

COSMIN MANOLESCU

cultural expert, curator, evaluator, artist

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www.dans.ro | www.danswanderer.ro



Cosmin Manolescu is a senior independent cultural manager, expert and evaluator, dance curator and artist based in Bucharest.

AFFILIATIONS

Since 1997 – Founding member and executive director of Gabriela Tudor Foundation (formerly known as PROIECT DCM Foundation, until 2009) | www.dans.ro

Since 2019 – Administrator and cultural expert of ZONAD MANAGEMENT & PRODUCTION SRL

1996–2024 – Artistic adviser, curator, evaluator of cultural projects for performing arts for ARCUB – Cultural Centre of the Bucharest Municipality | www.arcub.ro

2021–2025 – Administrator and co-director of AREAL | space for choreographic development, www.arealcolectiv.ro

Since 2014 – Evaluator of cultural projects for the Administration of the National Cultural | www.afcn.ro

Since 2020 – Evaluator of cultural projects for Centre for Projects Timișoara | <https://centruldeproiecte.ro>

Since 2025 – Evaluator for performing arts for Romanian Ministry of Culture | www.cultura.ro

1996–2020 – Romanian partner for the Suitcase Fund / GPS – Global Practice Sharing | a network led by Dance Theater Workshop New York between USA and Eastern/Central Europe dance organisations.

1996–2006 – Romanian partner of Aerowaves – dance across Europe network | www.aerowaves.org

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

Cosmin Manolescu played an essential role in the creation of the National Dance Centre Bucharest (2002–2005), AREAL | space for choreographic development (2020–2025) and the reform of the funding system in Romania (2001–2015).

ARTISTIC DIRECTION & CURATORIAL WORK

1997–present – Artistic direction of Gabriela Tudor Foundation – over 200 cultural projects created and developed in collaboration with artists and dance structures from EU, USA, Japan and Korea (exchanges, residencies, festivals, dance productions, tours).

2022–2025 – co-artistic director of AREAL | space for choreographic development

2023 – co-artistic direction for *D.A.N.C.E.™ - Dance. Artists. Network. Conference. Encounter* – a major dance platform including the GA Meeting of European Dance Network in Romania, the conference *Dancing from burnout towards equity* – European dance conference and a series of performances & films organised by

AREAL, EDN and Centre for Projects Timișoara part of the Power Station program part of Timișoara European Capital of Culture 2023. <https://timisoara2023.eu/en/projects/dance/>.

2022 – co-artistic director of the *bioAREALab* – a European research project for choreographers and composers led by AREAL | <https://arealcolectiv.ro/en/2022/02/03/bioarealab-first-summer-edition-2022/>

2011–2015 – Artistic director of the E-MOTIONAL European cooperation programme developed by Gabriela Tudor Foundation as a leader of consortium in 2 phases, *Bodies and Cities* (2011–2013) and *Rethinking Dance* (2011–2015), co-funded by the EU Culture programme and involving partners from Romania, Cyprus, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Portugal, Turkey and UK. www.e-motional.eu

2021 – Artistic director of a dance season at MARE / Museum of Recent Art led by MARE Foundation

2019 – Curator of the EMOTIONAL incubator residency in Lisbon for Forum Dança

2013–2015 – Artistic director of *Eastern Connection*, an artistic exchange project Romania-Japan with residencies in Bucharest, Tokyo and Kinokuniya, developed by Gabriela Tudor Foundation.

https://dans.ro/files/Eastern_Connection_2013_2015.pdf

2012–2014 – Co-initiator and co-director of ZonaD – a lab and space for contemporary dance and arts, administered by Gabriela Tudor Foundation in Bucharest.

2010–2011 – Artistic director of *Moving Dialogue*, a Romania–USA dance exchange developed by GT Foundation, National Dance Centre Bucharest, Romanian Cultural Institute in New York.

2001–2003 & 2011 – Co-director of the *Balkan Dance Platform* – an itinerant dance showcase in the Bulgaria, Romania and Slovenia.

2007 – Artistic director of Sibiu Dance 2007 – a site-specific European dance festival organized in the frame of Luxembourg – Sibiu European Capital of Culture 2007

2006–2007 – Artistic director and choreographer of *Dance.Entre.Deux* – a dance exchange between Luxembourg and Romania, part of the Sibiu European Capital of Culture 2007

2002–2003 – Artistic director of *Terrains Fertiles* – a European residency program for emerging choreographers from Romania, Austria and France, co-funded by the EU Culture programme

2001–2003 – Artistic director of *BuchareEast.West* International Dance Festival in Bucharest

2000–2001– Co-artistic director of *Movements on the Edge* – a training program for emerging dance professionals from Central & Eastern Europe – teachers invited to Bucharest Mark Tompkins (FR), Nuno Rebelo (PT), Lisa Nelson (USA), Iwan Wolfe (CH), Milli Bitterli (AT)

1997–1999 – Artistic director of Inter/National Dance Centre Bucharest, the first independent dance space after the 1989, a joint programme of Gabriela Tudor Foundation and ARCUB

MANAGEMENT, CONSULTANCY FOR COOPERATION PROJECTS

2023–2025 – Project manager in Romania for *What's next? Safe cultural multi-spaces for the multidisciplinary reflection of (post)war and (post)crisis European identity*, a program co-organised by Gabriela Tudor Foundation (Romania), MitOst e.V. & zusa (Germany), Musiktheatertage Wien (Austria), Wrocławski Instytut Kultury (Poland), and Proto produkcija (Ukraine), co-funded by the Creative Europe program of the European Union, co-funded in Romania by the Administration of the National Cultural Fund.

