

## G. Oprescu Institute of Art History

### FEMINISM AND CULTURE.

#### RELEVANCE AND PERSPECTIVES IN ART HISTORY AND CULTURAL ANALYSIS

27 November 2009

The „G. Oprescu” Institute of Art History hosted an international symposium focused on feminist art theory and cultural analysis. The event brought together art historians and theoreticians from Romania and other cultural areas interested in feminist art theories and practices and cultural analysis. It was the first event dedicated to this issue in the history of the Institute.

Dismissed as a marginal issue, feminism in art and culture has imposed, contrariwise, as an unprecedented phenomenon with global extension, with direct, radical or moderate impact according to the different context of each cultural area. Feminist art and theory had a groundbreaking impact and effect in art history from 1960s. Feminist art theory has proved to be extremely resourceful and opened new ways of approaching the artistic phenomenon. The symposium was meant to create the possibility of a dialogue among theoreticians from different cultural areas, to establish contacts between Romanian and foreign curators, critics, professors, theoreticians and artists. Comparing perspectives on feminist issues and discussing ways and means to explore art history and culture through a relevant feminist discourse can contribute to transforming the attitude towards feminist art theory and practice in a natural environment of discussion

among art historians and critics, artists, institutions, media. From approaches on women’s contribution to art and culture or the re-evaluation of women’s representation in terms of gender stereotypes within culture and various periods of art history, to actual feminist art criticism in the current state of feminist discourse, to approaching theories/histories or marginal histories of feminist art practices, the symposium has created an introduction to the issues of feminist art history and a platform for theoretical feminist debate. The different forms of analysis were placed in relation to a variety of feminist theories of gender, politics, experience, social and cultural mores, historical understanding, different methods of feminist art criticism and discussion of different working practices and cultural concerns. The symposium constitutes the natural follow up of Perspective 2008 project, the first international feminist art project in Romania, which included an exhibition with 13 artists from 11 countries at Anaid Art Gallery in Bucharest, a lecture at the National University of Fine Arts held by Monica Mayer (Mexico) and a screening at Anaid Art Gallery with video collages from FemLink (France/USA).

Details at: <http://www.perspectiveproject.ro/>

**Project Director: Olivia Nițiș**



Introductory speech by Prof. **Silviu Angelescu**, Director of the Institute of Art History  
Introductory speech by Mrs. **Olivia Nițu**, Project Director

#### **First session**

**Aurora Liiceanu** (Romania)

*Old Stereotypes and Coping with the Change. Women Life Strategies after 1990*

**Ion Bogdan Lefter** (Romania)

*Romanian Context: Feminine / Feminist Art in Two Epochs (or four?: Communism / Post-Communism, the End of Modernity / the Beginning of Post-Modernity). Mentalities, Projects, Ideologies*

**Oana Băluță** (Romania)

*Modernity and Post modernity in Contemporary Romanian Feminism*

**Zuzana Stefkova** (Czech Republic)

*Teaching Difference: Feminist Discourse within Czech Art Education*

**Ramona Novicov** (Romania)

*Playground: From the Innocent Forest of Elian to the French Garden of Diana Gavrilas*

**Adriana Oprea** (Romania)

*For and Against a Romanian Feminist Art*

## **Second session**

Keynote Speaker: **Ferris Olin** (USA)

*Intersectionalities: Feminism, Art and Activism*

**Liviana Dan** (Romania)

*Act First, Think Later - That Way You Have Something to Think About / Marcia Tucker, a Visionary Curator*

**Liliana Alexandrescu** (Netherlands/Romania)

*Costume et différence sexuelle. Quelques aspects du corps féminin dans la fiction théâtrale / Costume and Sexual Difference. A Few Aspects of Woman's Body in Theatre Fiction*

**Enikő Magyari-Vincze** (Romania)

*Practicing an Engaged Feminist Cultural Analysis through Filmmaking*

**Marilena Preda Sânc** (Romania)

*Romanian Women Artists and / in Public Art*

**Céline Omer** (France)

*Image of the Romanian Woman: Beyond "Clichés"*

**Hemma Schmutz** (Austria)

*Ines Doujak's Dirty Old Women. Performing Age and Gender*

**Olivia Nițiș** (Romania)

*Perspective 2008 and the Feminist Curatorial Practice*

**Ioana Vlasiu** (Romania)

*Women Art as Modernity. Romania. 1916-1927*

Questions and Answers

Photo Album





Ferris Olin



Olivia Nițș, Zuzana Stefkova, Ramona Novicov



Ion Bogdan Lefter



Ioana Vlasiu



Speaking: Enikő Magyari-Vincze



Liliana Alexandrescu and Céline Omer