

NEWSLETTER

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THE 2018 ESTAC SYMPOSIUM - REPORTING ON THE LATEST IN RESEARCH

Between 27 and 30 August, *Aula Magna* played host to the 12th edition of the European Symposium on Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry, ESTAC12, organized by the Central and Eastern European Committee for Thermal Analysis & Calorimetry (CEEC-TAC) and Transilvania University of Brașov (UniTBv), under the aegis of the National Institute for Laser, Plasma and Radiation Physics (INFLPR), the Institute of Physical Chemistry *llie G. Murgulescu* of the Romanian Academy (ICF), and the Commission for Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry of the Romanian Academy (CATCAR).



The official ceremony on the 27 August opened with the welcome speeches given by well-known researchers in the field: Dr Vesa-Pekka Lehto (Finland) – ESTAC President, Wim de Klerk (the Netherlands – ESTAC secretary, Dr Andrei Rotaru (Romania) – ESTAC Vice-President and ESTAC12 chairman, Dr Maria Zaharescu (Romania) – President of the Honorary Committee of ESTAC12, Dr Crișan Popescu (Germany) – President of the Scientific Committee of ESTAC12, and Dr Ioan Vasile Abrudan, Rector of *Transilvania* University of Brașov and Conference President.

The conference program included five plenary lectures and 12 invited lectures given by researchers and professors from Europe (Great Britain, Italy, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, France), Asia (Japan), Africa and the United States. The four panel sessions covered 116 oral presentations and 350 poster presentations.

Following the standard reviewing procedure, the proceedings will be published in a special number of the Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry (IF 2.209).

The principal sponsors of the conference - TA Instruments, Mettler Toledo, Setaram, Netzsch, Rigaku, Hitachi, Linkam and DSC Consumables - introduced their latest testing equipment and other cutting-edge devices in the context of several workshops.

The 400 participants originating from 42 countries, enjoyed the relaxed ambiance of our city, the hearty welcome and the attention of the organizers. As one of the plenary lectures covered the topic of thermal treatments used in the synthesis and characterization of Cultural heritage materials, and its venue was the Casino in Sinaia, the conference organizers invited their guests on a tour of *Peleş* Castle, a wonderful opportunity to experience cultural heritage first hand. The festive dinner was another highlight of the day due to the music performed by Concertino band.



Further information on future events in the field of thermal analysis and colorimetry, the conference program, and the book of abstracts are available at http://estac12.org/.

Dr Dana Luca Motoc

EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE OF ROMANIAN STUDENTS IN CHINA

The cultural experience of the Romanian students who participated in the program "Understanding China through Music" held in Beijing between 13 July and 1 August was unique owing to the activities organized by the *Central Conservatory of Music (CCOM)* and the concerts organized by the Romanian Embassy in China. The Romanian team led by Dr Stela Drăgulin was made up of five students from the Faculty of Music from Transilvania University of Braşov.

The Romanian embassy in China, represented by HE Basil Constantinescu, the Ambassador of Romania, hosted three extraordinary concerts and an exquisite musical soiree.

The first concert took place on 24 July and was organized by CCOM in collaboration with the Romanian Embassy in China. It was a unique feat with an impressive turnout. The piano, the violin, the guitar and the voice echoed their sounds, covering the wide spectrum of Romanian and Chinese classical music.



The Romanian Embassy also organized two humanitarian concerts for the benefit of two of the

largest hospitals in Beijing, *Beijing United Rehabilitation Hospital* (30 July) and *Oasis International Hospital* (31 July).



Proudly wearing the Romanian traditional blouse during their performance, the Romanian team created an incredible musical event, duly reviewed on the official site of the Romanian Embassy: "The five Romanian artists, Corina Purcărea (mezzo-soprano), Alexandru Manole (guitar), Magdalena Lazăr (violin), Claudia Ligia Suteu (piano) and Botond Szőcz (piano) enchanted their audience - patients, doctors, visitors - and taking them on journey among selections of classical and traditional Romanian music. All five artists are students at Transilvania University of Brasov, the only Romanian university with a master's program in melotherapy. The students were carefully guided by well-known professor and pianist Stela Drăgulin, one of the founders of this study program and mentor of some of the best-known Romanian contemporary pianists."

