



Cristina-Genoveva Modreanu - BIO

Cristina Modreanu (b.1974) is a curator, theater critic and scholar based in Bucharest, Romania. She holds a PHD in theatre from the National University of Theater and Film "I.L.Caragiale" in Bucharest and she is the author of six books on Romanian Theatre.

Her first book in English, *A History of Romanian Theatre from Communism to Capitalism. Children of a Restless Time*, was published by Routledge in 2020. She also contributed to *Routledge Companion for European Theatre* (2023).

She is a Fulbright Alumni and she was a Visiting Scholar at NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Performance Studies Department, New York 2011-2012.

Modreanu is currently the editor of the Performing Arts Magazine *Scena.ro* and a theatre researcher at Babeş-Bolyai University, Janovics Center for Screen and Performing Arts Studies.

www.cristinamodreanu.com

www.revistascena.ro

Research Projects

Recent research projects focused on reviving theater archives. Modreanu is currently coordinating a team of over 50 people in a national effort to make the local theatre memory visible and useful for the new generations, the awarded project **Multimedia Dictionary of Romanian Theatre** – www.dmtr.ro (2020-2023). She also curated **Theatre as Resistance** project, produced in the frame of Timisoara 2021 – European Capital of Culture with a book based on this research published in 2022 (Polirom Publishing House) and nominated by the prestigious Observator cultural as one of the best books of essays of 2022.

In 2014 and 2015 Modreanu co-curated **Comedia Remix** project, including a multimedia exhibition, a bilingual album and a 70 minutes documentary film about the history of the Comedy Theater in Bucharest in the context of the communist regime (1960 to 1990).

In 2016 Modreanu conceived and coordinated a research project titled **Arhiva Remix** focusing on eight legendary productions in the history of Romanian theater. A team of master students from CESI-Center of Excellency in Image Studies from the University of Bucharest conducted research with the aim of reconstructing in new artistic formats the eight productions. The result was a series of installations and short films presented to the audience in May 2016.

Writings in English

Modreanu wrote the afterword for **roMania after 2000 - Five New Plays**, edited by Martin E.Segal Theater Centre, The Graduate Center, CUNY, New York (2007) and a chapter on Romanian theater in **Theater in Times of Change** edited by Theater der Zeit (2008). She

contributed to special issues dedicated to Romanian theater by **Theater** magazine (edited by Yale University, USA, 2009) and **Alternative Theatrales** (2010) and penned articles for **Slavic and East European Performance** (published by CUNY, New York, 2012) and **New Theatre Quarterly** (published by London University, 2013). Her articles on Romanian theatre were also translated into Italian, German, Polish, and Slovenian.

Modreanu gave lectures about Romanian Theatre in Valladolid, 2004 (A Panorama of Street Theater in Romania), Berlin, 2006 (Romanian New Drama – New Eyes, Same Reality), Stockholm, 2007 (DramAcum – Changes in Romanian Theater after 1990) and Tel-Aviv University, 2011 (Contemporary Romanian Theater. An introduction) and about European Theater at University of California in San Diego (2012), Martin Segal Theater Center at CUNNY, University of New York (2015) and Pace University in New York (2020).

Curator/ Performing Arts Expert

Cristina Modreanu curated the most important theater festivals in Romania: the European Performing Arts Festival in Timisoara (2011 to 2013), the National Theater Festival (2008 to 2010), the Romanian New Drama Festival in Timisoara (2006-2008) and she co-curated FestCo, the festival produced by the Comedy Theater in Bucharest (2005-2006). She was an adviser for Nitra Theater Festival in Slovakia. As an expert in Performing Arts she was part of the team designated to formulate the cultural strategy of Timisoara city for 2014-2024.

As a curator, Modreanu introduced for the first time to Romanian audiences leading experimental creators such as Richard Foreman, Lee Breuer, Romeo Castellucci, Kama Ginkas, Alvis Hermanis, Rimini Protokoll, as well as important theoreticians like Richard Schechner, Hans-Thies Lehmann, Bonnie Marranca, Michal Kobiálka, Aleks Sierz who gave public lectures in Bucharest.

In 2014 Modreanu won the prestigious Ibsen Scholarship awarded by the Norwegian Government with a project titled *Hedda's Sisters. Empowering Women Artists in Romania and Eastern Europe*, aiming to use Ibsen's feminine characters as a tool to showcase contemporary women's perspective and empower Romanian women artists in theater.

She curated 7 editions of the Bucharest International Theater Platform which she founded in 2014 with the first theme "The Future is Feminine".

Editor/Educator

Modreanu also initiated a translation series of some of the most important writings in the field: Richard Schechner's Essays, Lehmann's Postdramatic Theater, Esslin's Theater of the Absurd, Michal Kobiálka's Essays on Kantor, Andre Lepecki's study Exhausting Dance about contemporary dance (2023) and co-translated into Romanian Routledge's influential *Fifty Key Theatre Directors* (2010) and *Routledge Companion to Theater and Performance* (2012).

As editor of the Romanian theater magazine *Scena.ro*, she has published excerpts from these books and also wrote and commissioned articles about the international Performing Arts scene.

Between 2012 and 2016 Modreanu taught at Bucharest University, Center for Excellency in Visual Studies, using her international theater expertise to design a course on Contemporary Performance in a Globalized World.