

Adi Matei

PORTFOLIO

Not for sale
2010
pizza-like boxes
20x30cm



Jars Jaws

2010

b&w video, no sound, jars, work in progress

1'30"



video stills

Cadere rake

2009

painted wooden handle, metal rake

150x40cm

At the opening of the “Paintbrush Factory” space located in Cluj-Napoca, an old factory in which are now some important commercial galleries of the city, I’ve allowed myself to expose, without any prior announcements for about 10 minutes in every gallery, a rake. Following the example of Andrei Cadere, but also using one of his sticks as a model for the rake’s stick, I decided that this newly made out object exposed on the floor so the people can accidentally step on it, reveals the traditional medium of Cluj-Napoca scene and somehow the gap between mainstream and alternative .



The bone

2009

color video, sound

2'38"

A lot of years of learning and improving your skills, a lot of energy to finally realize you can't use them. The bulldog cartoon character from "Tom & Jerry" proves to be very possessive with his bone so he buries it just to be safe he won't lose it. It's kind of strange though, to forget at some point where you buried your stuff.



video stills

Crumbs bread

2009

crumbs, glue

30x20cm

This is somehow the representation of the world that I live in, with its tiny bits and pieces of different ideals and ideologies and different influences along the history. The architectural chaos that describe any Romanian city, and most of all Bucharest, with its mix of historical , Communist-era and modern architecture appeared in a natural way, or as a matter of fact it doesn't matter?



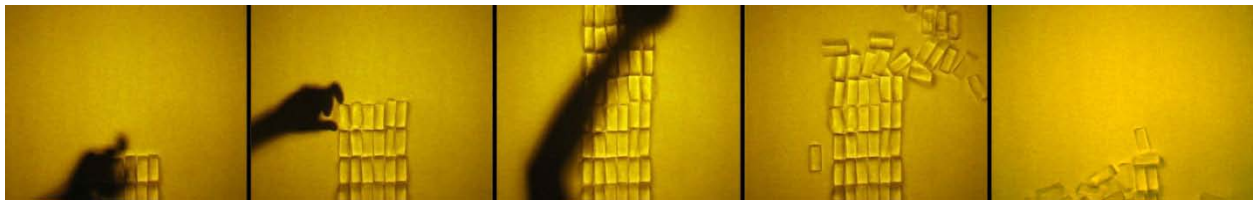
Tower (Cigarettes box plastic wrapper tower collapse)

2008

monochrome video, no sound

5'23"

Listening to the radio news during the recent Germany residence, the only recognizable term was "financial collapse", and hearing it over and over made me think the world I knew was coming to an end. I was smoking one cigarette after another and I was wondering how can be possible to have something so abstract like world's finance collapsing. What were they built of if the first wind storm can cause their destruction?



