 x 17.7 in

(12 units) each work:
16.4 x 10.9 cm
6.5 x 4.3 in

Medium: Tempera and pencil on paper

Provenance

Private Collection, Zagreb.

Location

Zagreb, Croatia

Estimate:
€15,000 - €18,000

Starting price:
€10,000

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EDWARD DWURNIK

ŁÓDŹ (2018)*

Edward Dwurnik is an outstanding Polish painter and graphic artist, undoubtedly one of the most recognizable personalities in Polish contemporary art. His oeuvre has been called ironic and grotesque, and includes expansive painting cycles focusing on recurrent social and political themes, produced in multiple versions, often simultaneously. His work has been exhibited at the Academy of Fine Arts, Warsaw; Bunkier Sztuki, Kraków; MOCAR, Kraków; Schaulager, Basel; Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin; Zachęta National gallery of Art, Warsaw; Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris; Museum Ludwig, Cologne; Stedelijk Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven; Documenta, Kassel; Sydney biennial; Museum of Art, Indianapolis; Museum moderner Kunst, Vienna; Padiglione d'Arte Contemporanea, Milan, and many others. His work also features in many private and public collections in Poland and abroad.

He used his expressive language to depict Polish society, the inhabitants of large cities, members of various social groups, and contemporary political situations. His talent for using caricature, irony, and critical commentary with a large dose of warmth and affection results in an unparalleled style that makes his depictions truly unique. Dwurnik repeatedly makes reference to the urban fabric, creating his own mythology around the iconic places of Warsaw and other Polish cities.

This artwork is accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity.

Size sculpture:

46 x 55 cm

18.1 x 21.6 in

With frame:

72 x 82 cm

28.3 x 32.3 in

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Signed, titled and dated on the reverse, 2018, E. Dwurnik, "ŁÓDŹ", NR IX - 2436 - 7462

Provenance

Private Collection, Poland.

Location

Poland

Estimate:

€16,000 - €22,000

Starting price:

€10,000



HALIMA NAŁĘCZ

*Animal Kingdom (Królestwo zwierząt, 1974)**

Halima Nałęcz spent most of her youth as a political refugee, moving around Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Before settling in England in 1947, she studied at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the Stefan Batory University, Poland, under the supervision of professor Michał Rouby. A visual artist, gallerist and patron of the arts, Nałęcz had a significant contribution in supporting the work of artists from the Polish diaspora as well as in promoting Avantgarde art on the British market. Ranging from abstract to figurative, her paintings of the macro and micro elements of the natural world - from plants to animals, anthropomorphic figures and celestial bodies - reveal, augment and translate the power of nature. Painted spontaneously, in a natural rhythm and pastel colours, her canvases evoke love, pleasure and imagination.

Nałęcz was the co-founder of the New Vision Gallery and the owner of Drian Galleries at Porchester Place, London, her choice of artists focusing on Western European modern art. Among the artists she presented are Leon Zack, John Bellany, Geoffrey Armstrong, Grace Gardner, Zygmunt Turkiewicz, Ray Walker, Carl Luther, Kajt Kapolka, Eve Garrison, Edward Rogers. She donated works of contemporary art collected over the years, including her own works, to the National Museum in Warsaw and Gdańsk. In 2000, the documentation of the gallery's artistic activity and the artists exhibiting there, were transferred to the Tate Gallery Library in London.

Size:
50 x 60 cm
19.7 x 23.6 in

With frame:
54 x 64 x 3 cm
21.3 x 25.2 x 1.2 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Signed and dated lower right, "Nałęcz 74"

Provenance

Private Collection, London. A gift from the artist to the present owner.

Location

Poland

Estimate:
€2,000 - €3,000

Starting price:
€2,000



DRAGAN ILIĆ

Untitled (2016)

Born in 1948, Serbian – Australian – American artist, Dragan Ilić lives and works in New York and Belgrade. In 2009, he founded the experimental performance space ITS-Z1, a platform for the intersection of art and science, hosting acclaimed artists such as Stelarc. Ilić's work has been featured on tv and in galleries, including: documenta, PS 1 MoMa, the Center for Cultural Decontamination in Belgrade, Queens Museum of Art, and, in April 2010, at the Museum of Science in Boston, as a part of National Robotics Week, as well as at Ars Electronica, Linz, in 2016 and 2017. In the year 2019, he exhibited his works at the International Triennial of Expanded Media, Multimedia Art, and New Media Art, in Belgrade, Serbia and in the same year he had a major solo exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Belgrade (MCA/MSU). He is represented by GV Art London.