Claudia Ligia Şuteu, doctoral student

AMURAL [A4] AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTER — A PAINTING AND INSTALLATION EXHIBITION

Within Amural [A4], the fourth edition of the most important visual arts festival in Brasov, held between 23 and 26 August, a painting exhibition signed by Ion Văcăreanu, the paper sculptures (paper mâché) created by Alina Marinescu and Martin Balint's installations met at the Multicultural Center to illustrate, once again, the diversity of young contemporary art and its forms of expression.



Without having been brought together by a curatorial concept, they spontaneously communicate on the stage of precarious identities challenged by the occurrence of a partner (for Alina Marinescu, *Out of Love*), by the relationship with animals (Ion Văcăreanu) or by the categories that an external voice places us in at a certain point (Martin Balint, *BLO500 or How to Shape Undisclosed Identities*).



Brașov-born Ion Văcăreanu lives in Timişoara where he graduated the Faculty of Arts and Design. As a master student, he spent his senior year in Metz (France) as an Erasmus student. He participated in numerous exhibitions and events in Romania, Germany, Austria and Serbia, and his works can be found in collections in England, the Netherlands, Russia, Mexico, India, Australia, but especially in the USA.

Martin Balint graduated from the Venice Academy of Arts, specializing in new technologies in art and the history of contemporary art. His portfolio includes international exhibitions such as the Manifesta European Biennale of Contemporary Art, the Venice Bienalle, Miniartextil in Paris and Como or Crossbreeds in Vienna.



Alina Marinescu is a graduate of the National University of Arts in Bucharest and is a visual artist. She joined Amural on its first edition, and last year she even curated the Illustration Exhibition at the Multicultural Center. Her work explores the effects of human relationships and the universe in which they evolve.

Dr Maria Ghiurțu The Multicultural Center

TĂRÂMUL ANIMALELOR, WINNER OF THE ALEXANDRU MUŞINA POETRY DEBUT CONTEST

For the fifth year running, the Faculty of Letters of Transilvania University in Braşov in partnership with Tracus Arte Publishing House, have invited unpublished authors to submit their work for the Alexandru Muşina Poetry Debut Contest.

From the dozens of manuscripts, the jury of the contest made up of Al. Cistelecan, Caius Dobrescu, Radu Vancu, Romulus Bucur and Adrian Lăcătuş selected *Tărâmul animalelor* by Vlad Serdarian as the winner of this year's edition.

The prize, worth 500 Euro and the publication of the winning poetry book by Tracus Arte Publishing House, was awarded within a gala organized at the Multicultural Center on 4 August. Vlad Serdarian will thus join the poets Sabina Comşa, Ioan Şerbu, Anca Dumitru, Dina Frânculescu, George Ştefan Niţă, Crina Bega and Simona Nastăc, who won and / or made their literary debut through this contest.

Dr Maria Ghiurțu The Multicultural Center



ALTERNATIVE CONTEXTS RESIDENCIES OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Centred on the concept of recontextualizing the ethnic heritage and the Romanian historical space in contemporary art, the exhibition entitled Residencies of Contemporary Art was hosted by the Multicultural Centre of *Transilvania* University of Braṣov, between 1 and 16 August.

The opening of the event on the 1 August was a wonderful opportunity to spend the first day of the month visiting an atypical exhibition meant to convey an alternative to our perception of historical space and Romanian heritage.

The opening speeches were given by Marie Christine Raboud from the Cathédrale Gallery— in Fribourg (Switzerland) and by Antigona Silvia Rogozea from the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Bucharest.

Among those present were Timo Waldner and Rodica Costianu - Switzerland, Dana Sereda and Alexandre Grey (Al Gruk) - France, Philipp Valenta - Germany, Andreea Medar, Adriana Brăileanu, Silviu Blidaru, Silvestru Muntean, Daniel Roșca, Diana Roșca and Delia Călinescu from Romania.

The exhibition was open to the public until 16 August, affording the visitors a chance to experience a novel context, a unique perspective on the Romanian past.

Alexandra Gîrbea, student



THE FIRST MASTER'S PROGRAM IN CYBER SECURITY AT THE FACULTY OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Over the past years, the study of cyber security has become a priority worldwide. This concern is also reflected in the activities taking place at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, among which the launch of a new English-language master's program in Cyber Security (4 semesters), aimed at providing advanced training in the field of Cyber Security.

