

NATIONAL THEATRE UNDER THE SIGN OF VISUAL ARTS

On thursday, September 26th 2013, attended by over 200 guests, took place the „vernissage” of the **EMIL CIOCOIU PAINTING RETROSPECTIVE** (curator Marius Tița).

Born in Romania in 1948, **Emil Ciocoiu** is one of the most important Romanian artists of the moment. Established for many years in Germany, he built an exceptional career, with international attendance at reference exhibitions and in renowned collections. The exhibition at the National Theatre is **his first major retrospective**, bringing together 196 large and extra-large format paintings, which give an insight into his creation’s critical cycles and the reflection themes he offered us over time (www.ciocoiu.com).

Present at the opening, AUGUSTO MEDICI, Editor in chief and director of the well-known Italian magazine of art history **ContemporArt** who came especially to Bucharest for this event, was deeply impressed by the theater’s spectacular building, and said Emil Ciocoiu’s exhibition is "overwhelming". Here’s what he told us the opening night: "*I must confess that I underestimated Romania: I don’t think that, an event of this scale would be likely to succeed in Italy today... What you’ve done at the National Theatre is absolutely remarkable and deserves congratulations.*" The next issue of the magazine will held the detailed story of the National Theatre’s rehabilitation project.

The painting retrospective of Emil Ciocoiu at National Theatre is remarkable not only due to its size, but also owing to the unique placement of the paintings within the space: they can be seen in the foyer of all newly inaugurated representation rooms of the theater, foyers that are meant to be at the same time showrooms: the foyer of the **Little Room** those related to the **Media Room** and the **Studio Room’s** foyer (former Operetta), returned into the National Theater’s circuit and rebuilt in its entirety.

The exhibition will be open until November 25th 2013 and can be visited Tuesdays through Sundays between 12:00 and 18:30. Thereafter it becomes available to the theater’s performances public.

Thus, the National Theatre’s ("I.L.Caragiale") program of diversification of interdisciplinary projects, which started two years ago under the title TNB PARATHEATRAL, takes shape at the same time as the inauguration of generous exhibition spaces and foyers of the institution, in full metamorphosis and becoming the identifying mark of the future national cultural complex.

In the same context, on the initiative by Prof. Dr. Arh. Romeo Belea, author of the monumental project of National Theatre’s architectural redesign, famous artists have offered in custody to the theater artworks designed to refine the ambience of the new spaces.

The red foyer of PICTURA room (which will be inaugurated these days) exhibits works of painters **Mărginean Viorel Alexandru Mărginean and Olga Morărescu-Mărginean**, a well-known artists family, which definitely shape the history of the Romanian contemporary plastic art. In the foyer related to the Media room shows artworks of other outstanding artists, painter **Ion Sălișteanu**, and sculptor **Horia Flămând**. In addition the works of renowned artists **Vladimir Șetran** and **Ion Stendl**, which will be displayed again after the closure of Emil Ciocoiu retrospective, are on display.

An inspired way to enrich the ambience of the National Theatre's new spaces with works of art that naturally find themselves in a place meant to receive under the new roof the best of the Romanian cultural space.