<https://dans.ro/programe/whats-next/>

2022–2025 – Project manager of several AREAL dance seasons including workshops, labs, residencies and performances presented in Bucharest and Timișoara, Czech Republic, Italy and Germany.

2009–2019 – Founder and project manager of *Gabriela Tudor Fellowship* in cultural management in United Kingdom and Bucharest.

2019–2024 - Founder and project manager of *Gabriela Tudor Residency* in Portugal and Romania.

2018–2019 – Trainer in cultural management in the frame of the ZonaD Platform of Gabriela Tudor Foundation.

2015–2016 – Expert part of the CURATORIUM team for the development of the artistic programme for Bucharest European Capital of Culture 2021 bid-book.

2009 – Project Manager *United Experts - a label for cultural development* and *ArtistsNe(s)t – Network of Artistic Residencies in Romania* for Pro Helvetia Foundation Zurich.

2007 – Project manager of the festival *Insolite Roumanie* organised in France by Balkans Transit Association.

2006–2007 – Project and tour manager *Zvon de Suedia* festival organised by Swedish Institute Stockholm

2006–2008 – Coach for ArtistNe(s)t Dance Residency in Bacău, jointly co-organised by Swiss Cultural Program Romania and “George Apostu” Cultural Centre.

1998 – Tour manager for British Dance Edition – a travelling dance festival organised by British Council Romania.

2010–2016 – Co-founder and member of the Coalition of the Independent Cultural Sector |

<https://coalitiasectoruluiculturalindependent.wordpress.com>

STUDIES, RESEARCH & PROJECT PUBLICATIONS

2025 – Research paper on well-being on the cultural scene in Timișoara (Romania)

2021 – co-editor of the e-booklet *The Body in Pandemic Times. Essays on Dance*, published by Gabriela Tudor Foundation. https://dans.ro/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/corpul_in_pandemie_web.pdf

2019 – editor of the study *The Contemporary Dance Scene. A research from the perspective of the ecology of culture*, led by experts Ștefania Ferchedău and Raluca Popa, produced by Gabriela Tudor Foundation.

https://dans.ro/files/EN_The_Contemporary_Dance_Scene_in_Romania_survey_2019.pdf

2019 – editor of the study *Artistic Residencies in Romania: time, space and money for cultural development* (Romanian language only). https://dans.ro/files/Rezidentele_artistice_in_Romania.pdf

2017 – co-editor of the publication *Revolution of the Body – 20 years of contemporary dance*, published by Gabriela Tudor Foundation. https://dans.ro/files/Revolutia_corpului_20_de_ani_de_dans_contemporan.pdf

2015 – co-editor of *Rethinking dance. A how-to manual* – a publication for the E-MOTIONAL rethinking dance project, published by Gabriela Tudor Foundation. https://dans.ro/files/rethinking_dance_booklet.pdf

2013 – co-editor *E-Motional Bodies & Cities 2011-2013 – a project catalogue*, published by Gabriela Tudor Foundation. https://dans.ro/files/Emotional_catalogue_2011_2013.pdf

2012 – *CHARTA OF THE LIVING CULTURE*, co-editor of this manifesto in support of the arts developed and published by the Coalition of the Independent Cultural Sector and CubicMetre Association.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS (selection)

2025 – ENERGIA Fellowships – funded by the City of Timișoara through the Centre for Projects for a well-being artistic research (August – November 2025).

2024 – International Visitors Programme ITanzmesse NRW 2024.

2017 – Cultural Management Award from the Administration of the National Cultural Fund, Romania for the artistic consultancy, cultural management and advocacy in the previous 20 years.

