

AURA BĂLĂNESCU CV

MEDIA ARTIST, CURATOR, RESEARCHER, PROJECT MANAGER

<https://aurabalanescu.ro/>

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Born 1969, Aura Bălănescu lives and works in Timisoara, Romania



STUDIES:

2005-2009 PhD in Visual Arts (The Media Sculpture Thesis), School of Doctoral Studies, West University of Timisoara

1998-2003 BA/MA Sculpture Department, Faculty of Arts and Design, West University of Timisoara

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

2023 - Present, Lecturer PhD, Photo-Video Department (courses Media Art and Experiment, Video Art and Installations), and Internationalization Programs Manager, Faculty of Arts and Design, West University of Timisoara

2021 - 2025, Chief Curator & Project Manager, National Museum of Art Timisoara

MEDIA ART RESEARCH:

<https://aurabalanescu.ro/research/>

2025 International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA International) *Dong-Dong: Creators' Universe*, Seoul National University

2024 International Conference *Consciousness Reframed - The Chimæric Mind*, Shanghai Institute of Visual Art - Roy Ascott Planetary Collegium

2022 Digital Museum Booster *MNART ACCESS - DOORS*, National Museum of Art Timisoara, Ars Electronica Linz, Museum Booster Vienna & ECSITE Bruxelles

2019 *BR41N.IO Hackathon*, Ars Electronica Festival, PostCity Linz

2018 International Conference *Zip-Scene – Analog and Digital Immersive Environments*, Moholy Nagy / University of Arts and Design Budapest

2018 International Symposium *LIGHT EDU*, Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning / Order of Architects Timisoara

2018 International Conference *Stereo & Immersive Media: Photography and Sound Research* Lusofona University Lisbon

2018 Workshop: *Wisp Kollektiv / 3D Immersive Audio Lab*, New Media Nova Festival București

2017 International Conference *Media Art Histories: Re:Trace / Media Art, Science and Technology*, Danube University Krems

2013 International Conference *Media Art Histories: Re:New / Media Art, Science and Technology*, RIXC / Centre for New Media Culture Riga

2011 Workshop *REMAKE – Rethinking Media Arts in Collaborative Environments*, AltArt Foundation, Brush Factory Cluj-Napoca

CURATORIAL EXPERIENCE:

<https://aurabalanescu.ro/curating/>

2025 *Techno-Ecologies for a Fragile Earth*, Ars Electronica Campus Linz, a project powered by Faculty of Arts and Design, West University of Timisoara

2023 *I, HUMAN* by Saint Machine / Baroque Reloaded, BIDBOOK of Timisoara 2023 - European Capital of Culture, National Museum of Art Timisoara in partnership with Ars Electronica Linz and Institute of Laser Măgurele

2021 *Pandemic Art*, telematic installation, project powered by Tehnoarte Association

2019 *Transborder Exhibition / Consulat #2 Serbia*, organized by Diplomatic Art Association and TM 2021 Association – European Capital of Culture, funded by Ministry of Culture in partnership with the General Consulate of Serbia at Timisoara

PROJECT MANAGEMENT / National Museum of Art Timisoara

<https://aurabalanescu.ro/project-management/>

2024 *Utopia and Research. Timisoara Experimental Groups 111 and Sigma*

2024 *Caravaggio's Lights. The Beginning of Modernity in European Painting, Masterpieces from the Roberto Longhi Collection* in partnership with Roberto Longhi Foundation and Civita Mostre e Musei Florence

2023 *Constantin Brancusi - Romanian Resources and Universal Perspectives* - Bidbook Timisoara 2023 - European Capital of Culture in partnership with Centre Georges Pompidou Paris, Tate Modern Londra, Guggenheim Venice

2023 *Victor Brauner. Inventions and Magic* - Bidbook Timisoara 2023 - European Capital of Culture in partnership with Centre Georges Pompidou Paris

2022 *Paul Neagu. A Retrospective* - Bidbook Timisoara 2023 - European Capital of Culture in partnership with Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein, BRUSEUM / Neue Galerie Graz and The Paul Neagu Estate (UK),

