

THE ROMANIAN ACADEMY
The G. Oprescu Institute of Art History



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

HORIZONS

OF MODERN ROMANIAN SCULPTURE: FROM KARL STORCK TO CONSTANTIN BRANCUSI



THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ART OF ROMANIA
Bucharest, Calea Victoriei 49-53
May 28-29, 2026

PROGRAMME

May 28, 2026

9:45–10:00. Arrival of participants

10:00–10:20. Opening remarks

Dr. Erwin Kessler, Director of the National Museum of Art of Romania
Dr. Adrian-Silvan Ionescu, Director of the “G. Oprescu” Institute of Art History

KEYNOTE SPEECH

10:20–10:50. **Jonathan Vernon**: *Brancusi: Limits and Contradictions*

10:50–11:00. Q&A

FIRST SESSION chaired by Dr. Doina Lemny

11:05–11:20. **Barbara Vujanović**: *Archaic Bodies, Modern Forms: Brâncuși and Meštrović between Spiritual Abstraction and Monumental Expression*

11:20–11:35. **Virginia Barbu**: *Brancusi’s “Timidity”: An Elliptical Unique Work*

11:35–11:50. **Ruxandra Dreptu**: *Maternity, patinated plaster, 1936. An original work by Ion Vlasiu*

11:50–12:05. Q&A

12:05–12:20. Break

SECOND SESSION chaired by Dr. Vlad Bedros

12:20–12:35. **Eduard Enache**: *The Construction of a Self-Referential Myth: An Analysis of Brancusi’s Journey from Bucharest to Paris (1904)*

12:35–12:50. **Eduard Andrei**: *A Missed Opportunity: On the (Im)Possible Brancusi Exhibition in New York in 1939*

12:50–13:05. **Melania Andronic**: *The Romanian Pavilion at the Venice Biennale as a “National Device”: Sculpture, Identity, and Modernity from 1989 to 2019*

13:05–13:20. **Diana Roman**: *Diversity and Identity Configurations in Romanian Female Sculpture after 1989*

13:20–13:35. Q&A

13:35–14:35. Lunch break

KEYNOTE SPEECH

14:35–15:05. Doina Lemny: *A Gift for “Brancusi Year” – A Unique Collection of Original Photographs*

15:05–15:15. Q&A

THIRD SESSION chaired by Dr. Ruxandra Dreptu

15:20–15:35. Steve Yates: *Constantin Brancusi: Interchanges in Modernity, Sculpture and Photography*

15:35–15:50. Elena Ciocoiu: *Echoes of Constantin Brancusi’s Imaginary in Isamu Noguchi’s Imaginary*

15:50–16:05. Raluca Partenie: *Visions of Form: An Interdisciplinary Inquiry into the Sculptural and the Sartorial*

16:05–16:20. Q&A

16:20–16:35. Break

FOURTH SESSION chaired by Dr. Judit Balint

16:35–16:50. Ana Maria Măciucă-Pufu: *Portraying Constantin Brancusi: Milița Petrașcu, Sculpture, Memory, and Artistic Authority*

16:50–17:05. Vlad Vieru: *Heteronormativity and Balkan Feminism in Romanian Art. Case Study: The Art of the Couple Frederic Storck and Cecilia Cuțescu-Storck*

17:05–17:20. Mihaela Ion: *The Paradigms of Constantin Brancusi’s Work in Contemporary Art*

17:20–17:35. Q&A

May 29, 2026

KEYNOTE SPEECH

10:00–10:30. Cristian-Robert Velescu: *Constantin Brancusi, trois Muses endormies. Identification et approche iconologique : La Muse Rumsey, La Muse Guggenheimer, La « Pseudo-Muse Guggenheimer ». La « part » d'Erik Satie*

FIFTH SESSION chaired by Dr. Jonathan Vernon

10:35–10:50. Alexandra Parigoris: *Looking through Brancusi's bronze Newborn II*

10:50–11:05. Julia Frieberger: *Moving sculpture: Constantin Brancusi's Prometheus at Kettle's Yard*

11:05–11:20. Chase J. Pendleton: *Metamorphoses: Constantin Brancusi After Transgender Studies*

11:20–11:35. Q&A

11:35–11:50. Break

SIXTH SESSION chaired by Dr. Barbara Vujanović

11:50–12:05. Adrian-Silvan Ionescu: *Karl and Carol Storck, Father and Son, Sculptors. The American Correspondence*

12:05–12:20. Cătălina Macovei: *Stylistic Developments in the Graphic Art of Hovaghim Torosian*

12:20–12:35. Luigi Bambulea: *Brancusi as a Presocratic: An Iconological Diagnosis and a Methodological Proposal*

12:35–12:50. Dalina Bădescu: *The Poetic Reception of "The Way of the Heroes" Monumental Ensemble in Margareta Sterian's Poetry*

12:50–13:05. Q&A

13:05–14:05. Lunch break

SEVENTH SESSION chaired by Dr. Virginia Barbu

14:05–14:20. Adriana Șotropa: *A Generation Abroad: Academic Training in France and Germany and the Making of Modern Romanian Sculpture*

14:20–14:35. Alexandra-Elisabeta Moț: *Study and Creation among "Gladiators": The Artistic Reception of Ancient Sculpture within the Sculpture Department of the School of Fine Arts in Bucharest*

14:35–14:50. Macrina Oproiu: *Romanian Sculptors in the Peleş National Museum Collection*

14:50–15:05. Felicia Raetchi: *"The Medrea School" in the Genealogy of Modern Romanian Sculpture*

15:05–15:20. Q&A

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