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(EN)COUNTERPOINT

In music, counterpoint is the relationship between voices that are harmonically interdependent (polyphony), but independent in rhythm and contour. The term originates from the Latin *punctus contra punctum*, meaning „point against point”. In this exhibition, the twelve different artistic personalities joined together, six from each gallery, reveal an important niche of recent, relevant Romanian contemporary art. **Anca Bodea, Ştefan Radu Creţu, Adriana Elian, Romul Nuţiu, Cristian Răduţă** and **Diet Sayler** are the six artists selected by 418 Gallery for this show. Anca Bodea’s subtle figurative approaches on large scale canvases reveal the passion for intimacy and mysterious environments. The painter from Cluj-Napoca (b. 1982) makes a subtle connection between the sobriety of a restrained palette and the vivacity of sunny Mediterranean environments. Her works can be found in the Art in Embassies Collection of the United States, or in private collections from the US, Germany and France. She participated in the art fairs from Toronto and Monaco with the gallery and she was an intern at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice. Ştefan Radu Creţu, a sculptor and installation artist from Sibiu (b. 1983) combines art & technology in his portrayal of odd, colorful, alien-like, large scale hybrids. The novelty here stands in the artificial materials that do not follow his Latin inspired insect names. He has an ongoing solo-show at the Brancovan Palaces from Mogoşoia and his works can be found in private collections from Germany, Canada or the United States. He participated in the art fairs from Toronto, Budapest and Monaco with the gallery. Cristian Răduţă (b. 1982) is one of the first artists of the gallery. His discourse conceptualizes the figurative to a point where the initial subject becomes irrelevant. His concern for purified anatomies becomes obsessively connected to a different approach on abstraction. The Bucharest-based sculptor has works in Clay & Glass Art Gallery collection from Ontario, Canada, the Art in Embassies Collection of the United States, the MNAC Collection in Bucharest, in private collections from the U.S.A., Germany, France. He participated in the art fairs from Palm Beach, Toronto, Monaco and Budapest with the gallery. Adriana Elian’s (b. 1964) slightly erotic, nature-oriented figurative paintings from the Cetate residency delicately show her dazzling artistic personality. Her works can be found in public collections as the MNAC Collection, the Museum of Art from Cluj-Napoca, Centre Pompidou of Paris, Art in Embassies Collection of the United States and private collections from Germany. Romul Nuţiu (1932-2012) is an icon of

Romanian Abstractionism with strong expressionistic features. His art became famous in the early sixties in Timisoara, where he spent almost a lifetime creating and teaching. His works can be found in private collections from Europe and the US, or in public collections – the MNAC Collection, Brukenthal Museum's collection, Banat Museum. He participated with the gallery in the art fairs from Palm Beach, Santa Fe, Toronto, Monaco and Budapest. **Diet Sayler** (b. 1939) is one of the most important European abstract artists from the second half of the 20th century. Born in Timișoara, the artist has lived in Nuremberg since 1973. His works can be found in important museum collections around the world - Albertina in Vienna, Gemäldesammlung, Städtische Museen Nuremberg, MoMA New York, Museum Ostdeutsche Galerie, Regensburg, Neue Galerie, Staatliche Museen Kassel, UBS, Zürich and many more.

The exhibition is also based on subtle analogies between the artists from the two galleries, with a special focus on two key figures, Diet Sayler (b. 1939) and Paul Neagu's (1938-2004) surprising encounter. A rare selection of Diet Sayler's abstract works is also present in the ongoing exhibition from 418 Gallery.

Joana Grevers and Simona Vilau from 418 Gallery, and Gabriela Massaci, from AnnArt Gallery, made the selection for this exhibition.

About us

The 418 Gallery was founded 2008 in Bucharest as a channel for Romanian artists, enabling their work to be known and seen throughout the world. We are focused on paintings, sculptures, and installation works by an innovative generation of Romanian artists. Our gallery supports and participates with local museums to create a lively and growing modern and contemporary art scene and art market in Romania, by participating in international art fairs and by publishing materials about the represented artists.

We have a creation space in Cetate on the Danube where artists join in a summer residency program the "Workshops at the Danube" since 2008.

Recent events: In 2011 the American "Art in Embassies" program, selected and purchased works from five of our artists which are now part of the permanent Art In Embassies collection. At the Art Museum Timisoara in 2012, curator Liviana Dan and Prof. Philip Rylands, Director of the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, opened the exhibition "Romul Nuțiu-Life and Work", a documentation on Nutiu's Abstract Expressionist art. In 2012 on a monumental scale, Cristian Răduță's work "Nomad" is installed on the socle where previously stood the statue of Lenin, at the Free Press square in Bucharest. Our latest 2013 exhibition, Anca Bodea "Persona", deals with the inner landscape of the artist herself.

Current exhibition "Structure & Energy / The Need for Abstraction" is joining together Romul Nutiu, Diet Sayler and Vincentiu Grigorescu and it can be visited until the end of September, Mon-Fri, 11 am – 7 pm.

The gallery owners are Dr. Joana Grevers and Guy K. Williamson.

www.418gallery.com