This artwork is a mixed-media artwork utilising graphite pencils and acrylic paints, a combination of draughtsmanship and painting techniques, realised by means of patterns drawn with proprietary DI Drawing Devices and layered painterly brushwork. The forms realised in two different artistic mediums are presented as superimposed on top of each other, thus creating multi-dimensional layering, and also the forms themselves seem to be juxtaposed so as to simultaneously contrast and blend the forms in their respective multiple dimensions of black and white drawing patterns and painted coloured shapes and forms. The artwork represents a symbolic merger of the artist's dominant styles from different stylistic and experimental periods. The dominant coloured centre-structured form has an almost sculptural or volumetric semblance and appeal, whereas the complex entangled and criss-crossing parallel lines and forms represent and symbolise the myriad symmetries of a sacred geometric, mathematical universe.

Size (Framed/Encased in heavy duty transparent acrylic plastic sheet - Perspex - polymethyl methacrylate):

132 x 132 cm

52 x 52 in

Medium: Mixed-media on paper (DI device drawings with Graphite pencils/Acrylic colors)

Provenance

Private Collection, London.

Location

London

Estimate:

€7,000 - €9,000

Starting price:

€5,500



ALEXANDRU CHIRA

The Sower's Temple - De-sign for Stereo - Poem (1993)

Artist Alexandru Chira was born in Tăușeni, in Cluj County, Romania. He graduated from the painting department of the Nicolae Grigorescu Institute of Fine Arts, leaving his mark on Romanian fine arts through a conceptual approach, overloaded with meaning and symbolism, with the discovery and dialogue with himself, the viewer, the surrounding world and transcendence. Ironically defining himself "a master of utopia", he conceived a world of images and words that contains and exposes them, sometimes even repetitively, but surpasses them at the same time through the subtlety of feelings and the complexity of forms. A multidimensional message and an obsession for complex communication are permanently visible in his works, manifested through a pluri-dimensional oeuvre that encompasses painting, drawing, installation, land-art, film, articles, essays and specialised studies. Chira was the head of ALCHIRA Cultural Foundation and of the Painting Department of the Fine Arts University in Bucharest.

During his lifetime, he received several distinctions including the Cultural Merit Award given by the President of Romania, the Union of Fine Arts (UAP) Prize, the Romanian Academy Award. He had solo and group exhibitions in Slovenia, USA, Romania, Japan, Austria, France and Brazil among other places and published extensively in art magazines and cultural publications.

Literature

The work is reproduced in the *Catalogue Raisonné Alexandru Chira*, edited by the Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest.

The work is accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity from the artist estate.

Size:

60 x 70 cm

23.6 x 27.6 in

Medium: Watercolour, charcoal, ink and pencil on paper on cardboard
Signed on the front, al. chira, 93

