



ARAD



BAIA MARE



CLUJ NAPOCA



BRAŞOV



BUZĂU



CÂMPIA TURZII



CONSTANŢA



CRAIOVA



CUGIR



DEJ



FOCŞANI



ORADEA



PITEŞTI



TÂRGU JIU



TURDA



CARANSEBEŞ



TIMIŞOARA

ARTIST: LIVIU BULEA

TITLE OF THE WORK: ABOUT WHITE

## CONCEPT

In mid-2016 the financial magazine Ziarul Financiar presented the situation of Romanian hospitals: 367 public hospitals, 187 private ones; with 125.000 beds in the public sector and 6.600 ones in private, for a country with 19 million inhabitants. I had to face this issue myself when I had cancer 9 years ago, and recently when I visited my cancer patient aunt, who told me that she has her chemotherapy in the hospital's basement. In 2015 Romania confronted the problem of lack of space and special equipment when it had to send severely injured patients abroad, after the Colectiv fire.

The printed photographs represent a collection which I got from people living in various cities, with the help of social media. People from all over Romania sent me photographs of hospital buildings, all images taken from the outside, in order to access the memories connected to these buildings in each city. Most of the buildings are old, in precarious state, and people described their interiors as being in a similarly degraded state.

The white tile wall is part of the **About White** project, which I started in 2013. The tiles were taken from a hospital in Turda and reconstructed. It serves as a metaphor for my personal experiences, and all the memories and stories that I've collected throughout the years narrated by people who had to deal with Romanian hospitals.

In Romania, we fear not only sickness, but we also fear ending up in a hospital with terrible conditions, which, unfortunately, is the case of most public hospitals.

## BIO

**Liviu Bulea** is a 29-year-old independent artist based in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. He exhibited at Iaga Gallery, Cluj-Napoca; Shelter Club, Amsterdam; MORA Gallery, Bucharest; Parallel Vienna, Austria; Make a Point Gallery, Bucharest; Visual Kontakt Gallery, Cluj-Napoca and Oradea; Jurmala City Museum, Latvia; ASP Katowice, Poland; at the 4th edition of the International Student Biennale in Novi Sad, Serbia etc. He took part in the following residencies: Kultur Kontakt Austria Residency in Vienna; Visual Kontakt residency in Oradea, Romania; and he was invited to be part of Styria-Artist-in-Residence in Graz, Austria in 2018. In 2017 he started collaborating with Iaga Art Gallery in Cluj-Napoca.

He studied at the University of Art and Design in Cluj-Napoca, where for his BA and MA **Liviu** carried out an investigation in the field of medicine, a research about the memory of spaces and objects in oncology departments. He was awarded an Erasmus scholarship in Poland at ASP Katowice, and in Berlin at Freies Museum. He also collaborated with the Romanian Cultural Institute in Berlin.

**Liviu's** work concentrates on social issues, human behavior, gender and sexuality topics, and also on the way mass media affects our society. He transposes his visual research through installation art, ready-made, photography, text and drawing, engaging to bring the feelings, the struggle and the memory of space and people in front of his audience. He is the manager of Visual Kontakt Gallery in Cluj-Napoca.