2022 *The Void of Silence. Belu Făinaru*

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE:

<https://aurabalanescu.ro/editorial/>

2025-2026 Upcoming Doctoral Book *Media Work of Art* (Chapters Extensis, Transis, Morfosis, Integralis, Genesis), editorial project powered by Tehnoarte Association, published by West University of Timisoara Press

2024 Author Catalogue *Miki Velciov. Land Art and Landscape Interventions*, editorial project powered by Tehnoarte Association and West University of Timisoara Press, and financed by AFCN (National Cultural Funds Administration)

2023 Exhibition catalogue *I, Human* by Saint Machine, editorial project powered by National Museum of Art Timisoara

2023 Retrospective catalogue *Baroque Reloaded* by MNART, editorial project powered by National Museum of Art Timisoara

PLATFORMS:

Co-founder & project manager of **Tehnoarte Association** (2021) for manifesting the interference of art, science and technology and mapping the technological art in Timisoara.

<https://tehnoarte.com/>

Co-founder & project manager of **Avantpost Platform** (2014) for manifesting and archiving site-specific art in Timisoara.

<https://avantpost.ro/>

ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE:

<https://aurabalanescu.ro/exhibitions/>

/ AVANTPOST EXHIBITIONS

2023 *Hiperestezia*, Bastion Colț and Posta Mare, Complementary event of Art Encounters Biennial 2023, Timisoara

2021 *Oasis. Green Identity*, Stațiunea Tinerilor Naturaliști, Collateral event of Art Encounters Biennial 2021, Timisoara

2019 *From Revolution to Revolutions – ReMind Mapping 89 / MultipleXity / Timisoara 2021 – European Capital of Culture*, Comeliu Mikloși Museum of Urban Transport, Timisoara

2019 *In Vitro Veritas*, Timisoara 2021 – European Capital of Culture & T-Act Association, Northern Railway Station Alternative Space Timisoara

2017 *UNIVERSALLOWED / Battery Factory*, Collateral event of Art Encounters Biennial 2017, Timisoara

2016 *Hidden Agenda. In memoriam Sorin Oncu*, Temporary Museum of Contemporary Art, Timisoara

2016 *Hidden Agenda. In memoriam Sorin Oncu*, Scena 9 Residence / NAG București

2016 *Epicentre*, Art Museum Arad

2016 *Unseen. Celebrating DADA*, Helios Gallery Timisoara

2015 *Becoming Connected*, Memorial of Revolution, Event of Art Encounters Biennial 2015, Timisoara

2015 *Beyond the Silence*, Banat Museum of History Timisoara

2014 *The Vanishing Point*, Timco Halls, Timisoara

/ OTHER EXHIBITIONS

2025 *Chasing Light*, an exhibition powered by Faculty of Fine Arts and Design / West University of Timisoara, Romanian Cultural Institute London

2023 *Layers of Reality*, an exhibition powered by Faculty of Fine Arts and Design / West University of Timisoara, Brancusi Gallery, Romanian Cultural Institute New York

2021 *FUSION AIR - Convertible Structures*, Qolony Association, SAC Gallery București

2020 *Zoom In*, online exhibition, Diplomatic Art Association Timisoara

2020 *Pandemic Art*, online exhibition, Tehnoarte Association Timisoara

2018 *Elektro Arts Festival: Electroacoustic music, digital photography and new media installation*, Matei House / University of Arts and Design Cluj-Napoca

2018 *Baroque II Urban / Woman, All Too Woman*, partnership of Meta Spațiu Foundation and Museum of Art Timisoara