2016 – Matei Brâncoveanu Award for the dance section offered by Alexandrion Foundation, Bucharest.
2014 – Award for the contribution to the development of contemporary dance in Romania from the National Dance Centre Bucharest.
2015 – Kinosaki International Art Center Residency (Japan)
2014 – Residency & Bogliasco Fellowship (Bogliasco, Italy)
2012–2014 – Tokyo, The Saison Foundation Award and Residency
2005 – Paris, “Nouveau Talent Choregraphie” Award offered by the Societe des Auteurs et Compositeurs Dramatiques Paris
2004 – Monaco Dance Forum – SACD Paris Award and Sogeda Monte Carlo for best multimedia/installation/performance – *Don't Ask the Blond* – in collaboration with Kira Riikoen (FI), Roberto Casarotto (IT)
2003 – The award for best cultural project offered by Civil Society Gala for the International Dance Festival BucharEAST.WEST
2003 – Goethe Institut Award to explore the german dance system in Frankfurt, Munich and Berlin.
2003 – The Great Award of the Experiment “Atelier” Festival Sfantu Gheorghe for the performance *Serial Paradise*
2002 – CEC ArtsLink Fellowship – to explore the American Dance Scene – Pittsburgh, San Diego, Philadelphia, San Francisco, New York
2001 – SADCO Award for creation (Bucharest)
1999 – DanceWeb Fellowship (Vienna, artist)
1998 – Award of the Soros Centre for Contemporary Arts in Bucharest for the contribution given to the development of contemporary dance in Romania
1996 – Pepinieres Europeennes pour Jeunes Artists dance residency in Forum Danca, Lisbon, Portugal
1994 – SKITE Residency in Lisbon, Portugal

ARTISTIC PROJECTS AS CHOREOGRAPHER (selection)

2025 | *Game of Life* – workshop & dance installation with performances in Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Braşov, Wuppertal and Freiburg
2024 | *Cancer, choreographed* – dance performance presented in Bucharest, New York, New Jersey, Cluj, Baia Mare, Timișoara, Braşov.
2016–2025 | Dance-Wanderer Retreat at the Black Sea (Romania and Bulgaria), Gavdos island (Greece), Faro (Portugal), Sicily (Italy), Danube Delta
2019–2020 | *Simple Pleasures* – performance in a forest in the Carpathian Mountains
2017 | *Journey towards myself & dans-wanderer #3* (a performative experience for 3 audience members)
2016 | *The Kite* – solo version by/with Cosmin Manolescu, presented in Bucharest and Timisoara
2015 | *The Kite* – in collaboration with Japanese choreographer Zan Yamashita
2014–2015 | *[Fragile]* – in the frame of the European program “E-Motional rethinking dance” presented in Romania, Latvia, Portugal, USA, Luxembourg.
2014 | *Piece with limited responsibility* – in collaboration with Mihaela Dancs
2013 | *EGAL* – piece for the Gala of People with Disabilities (Romanian Television)
2012 | *HI BYE* – in collaboration with Gabriella Maiorino, presented in Amsterdam and Bucharest
2011–2013 | *Room 1306 [I Am Myself]* – performance for a hotel room

2011 | *Available* – research project with Gabriella Maiorino (NL), Hejin Jang (SUA/KR)
 2008–2010 | *Supergabriela* – In memoriam Gabriela Tudor
 2008 | *Supersomething* (work-in-progress)
 2007–2010 | *dreams.land*
 2006–2007 | *Visa Game* – in colaboration cu Pascal Allio (FR)
 2006 | *Wish card* – work-in-progress research project in USA in collaboration with Melisa Putz, Ju-Yeon Ryu and Eric Schoefer (USA/Romania)
 2005 | *Don't Ask the Blond* – in collaboration with choreographers Roberto Casarotto (IT) and Kira Riikonen (FI)
 2003–2007 | *Serial Paradise* – DCM company
 2000–2001 | *human zoo* – in collaboration with Marie Gabrielle Rotie (UK)
 1999–2000/2007 | *Private Show* – performance for one audience member
 1998 | *Journey through 2* – DCM company
 1996 | *Journey through* – DCM Company
 1994 | *Fragments from inside / Butterflies without wings* – Marginalii Dance Group

STUDIES & TRAININGS

2008–2009 – Coaching for Organizational Development course led by Swiss coach Monika Egger, a project initiated by Gabriela Tudor & Swiss Cultural Program in Romania (2007–2008)
 1999 – DanceWeb fellowship to participate in the ImpulsTanz festival – workshops led by with Emio Greco workshops with Ko Murobushi, David Zambrano in Vienna.
 1995–1999 – European Masters' Degree in Cultural Management – Ecumest Programme (Bucharest/Dijon)
 1991–1996 – BA in Choreography, Theater and Film Academy Bucharst, dance section
 1994 – Six Week School – American Dance Festival, North Carolina (USA)
 1984–1988 – Choreography High School, Bucharest

CULTURAL NETWORKS

- Member of European Dance Development Network with AREAL (2021–2025)
- Member of Suitcase Fund/Global Practice Sharing Network – USA – Eastern Europe (1996–2020, New York)
- Member of informal policy platform #Cultura2030, Romania (2021)
- Member of the *Aerowaves* international dance network (1996–2006)
- Member of the *Informal European Theatre Meeting* (1997–2004)

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

| | Reading | Speaking | Writing |
|---------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| English | C1 | C1 | C1 |
| French | C1 | C1 | B1 |