

# Laboratoriya, Andreea Ilie

Jecza Gallery is pleased to announce “Laboratoriya”, Andreea Ilie’s first solo exhibition with the gallery. Presented at Jecza Gallery Bucharest, the exhibition will open on February 28 at 6:00 PM, at Casa Presei Libere, Building 2A (in the inner courtyard, adjacent to the contemporary art space Scânteia+). The exhibition brings together sculptural works that investigate how the communist regime approached the child as a supreme project – a living material to be shaped with scientific precision.

Guided by the metaphor of the child as soft wax, Soviet ideology transformed the entire world of childhood into a total pedagogical environment. Through extensive research and travel across the former Soviet space, Andreea demonstrates that this “laboratory” was far more than a theoretical metaphor: it was a concrete architectural reality, a network of physical structures in which political ambitions were translated into matter and space.

*“As an artist, I am not necessarily interested in a simple condemnation or in extreme nostalgia. What interests me is building an archaeological and poetic relationship, one that is profoundly dialectical. I aim to peel back the superimposed layers: the utopian layer of projection, the layer of historical wear, and the layer of contemporary reappropriation.”*

*(excerpt from the interview “Laboratoriya: The Ruins of a Future Once Imagined as Eternal,” given to Igloo magazine, Feb 2026)*

The artist’s relationship with this legacy of failed utopia takes the form of an archaeological and dialectical investigation, carried out with critical rigor. The works in Laboratoriya function both as replicas and as reflections: forms extracted from their original contexts and reconstructed by the artist in metal and ceramic.

The opening event will be followed the next day (Sunday, February 29) by a guided tour in the presence of the artist, starting at 3:00 PM. Access is granted exclusively by prior appointment at [link](#).

The 2026 exhibition program at Jecza Gallery Bucharest is supported by Saint-Gobain Romania and Policolor. Jecza Gallery events are organized with the support of MUSO, Bere Normală, Mellow Drinks, and Fritz-Cola.

### **About Jecza Gallery**

Jecza Gallery is a contemporary art gallery based in Timișoara and Bucharest, dedicated to artistic practices from the 1960s to the present.

Specializing in contemporary art and representing a carefully curated roster of established and emerging artists, Jecza Gallery has established itself as one of Romania's leading galleries. Founded in 2011 by Sorina Ianovici-Jecza and Andrei Jecza as a family initiative, the gallery entered a new phase of development in 2018, strengthening its visibility and international presence through a coherent program closely connected to the European art scene, while remaining attentive to the specificity of the Romanian cultural context.

In recent years, Jecza Gallery has expanded its activity nationally, operating exhibition spaces in both Timișoara and Bucharest, enabling a diverse program of solo exhibitions, curated group projects, and experimental initiatives. Internationally, the gallery regularly participates in major art fairs and platforms such as Paris Photo, Untitled Art Fair, Basel Social Club, and Vienna Contemporary, supporting the integration of its represented artists into a global network of collectors, curators, and institutions.