

***Jecza Gallery debuts in Bucharest, at Scânteia+, alongside Marius Bercea***

Opening: Thursday, November 6, 2025, 6:00 PM

Exhibition period : 17 May - 13 July 2025

Location: Jecza Gallery Bucharest – Piața Presei Libere 1

Visiting hours: Thursday–Saturday, 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM

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Jecza Gallery is pleased to announce its presence in the capital for the first time, marking this moment through a solo exhibition by the artist Marius Bercea, one of the most important representatives of contemporary Romanian art. The opening of the exhibition will take place on Saturday, May 17, at 17:00, at Scânteia+.

Conceptually inspired by the theatre of the absurd practiced by Eugen Ionescu in the play *The New Tenant*, Marius Bercea’s exhibition transforms the exhibition space into a stage set, in which painting and object play essential roles in a visual dramaturgy of alienation, accumulation, and reflection on the human condition. Just as Ionescu’s character—a tenant who is devoured by an apartment that becomes increasingly suffocating—, in Marius Bercea’s work, the viewer is invited to step into a layered, theatricalized world, where the works function as “stage panels,” and the props contribute to the construction of an overwhelming visual composition, in a generous space.

Marius Bercea’s artistic practice unfolds around an active interaction with a natural and urban framework in continuous change. His paintings often depict imaginary urban landscapes, unusual interiors and exteriors, or hyperbolized lush natural settings—places where time either seems to have stopped or takes you back into the past. These scenes evoke a certain nostalgia but, at the same time, refer to an uncertain future and reflect the complexity of societies undergoing transition. The architectural elements in his works—sometimes grand and imposing, other times fragile and on the verge of collapse—serve as metaphors for broader social and historical changes that characterize the places in which the artist has worked since the beginning.

We invite you to discover the exhibition *New Tenant | Sunshine Noir*, at the opening on May 17, starting at 17:00, at Scânteia+. The exhibition can be visited further from Thursday to Sunday, between 12:00 and 20:00, until July 13. Admission is free. We are waiting for you!

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## About Marius Bercea

Born in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, in 1979, Marius Bercea studied at the University of Art and Design in Cluj-Napoca. Alongside Adrian Ghenie, Victor Man, Servan Savu, and Ciprian Mureșan, Bercea is considered one of the most important artists of the Cluj School, a group of artists that formed in Cluj-Napoca after the Romanian Revolution of 1989. The subjects of his works are often placed in decorative but degraded settings, reflecting the intimate and deeply autobiographical nature of his work. Reality and fiction, growth and decay, personal memory and collective history collide in the artist's fragmented scenes, in which lush landscapes, imposing architecture, and elusive silhouettes coexist in a precarious balance.

Recent solo exhibitions of Bercea include *Shadow of Others*, MAKI Gallery (Tokyo, Japan, 2025); *This Side of Paradise*, Art Encounters Foundation (Timișoara, Romania, 2024); *Echo of a Breaking String*, Lyles & King (New York, USA, 2024); *Blue Silk*, François Ghebaly (New York, USA, 2022); and *The Far Sound of Cities*, MAKI Gallery (Tokyo, Japan, 2021). His works are also part of numerous public and private collections, such as ARKEN Museum of Modern Art, Ishøj, Denmark; Taubman Museum of Art, Roanoke, Virginia; Kistefos Museum, Jevnaker, Norway; Zabłudowicz Collection, London; Olbricht Collection, Berlin; Ovidiu Sandor Collection; Manns Collection, etc.

## About Tevž Logar

Tevž Logar is a curator, editor, and independent author. He has curated or co-curated a series of group and solo exhibitions and has collaborated with institutions, galleries, collections, and publishing houses such as: the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Łódź; Moderna galerija, Ljubljana; Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin; Kunsthalle Praha; TBA21, Vienna; Ovidiu Sandor Collection, Timișoara; Kunsthalle Bratislava; Ljubljana Biennial of Graphic Arts; Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Rijeka; Ludwig Museum, Budapest; James Gallery, New York; VOX, Montreal; Cooper Gallery, Dundee; American University Beirut; CAC Genève; Kontakt Collection, Vienna; National Gallery of Kosovo; Galerija Gregor Podnar; Suprainfinit, Bucharest; Mousse Publishing, Milan; Routledge, New York; and Artforum, New York.

For the 55th edition of the Venice Biennale (2013) he worked as curator of the Slovenian Pavilion, and for the 58th edition of the Venice Biennale (2019) he collaborated with the Pavilion of the Republic of North Macedonia as a curatorial consultant and with the Pavilion of the Republic of Kosovo as a writer. From 2009 to 2014, he was the artistic director of Škuc Gallery in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and a professor of 20th-century art history at the Academy of Visual Arts (AVA) in the same city. In 2014, he

was nominated for the Gerrit Lansing Independent Vision Award (Independent Curators International) in New York. In 2025, Tevž Logar is, together with Ana Janevski, the curator of the Art Encounters Biennial in Timișoara. He lives in Rijeka, Croatia.

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## **About Jecza Gallery**

Jecza Gallery is one of the most prestigious art galleries outside Bucharest. It was initially founded as a family business in 2011 by Sorina Ianovici-Jecza and Andrei Petru Jecza in Timișoara. The gallery is dedicated to contemporary art from the 1960s to the present.

From the very beginning, the gallery has shown a strong inclination toward the local art scene of the 1960s and 1970s (the Sigma Group, among others). It represents both artists and artistic collectives, as well as historical figures, but also young and prominent personalities. Through curatorial juxtapositions of artists from different generations, the gallery encourages in-depth research projects on various artistic practices.

Starting with 2018, Andrei Jecza took over the leadership and branded the gallery, developing both its program and its list of represented artists. The gallery's objectives for the near future aim both at maintaining the focus on the Eastern European space and at expanding nationally and internationally. In this context, we are pleased to announce that, starting in May, Jecza Gallery opens its second space in Bucharest with the exhibition of the great contemporary Romanian painter Marius Bercea, the artist's first solo exhibition in Bucharest in the last 20 years. We thus mark a new chapter for the gallery, bringing closer to the community in the capital both the artists in our portfolio and our curatorial projects.

## **About Scânteia+**

Scânteia+ is a contemporary art space that operates according to the kunsthalle model, founded in 2024 by a group of visual artists and hosted in the emblematic Casa Presei Libere in Bucharest. The space is dedicated to presenting ambitious solo exhibitions by Romanian and international artists in mid-career, alongside retrospective-type exhibitions based on research and focused on the recent history of Romanian art.

Scânteia+ collaborates both with public art institutions and private galleries, both nationally and internationally, in order to produce large-scale exhibitions curated by a combination of established and

emerging voices in the contemporary cultural space. Thus, Scânteia+ provides the space and the necessary support for the development of bold, large-scale projects that otherwise would not find their place in the Romanian artistic landscape.