video stills

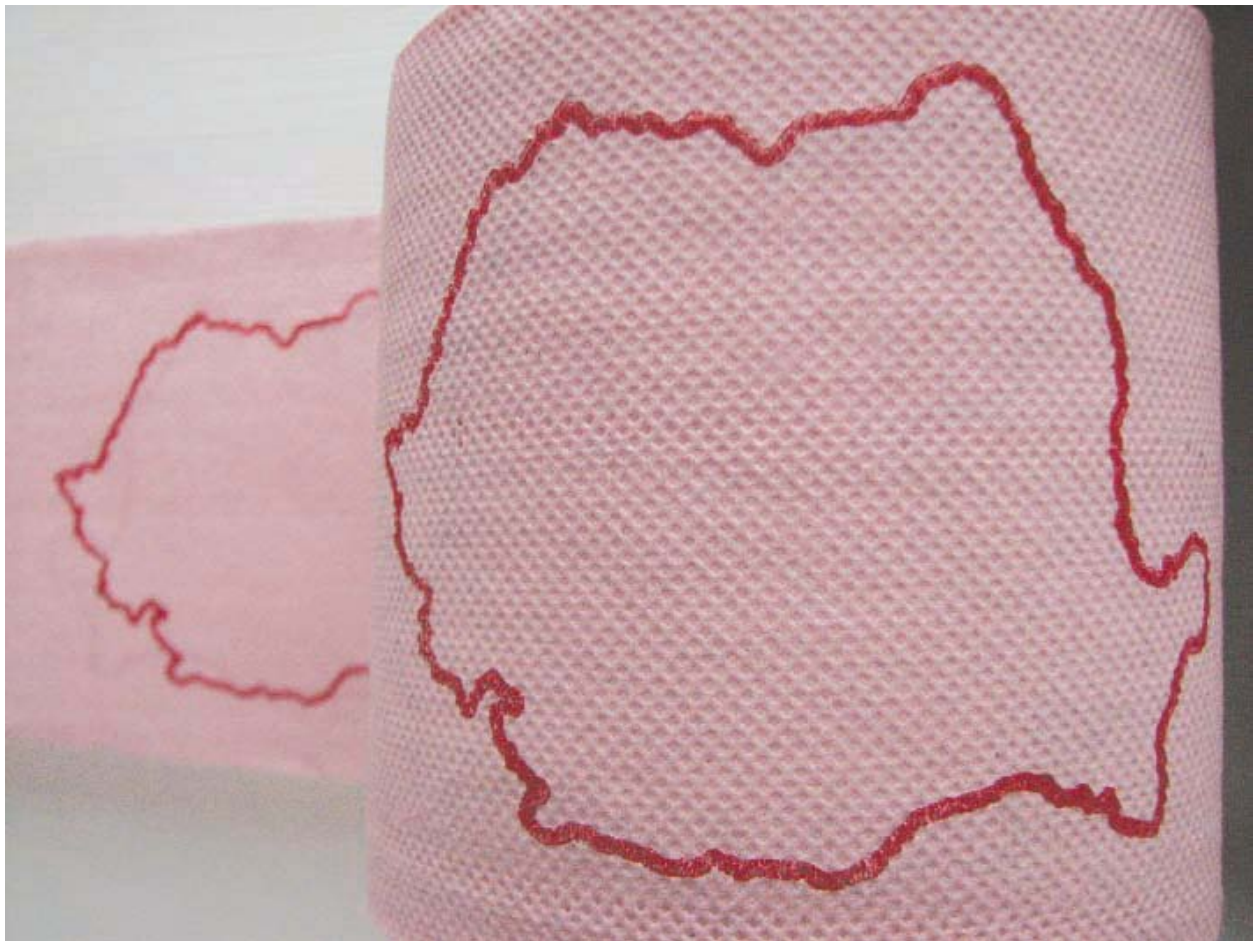
Hygienic

2008

toilet paper, manually printed

10x10x8cm

One can act repulsive with something that one thinks it is repulsive. When you grow with a bad impression about something, you act like that and you pass your beliefs to others too, without even knowing it. Romanians have this bad impression about their country, and this attitude is perpetuating.



The dog

2006

dog skeleton

variable dimensions

The stray dog population in Bucharest is around 200.000, a human to dog ratio of 10 to 1. In the 1980's Nicolae Ceausescu had parts of the city torn down for building projects and many dogs were released into the streets. More than two decades later and the situation have grown out of control. I too feel, in this "new-born" Romania as a vagabond, as a stray dog. I am a child of the old system, wondering around in the present.



installation at Ferula space, Sibiu

Adi Matei

born 1980, Galati, RO

education

2004 University of Art and Design Cluj-Napoca

2004 Erasmus scholarship – Ecole regionale des beaux-arts, Nantes

selected exhibitions

2010 Artist survival kit – galerie Jan Dhaese, Gent, Belgium

Land reclamation – appartements privees, Paris

Projection - Berlin

2009 Die welten neuzumachen – Ferula space, Sibiu

2008 The Map: Navigating the Present - Bildmuseet, Umeå, Sweden

2008 Bucharest Biennale 3 - Bucharest Biennale for Contemporary Art, Bucharest

2004 Assez Loin, Espace Cosmopolis, Nantes, France

Shoe Polish, Atas Gallery, Cluj-Napoca

residencies, workshops

2008 Oberbayerische Bezirk Residency, Freising, Germany

2004 L'École Regionale des Beaux-Arts, Nantes, France

prizes

2010 Henkel prize Romania.

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