The curriculum was developed in compliance with the recommendations of the Cyberint National Centre and of the business partners who offer cyber security services (Bitdifender, CISCO, FireEye and Microsoft). The teaching process relies on the existing infrastructure within the Research and Development Centre as well as on other investments which have been made for this purpose.



Both our partner companies and our students showed great interest in the concept of this new program which emerged as a natural extension of the undergraduate programs taught at our faculty.

Dr Petre Lucian Ogruțan

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

Between 28 and 29 August, the General Meeting of the representatives of the ERANET-FLAG-FuturlCT2.0 consortium was held in Tallinn, Estonia. As partner in the consortium, our university was represented by the coordinators of the short-term multidisciplinary projects (STIMUL): Dr Florin Nechita and Dr Victor Briciu, from the Faculty of Sociology and Communication.



The meeting was hosted by the Estonian Academy of Sciences, and gathered participants from Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, France, Romania, Australia, Estonia, and Latvia, all having a rich experience in the management of international research initiatives.



The first day of the meeting was devoted to presentations and discussions clustered around the topic "Understanding and managing complex, global, socially interactive systems" and relating to the research conducted under the umbrella of the general project FuturICT 2.0 aimed at the efficient use of the solutions offered by information technology and communication in the field of social sciences. The second day included debates and reports on the fulfilment of each project coordinated under the three directions adopted by the consortium: research – innovation, networking and dissemination.



The primary objective of the FuturICT 2.0 project (www.futurICT.eu) is to identify the main research directions and challenges which can be solved jointly by researchers from the fields of social sciences and ICT. The project coordinator within our university is Dr Alina Itu, from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, who contributed significantly to the management of this project.

Dr Florin Nechita Dr Victor Briciu

SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI - MIHAI ANDREI CREȚUL



Mihai Andrei Crețul is a graduate of the Faculty of Technological Industry and Industrial Management, the degree program of Machine-Tools and Manufacturing Systems. After his graduation in 2007, he enrolled in the master's program *European Management for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises*, at the same faculty.

As a student, he attended various courses and obtained several certificates (CATIA V5, Unigraphics NX11, GD&T, measuring coordinates using a robotic arm - FARO GAGE, OneMonth University – AIESEC).

After his graduation in 2007, he worked as a CAD design engineer at SC Loire Etude Utilaj de Presă SRL until 2011, when he moved to a similar position at SC CADITEC SRL.

For two years he worked as a design engineer in the fields of automotive and aerospace industry, as well as in industrial automation, the integration of industrial robots. His activity focused on the design of assembly lines for the aerospace industry - Broetje; robot devices for positioning and handling on automated lines for welding – EDAG; work stations on automated assembly lines for the automotive industry: Autoliv, Continental, INA Schaeffler, Preh; measuring and control devices - Carl Zeiss; metal structures for car seats - KeiperRecaro; product design for vehicle electrical wiring - Autokabel; product design for automotive clusters and Head-Up Display components – Continental, etc.

In 2015 he was promoted to head of the product design department, a position he has been occupying ever since. His main activities and responsibilities include coordinating the design team for plastic and metallic automotive components; organizing the design stages for subassemblies; proposing optimal construction solutions from a technological and economic perspective, etc.

In May 2018, Mr Andrei Crețul attended the Alumni Days, where he presented his career in front of students from the Faculty of Technological Industry and Industrial Management, and expressed his willingness and availability to mentor young people who wish to learn more about the field of design.

Dr Bianca Tescașiu

SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI – ALEXANDRA BĂLAN



Alexandra Bălan is a graduate of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. She is involved in the field of cyber security, with notable results in ensuring data safety. Alexandra became known to local and national media in 2017 when she won the special prize at the Patriot Fest national competition with the project "Method of generating binary sequences for cryptographic operations using RO PUF circuits".

As an undergraduate student at the Computers study program of our university, Alexandra Bălan distinguished herself through her initiative and passion.

Her formal training was supplemented by her participation in the Digilent professional contests and in students' conferences. Her passion prompted her to continue her master and doctoral studies at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, and to join the teaching staff of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computers.

Her research interests extend beyond the data encryption software widely used today in wireless communications to protecting security weaknesses of complex hardware circuits.

These interests are supported by Alexandra's combined expertise in both hardware and software, following the successful educational path proposed by Professor Gheorghe Toacşe, and implemented in the study programs run by our department.

Dr Petre Lucian Ogruțan