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

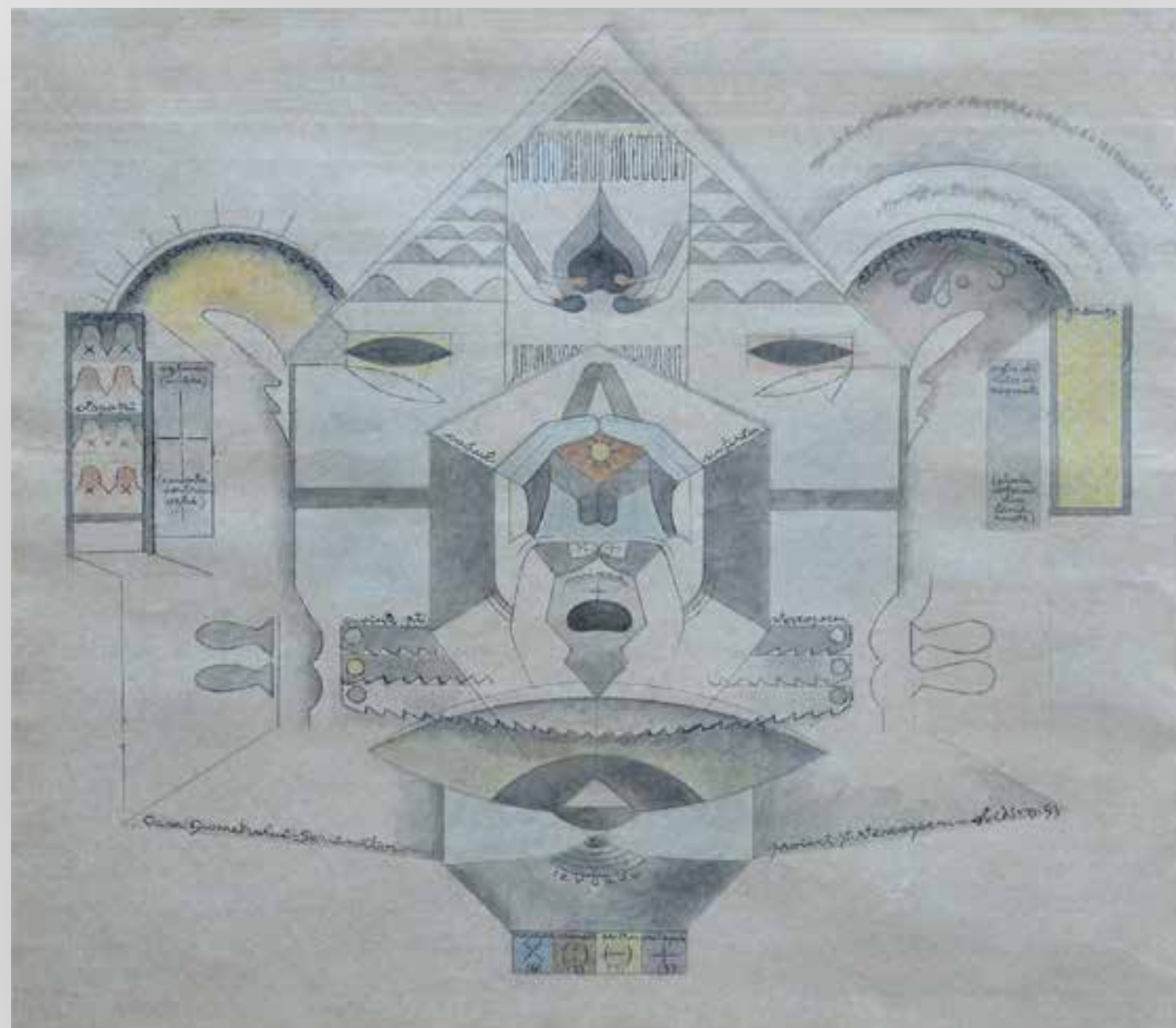
Bucharest, Romania

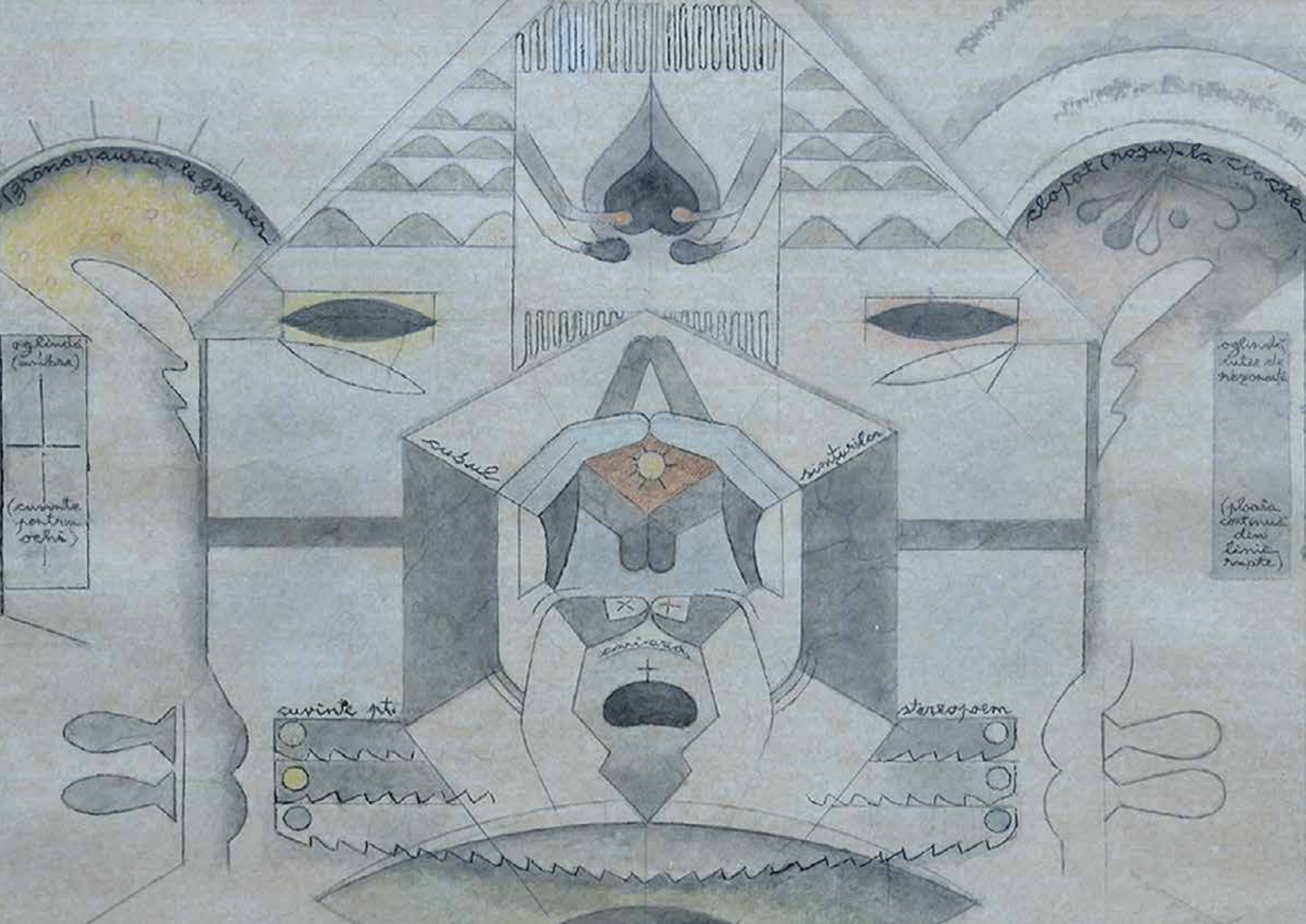
Estimate:

€3,000 - €5,000

Starting price:

€2,400





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ION GRIGORESCU

*Top Bottom 2 (from the series “Artist on the roof”, 2008 - 2011)**

Ion Grigorescu started his work in the early '70s in the oppressive context of Ceaușescu's regime. Working in relative isolation during the regime, he produced many series in the intimacy of his studio or in nature, which he only exhibited after the 1989 Revolution. His performances, films and photographs focus mainly on the body and politics. His work gained wider recognition in the 1990s, after the fall of the dictatorship, and along fellow Eastern European artists such as Mladen Stilinović, Jiří Kovanda, Jülius Koller, he is recognized for his role in cultivating resistance and underground art.

Grigorescu is also one of the artists who have radically and conceptually illustrated contemporary concerns in perfect synchronicity with his time. In the last years, by using again the body as a tool in photography, performance and even sculpture, he examined it in contemporary contexts and different postures – the worker, the artist.

Size:
110 x 85 cm
43.3 x 33.5 in

Medium: C-print mounted on aluminium, AP, unique print in this size.

Provenance

Purchased directly from the artist. Private Collection, Netherlands, artist copy, unique edition in this size.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€2,000 - €4,000

Starting price:
€1,400



ANDREI PANDELE

*Revolution 2 (1989)**

Photographer and architect Andrei Pandele was a close witness to the systematic destruction of buildings in Bucharest by the communist regime, which he documented with his camera. He is the author of several photography books dedicated to the retrieval of a beloved city and its lost memories, among which December '89 in 89 images, 2019; Mutilated Bucharest, 2018; The House of the People, an ending in marble, 2009.

His works were included in exhibitions at Musée de Normandie - Château de Caen; the Museum of National Contemporary Art, Bucharest; Solidarnosc Centre, Gdansk; in private collections and prestigious auction houses such as Sotheby's. He has been an invited guest in festivals such as Photo Israel, Tel Aviv; Fall of Communism Photo Festival, Bratislava; Visa pour l'Image Festival, Perpignan; Noorderlicht Photography Festival, Groningen.

