Flaviu Cacoveanu
18 Aug. — 15 Oct.

Flaviu Cacoveanu's practice unfolds on the border of multiple media. His artistic discourse simultaneously embraces – from a performative perspective – photography, installation, ready-made object, sculpture, and painting, and it mainly occurs at the point where they intertwine. Commuting between many spaces, media, and realities, his coinages are on the one hand an attempt to question the limits of art and on the other, a way of interacting with the immediate reality. By means of minimal site-specific interventions and a strategy based on play, the artist enciphers – filtered through the prism of his personal perception – the ambiguity of the present state of the world in the shape of artifacts, which in turn are polyvalent. In this regard, the artworks proposed by Flaviu Cacoveanu are flashes of observation of the everyday reality and the urban environments the artist moves through, the greater their power of suggestion, the wider the specter of ideas he juggles with.
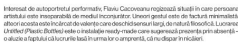
Concerned with the issue of space, Flaviu Cacoveanu reflects – in his acts and artworks – on the coexistence and reciprocal influence of the physical and virtual space, supplemented by the space of the gallery able to bring new valences and meanings to objects. The artwork Untitled (Chroma Key Bench) is an act of changing the way in which an ordinary object is perceived, by transposing it. At the same time, this episode can be read as an invitation to a breathing space in order to contemplate the interlude where visual and spatial perception fragments. This meeting space – physical / virtual – is perceived by the artist as a grey zone where truths are debatable. Thereby, many of Flaviu Cacoveanu's artworks are born on his cell phone – which has in the meantime become not only a living space or an extension of the reality, but outright the artist's studio – in the shape of sketches or short story-type videos, advancing slices of reality which, taken out of the context, are endowed with new meanings.

Interested in the performative self-portrait, Flaviu Cacoveanu stages situations in which the artist is inseparable from the surrounding environment. Sometimes, the gesture is minimalist, other times it carries valences with wide, philosophical senses. The artwork Untitled (Plastic Bottles) is a ready-made installation that conveys presence through absence – an indication to the fact that things leave a footprint behind, that they do not vanish in the nowhere.

Another field of interest for the artist is the issue of images in the digital era, from both an artistic perspective (painting, photography, video art) and sociological, in an attempt to provide a reaction to the excess of images that floods us. Wondering how he can transcend the image, the artist breaks it down, re-composes it, conceptualizes it. The artwork Untitled (Burnt TV Screen) is one of the solutions that Flaviu Cacoveanu finds for this problem, and it stands not only for an abstract image created out of a partially controlled gesture, but it also comprises – in the first place – the performative act that generated it. Thus, by distilling it, the artist proposes new formulas for assimilating the image and not least, a different perspective for perceiving reality.

His attitude towards art can be deciphered resorting to one of his terms – "conceptual play". Playing with borders – which sometimes are rigid and suffocating – he questions the authority of definitions and asks himself whether and how they can be overruled. This play also gives birth to the term "Con&Temporary", an attribute with which the artist identifies himself and which – and at the same time – is able to generate new meanings. This strategy based on taking things apart and re-composing them, the acts of intervening in the surrounding environment and the playful approach are for Flaviu Cacoveanu a way of striving to open – through perception – the artistic discourse at the point where it seemed closed.

Text: Dumitru Bagrin
Translation: Bertha Savu

PHOTOGRAPHING EACH OTHER
Photographs, 2014

Flaviu
Cacoveanu

SELF-PORTRAIT AS TRAFFIC LIGHTS
Photographs, 2017-2023

Opening:

18 Aug. 19:00
18 Aug. — 15 Oct.

Text: Dumitru Bagrin
Translation: Bertha Savu

IG: @galerialutnita
galerialutnita@gmail.com

MDA Chișinău,
Alexei Șciusev, 63

PART OF THE SPECTRUM
Photograph, 2019

Poster:
EN PLEIN AIR
Thistles on canvas, 2023 (detail)

A project by: Andrei Schlos
Support: Mihai Pop
Lutnița 2023

Cover: *SELF-PORTRAIT
AS TREE*
Photograph, 2013-2022

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