2017 *Art in Process – Process in Art*, ausstellungsraum.at, Viena
 2016 *Triology*, Alfa Gallery Arad
 2015 *Meeting Point*, Contemporary Art Biennial Arad
 2013 *Leap*, Geam Mat Gallery, Museum of Art Timisoara
 2012 *Sign Out Video Art Festival*, Fine Arts Faculty Oradea & Visual Container Milan
 2011 *Possible – Uncertain. Photography, Video and Installation in Timisoara*, Timco Halls Timisoara
 2010 *Police the Police*, Young Artists Biennial / Portfolio Presentation, META Foundation, Știrbei Palace București
 2008 *Living inside a Cube*, Delta Gallery Arad
 2008 *Sculpture Today. 4 Sculptural Discourses*, Delta Gallery Arad
 2006 *UTOPIA / Contemporary Art Festival*, Faculty of Fine Arts and Design, West University Timisoara
 2004 *Transfigurations. Full Stop and Start Again. Prospecting the Young Art in Romania*, Museum of Art Timisoara
 2003 *Night Shot Series*, 2/2 Gallery, Timisoara
 2001 *MATERIAL / National Contest of Installation*, H'Arta Alternative Space, Timisoara

/ ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 – Herczeg Foundation, Gărbăna, Caras County
 2007 *WARMING! Hard Hot Area*, Romanian Cultural Institute London
 2007 *Brancusi -Tribute and Heritage*, National Centre for Monuments & Centre Pompidou Paris
 2006 *International Sculpture Symposium*: National Park Behringen

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS:

2025 *Mobility bursary for cultural professionals* by Projects Centre City Hall of Timisoara
 2024 *Creative Scholarship Energie!* by Project Centre City Hall of Timisoara
 2010 *PRO JUVENTUTE* Diploma offered by Timis County Council for improving education,
 2007 Soroptimist International Award '*Brancusi – Homage and Heritage*' International Sculpture Competition Paris
 2002, 2000, 1999 *STUDENT OF MERIT*, Fine Arts Faculty West University of Timisoara
 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1998 *Scholarship for excellence*, Fine Arts Faculty West University of Timisoara

REFERENCES:

<https://aurabalanescu.ro/references/>

2025 *Chasing Light*, Catalogue of Faculty of Arts and Design West University of Timisoara, Ed. Kerber, Berlin
 2024 *300 artiști din România 1990-2020*, Catalogue powered by Propagarta, Editura Vellant, București
 2023-22-21-20 *Gărbăna Symposium*, Exhibition catalogue, Editura Universității de Vest Timisoara
 2020 *Proiecte din România în vremea pandemiei*, Revista Arta nr. 44-45 / 2020. Text by Aura Bălănescu
 2018 2019 *Danube Dialogues Novi Sad*, festival catalogue. Text by Maria Orosan Telea & Sava Stepanov
 2018 *Artă și tehnologie*, Revista Orizont, Timișoara. Text by Maria Orosan Telea,

2011 *Possible – Uncertain, photography, video, installation in Timisoara* – exhibition catalogue. Text by Ileana Pintilie

2011 *4 Discourses about Imponderability*. Revista Arta / Visual Art Review, issue No.1. Text by Emil Moldovan,

2008 *Living Inside the Cube* – exhibition catalogue, Delta Art Gallery, Arad. Text by Ileana Pintilie,

2008 *Sculpture Today. 4 Discourses* - exhibition catalogue, Delta Art Gallery, Arad. Text by Emil Moldovan,

2004 *Transfigurations. Full Stop and Start Again. Prospections about Young Art in Romania* – exhibition catalogue. Text by Ileana Pintilie

2001 *MATERIAL* - Balkon / Art Magazine, issue No. 9, Idea Publishing Cluj. Text by Bogdan Achimescu

INTERVIEWS:

2021 *Interview with Aura Bălănescu* / Robert Șerban, Banatul azi

<https://www.banatulazi.ro/sunt-fascinata-de-acest-traseu-care-incalca-in-mod-sistematic-deviza-clasica-muzeala-please-do-not-touch-interviu-cu-artista-vizuala-aura-balanescu/>

2020 *Interview with Aura Bălănescu* / Camp Art mentorship / Art Encounters Foundation

<https://artencounters.ro/en/interview-with-artist-aura-balanescu/>

2020 *Interview with Aura Bălănescu* / Sfera / Rareș Moldovan

<https://depezona.wordpress.com/2020/06/15/sfera-aura-balanescu/>

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