Size:

17.6 x 11.6 cm

6.9 x 4.6 in

Medium: Vintige print

Signed in pencil on the reverse

Provenance

Private Collection, Romania.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€400 - €600

Starting price:

€250



SLAVKO MATKOVIĆ

Help from the Cycle Pop Stars (1973)

Slavko Matković was one of the most prominent Serbian conceptual artists. His artistic practice focuses on questioning the authorship of a work of art and the relation between the visual and linguistic aspect of a work of art through the forms of visual poetry, body art, comics, poetry, painting, performance and film. He is a co-founder of the Bosch+Bosch group that was active from 1969 through 1976. The founding members were Slavko Matković, Edit Basch, István Krekovic, Zoltán Magyar, László Szalma, Bálint Szombathy and Slobodan Tomanović.

László Kerekes joined in 1971, followed by Katalin Ladik and Attila Csernik in 1973 and Ante Vukov in 1975. Slavko Matković's individual work and the work in the context of the group have been shown in many important exhibitions and prominent institutions around the world, including Moderna Galerija, Ljubljana; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; The Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw; Museum Ludwig, Budapest; Shedhalle, Zurich; IVAM Valencia; MACBA, Barcelona; ZKM Karlsruhe and many others.

Literature

Reproduced in the publication Bosch+Bosch, acb RESEARCHLAB, 2016

Size:
29.5 x 41.8 cm
11.6 x 16.5 in

Medium: Paper, print, pen
Signed on the reverse

Provenance
Private Collection, Belgrade.

Location
Belgrade, Serbia

Estimate:
€2,000 - €4,000

Starting price:
€1,400



HORTENSIA MI KAFCHIN

*The Collector's Allegory (2012)**

Hortensia Mi Kafchin is known for her complex, surreal figurative paintings. In 2010, she graduated from the University of Art and Design in Cluj, where she specialised in pottery, glass and metal. Working with a broad range of media from drawing and painting to sculpture and installation, the artist immerses her viewer into dystopian and sensual scenarios backed by mythological and historical themes that invite us to question readings of the past and of the present.

The Romanian artist has had solo and group shows at major institutions such as the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Bucharest, Romania; the Austrian Museum of Applied Arts in Vienna, Austria; the Espace Cultural Louis Vuitton in Paris, France; the Palais de Tokyo in Paris, France; the New Museum in New York, the United States of America; the Centre for Contemporary Art in Warsaw, Poland; the MuMoK Museum Moderner Kunst in Vienna, Austria and the Kunsthalle Budapest in Budapest, Hungary. She participated in the 2013 Prague Biennale, Czech Republic and La Triennale in Paris in 2012, France and is collected by renowned private and public collections such as the Art Collection Telekom Centre, Germany; Centre National d'Art et de Culture Georges-Pompidou in Paris, France.

Size:	Size:	Size:
60.5 x 20.5 cm	60.5 x 20.5 cm	69 x 20 cm
23.8 x 8.1 in	23.8 x 8.1 in	27.2 x 7.9 in

Medium: Black ink on thin cardboard

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

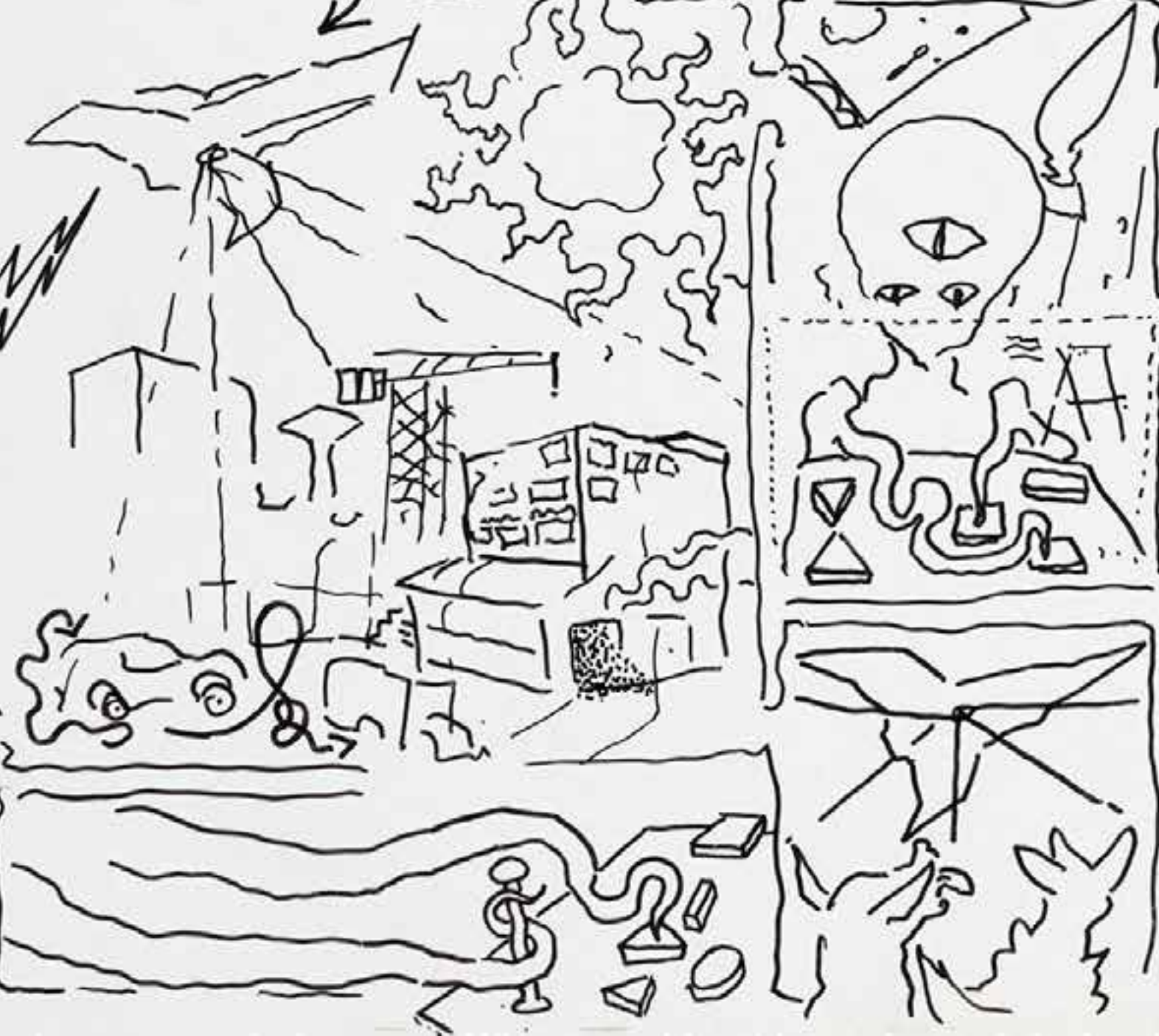
Estimate:

€1,500 - €3,000

Starting price:

€1,500







HORIA BERNEA

*Column (1996)**

Painter Horia Bernea is a cornerstone for Romanian contemporary art. Placing emphasis on texture and the materiality of painting, his works captured ways of dealing with the spiritual challenges of contemporary times. One of the artists belonging to the neo-orthodoxist art movement, his practice is emblematic of the transition from the 1970s Avantgarde stage in art to the purest form of traditional art. Going backwards from post-cognitive conceptual iconography, his works redefined some of the major themes of figurative painting in a sacral note. The Roman period of his oeuvre coincides with the last part of his life, as a revelation that the millennial art of Rome is a paradigm that validates posthumously his prolific artistic path. During the period of his Roman trips, his works tend to emphasise an old and obsessive problem for the artist, the consistency and materiality of painting, but not in formalist terms, but as a means to certify the very substance of timeless art. From 1990 until his death in 2000 he was director of the newly (re)opened Romanian Peasant Museum, an institution that received in 1996 the "European Museum of the Year" award. His works have been shown in the Vienna Biennale; in the Art Encounters Biennale, Timișoara and they have been part of exhibitions at Centre Pompidou, Paris; Richard Demarco Gallery, Edinburgh; The Romanian Pavilion in The Venice Biennale, among many others.

In painting series connected to his period in Rome, Bernea questioned the Eternal city, rich in visual details, in catacomb painting or imperial domus frescos, columns, stunning mosaics and polychrome marbles that decorate old churches and sublimate the sense of daily sacrality.

Size:
110 x 85 cm
43.3 x 33.5 in

Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed and dated on the front lower right, "Bernea, 96"

Provenance
Private collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€5,000 - €8,000

Starting price:
€3,500

ANDREI CĂDERE

*Red Moon (Luna roșie, 1964)**

Andrei Cădere was a Romanian conceptual artist and a key figure of the 1970s Avantgarde generation which contested the nature of the art object and its institutional framework. He emigrated to France in 1967, soon becoming known as “The Stick Man”. His nickname was gained from his appearances in public sites and at gallery openings with his “Barres de bois rond” – round wooden bars painted in stripes of a limited colour palette that he carried on his shoulders. Cădere was one of the first artists to realise that objects were inseparable from the market and institutional contexts. He had a close relationship with painting in his practice, considering even his wooden bars as “endless paintings”.

The work Red Moon dates from his period in communist Romania, during which he painted works of a ludic, surrealist dimension with pop-art insertions. In contrast to the minimalism for which he is well-known, the works from the 1960s reveal a lesser-known, reflexive and sometimes self-ironic view of the world.

Size:
31.5 x 44.5 cm
12.4 x 17.5 in

With frame:
46 x 59 cm
18.1 x 23.2 in

Medium: Oil on paper mounted on wood
Signed and dated lower left, “Cădere 64”

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€8,000 - €10,000

Starting price:
€7,000



OCTAV GRIGORESCU

*Composition (c.1980)**

Octav Grigorescu was a Romanian painter, graphic artist, book illustrator and a fine arts professor. He started his career as an illustrator of classical texts such as Divina Comedia by Dante or Proust's In Search of A Lost Time. Ranging from abstract painting on canvas to book illustrations, Octav's personal explorations of the various expressions of modern visuality brought to fruition an almost invisible materiality, asking to be discovered through the intuition and understanding of the viewer. A typically Avantgarde nostalgia for the primordial and worship of the elementary and a postmodernist taste for the presentiment of death - that filter in a subtle way echoes of Da Vinci or Poussin - remain coherent throughout his works.

He represented Romania at the 34th Venice Biennial, together with Virgil Almășanu and Ovidiu Maitec, and was present in many national and international exhibitions around the world



Size:
100 x 81 cm
39.4 x 31.9 in

Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed on the reverse, "Octav Grigorescu"

Provenance
Private collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€8,000 - €12,000

Starting price:
€6,500

ALEXANDRU ISTRATI

*Composition (1989)**

Alexandru Istrati (1915-1991) was a Franco-Romanian Avantgarde painter and winner of the Prix Kandinsky in 1953. His work was characterised by the application of spots, blotches, or stains of colour to the canvas and was associated with Tachism. He exploited the raw physicality of the use of paint, turning his canvases into highly energetic sculptural objects, rather than mere two-dimensional representations. His work was exhibited at Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris; Fondation Maeght, Saint-Paul de Vence; Musée d'Art Contemporain, Dunkerque; Circle and Square Gallery, New York; Gres Gallery, Washington D.C.; Galería de Arte Contemporáneo, Caracas; Galleria del Naviglio, Milan; Kunstverein, Cologne; Musée Nationale d'Art Moderne, Paris; Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Madrid; Kunsthal-le Zurich; San Francisco Museum; and the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C.

Although Tachism was never a formally unified movement, it became an artistic term applied to several artists in the mid and second half of the twentieth century whose works were similar in their expression of intense emotions and universal themes. Artists who employed this approach did not start with an idea and then finish a painting, but simply began to paint, guided by instinct, letting gestures, expressive media, and subconscious feelings guide their work. It was only when their works were finished that they began to attach meaning to them.

Size:

146 x 114 cm

57.5 x 44.9 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Signed on the front upper left, "A. Istrati"

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€7,000 - €9,000

Starting price:

€5,500



NATALIA DUMITRESCU

*Bleu Carmes (16.09.1992-1993)**

Natalia Dumitrescu was born in Bucharest in 1915. She graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Bucharest. Her lifelong marriage with the Romanian sculptor Alexandre Istrati made them an important artist couple of the time. They moved to Paris in 1947 where they shared the studio with Constantin Brâncuși with whom they are buried in Montparnasse Cemetery. Her artist friend played an important part in Natalia Dumitrescu's recognition and the publication of her monography in 1986. In Paris she was part of the Réalités Nouvelles after WWII. Wassily Kandinsky had a major influence on her practice which can be seen in how she created abstract forms with small, coloured squares on her canvases.

She received the Kandinsky Prize in 1955. Her method was austere and before moving to France she exclusively used black and white. While her strict austerity did not change and the geometric modulations of squares, grids, rectangles and diamonds remained, she familiarised herself with colour theory, which is later reflected in her works.



Size:
92 x 73 cm
36.2 x 28.7 in

Medium: Oil on canvas
Signed on the front lower right, "N. Dumitrescu"

Provenance
Private collection, Bucharest.

Location
Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€5,000 - €7,000

Starting price:
€4,400

MAGDALENA RĂDULESCU

*After Pollock Composition (1968)**

Magdalena Rădulescu's body of work is inspired by Romanian traditions and folklore that include the world of local weddings and village gatherings, circuses, fairs, and everything that represented movement and life in the countryside. Her use of the folkloric inspiration is not in a decorative or picturesque fashion, but rather as a repertoire of architectural shapes. In vibrant compositions, she sought a return to an essential, primordial harmony of the group. A skilled portraitist, Rădulescu captured the faces of many people she encountered during her lifetime.

*In 1946, she moved to Nice, and in the following period had exhibitions in Paris, Marseille, Aix-en-Provence, London, Lausanne, Rome, Milan and Bucharest. Going further into abstraction, she finds, in the work *After Pollock Composition*, the common ground of dance with one's body employed by Jackson Pollock in his canvases. She participated in the Venice Biennale in 1928 and had exhibitions at, among others, Salon des Independents, Paris; Zak Gallery, Paris; the Romanian Athenaeum, Bucharest; the Royal Palace, Bucharest; La Demarque, Paris; Henri Gaffie Gallery, Marseille.*

Size:

44 x 65 cm

17.3 x 25.6 in

Medium: Oil on cardboard

Signed and dated on the front, lower left, "Magdalena Radulesco, 1968"

Provenance

Private Collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:

€3,000 - €5,000

Starting price:

€2,400





ION DUMITRIU

*Hill from Titila (Titila Vest, 1973)**

Ion Dumitriu's practice spans both the mediums of painting and photography. He was an active representative of Romanian Neo-avantgarde art, student of Lola Roth Schmierer and a dedicated art teacher throughout his career. Along with other Romanian artists such as his close friend Horia Bernea, he began to attend, and eventually become part of, the group of painters known as the School of Poiana Mărului. Through photography, Dumitriu documented a natural, rural world that would analytically transgress to painting.

Most of his works between the 1970s and until the 1990s are closely tied to the special ambiance of Poiana Mărului village, and to the pictorial motifs found in the rural universe. These motifs – the haystack, the hill, the peasant house, are transformed into archetypes intertwining the material with the spiritual while visually focusing on cut-out fragments that recur obsessively in cycles and series. Dumitriu's essentialized studies of the natural reflect, in fact, upon the relationship between man and nature.



Size:
60.5 x 50.5 cm
23.8 x 19.9 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Signed on the front lower right, "Ion D". Signed, titled and dated on the reverse, I. Dumitriu, "Titila Vest", 8-VII-1973.

Provenance

Private collection, Bucharest.

Location

Bucharest, Romania

Estimate:
€2,000 - €4,000

Starting price:
€1,400

JANINA KRAUPE

*Blue Suite (Niebieska Suita, 1988)**

Janina Kraupe was a painter and printmaker, closely associated with the Avantgarde of Kraków and the artistic group formed around the city's School of Applied Arts during WWII. She studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków, where she also became a lecturer until 1980. In 1957, she became a member of the Grupa Krakowska. Kraupe was interested in the culture of the Far East and Zen philosophy, her works having echoes of Surrealism. She began painting at the age of seventeen and had several teachers during her studies including Eugenius Eibisch and Konrad Srzednicki. Her fascination with the multi-fabric of human existence is captured in compositions exploring a constant state of passing time and phenomena, images and sensations.

The fluidity of signs and symbols represented in Blue Suite, 1988 relates to metamorphosis, a notion that best captured her preoccupations, doubled by the freedom to use colour. Easily perceived, one of her strongest influences is music, through which she immersed herself in creating lyrical compositions with cosmic elements and colourful infiltrations. Her works are represented in the collections of the National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C. and the Olomouc Museum of Art in Czechia.

Size:

71 x 62 cm

27.9 x 24.4 in

Medium: Oil on canvas

Singed on the front lower right, "J. Kraupe". Signed, titled and dated on the reverse, "Janina Kraupe, Niebieska Suita, 1998"

Provenance

Private Collection, Poland.

Location

Poland

Estimate:

€3,000 - €4,000

Starting price:

€2,400





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