

Ortansa Moraru

FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 30, 2023

DITTO

HEADBONES GALLERY

Artist Catalog: Ortansa Moraru - *Ditto* Copyright © 2023, Headbones Gallery

This catalog was created for the exhibition Ortansa Moraru - Ditto at Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC Canada, February 25 - March 30, 2023

Artwork Copyright © 2022 Ortansa Moraru

Ditto commentary by Julie Oakes

Rich Fog Micro Publishing, printed in Vernon, BC, 2023 Layout and Design, Richard Fogarty

Printed on the Ricoh SP C830DN

All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system, except as may be expressly permitted by the 1976 copyright act or in writing from Headbones Gallery. Requests for permission to use these images should be addressed in writing to Ortansa Moraru c/o Headbones Gallery.

www.headbonesgallery.com

ISBN: 978-1-988707-44-0



Ortansa Moraru

DITTOWATERCOLOUR AND INK DRAWINGS



Ditto - Ortansa Moraru Watercolour and Ink Drawings

Ortansa Moraru has been busy drawing animated 'things' in her Toronto studio. Her new works reveal flotsam of the mind as floating bits of drawn things swished, sashayed and swirled from her head through her hand onto paper, sassily. Displayed in the Drawers Gallery concurrent to Headbones GIZMOS exhibition, the sense that her contributions related to the concepts inherent in "a gadget or thing" lent an 'aforesaid' dimension, just as the word 'ditto' is used in place of repetition.

Digging in, from organic shapes she individualized to the extent that the shapes assume character. The quality of caricature suggests relational implications and a clue to the reference lies alongside her signature where, after the date, she has written Las Terrenas, an area in the Dominican



Ortansa Moraru at Headbones Gallery Vernon, BC - 2023

Republic where she collected fragments of coral reef that had washed ashore. Rather than being pulverized by the surf, these calcified remains of what has been called 'the rainforest of the sea', gained a second life. Moraru captured their images in watercolor and with her handling breathed momentum into the forms. The results are similar to Henry Moore's sculptures, who also drew inspiration from forms found in nature. It calls into question what was 'aforesaid' – the coral, the influence of Moore's work (Ortansa worked in Prints and Drawings at the Art Gallery of Ontario home of the Henry Moore Sculpture Center), or a convention of working from the figure endemic to most art educations.

Bringing to her works a high level of technical and artistic expertise, Moraru sheds the significant, and plays. These exuberant watercolors cast a joyous energy. The association of figures striding, dancing, leaping and in all ways extending the body through movement, is unavoidable. Having used ebullient gestural mark making, an uplifting wind carries the imagery. Funkily pop, the early cartoons of hippiedom (Fabulous Freak Brothers) in costumed pageantry acting out theatrical emotive scenes comes to mind or animated emojis and manga characters caught in a blurring bounce of psychedelics. In placing a figurative element as the subject and then adding lines, letters, equations, scribblings, and then in some also placing a circular motif, humanism is celebrated.



Moraru has been primarily a master printmaker, working with etchings, woodblocks, aquatints and lithography, disciplines that entail arduous process and attention to detail. These new works on paper feel like confetti flung at a fan, a celebration of creativity. With well-deserved abandon, Moraru, who had put in time on the hard stuff (where she still evoked lightness) is rushing away from the physical constraints of her earlier artistic disciplines with an intuitive deftness.

One wonders how her printmaking might evolve, once she lands again.

Julie Oakes, 2023



Ortansa Moraru at Headbones Gallery Vernon, BC - 2023



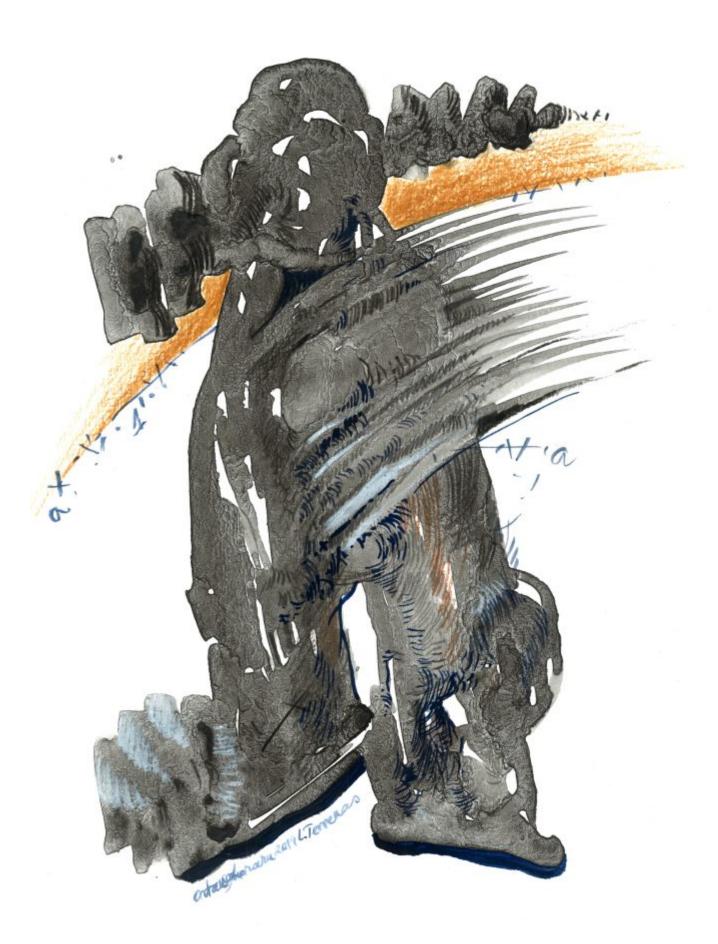


ORTANSA MORARU - 2022 Watercolour and ink drawings on paper 15 x 11 inches, 12x12 inches, 12 x 9 inches











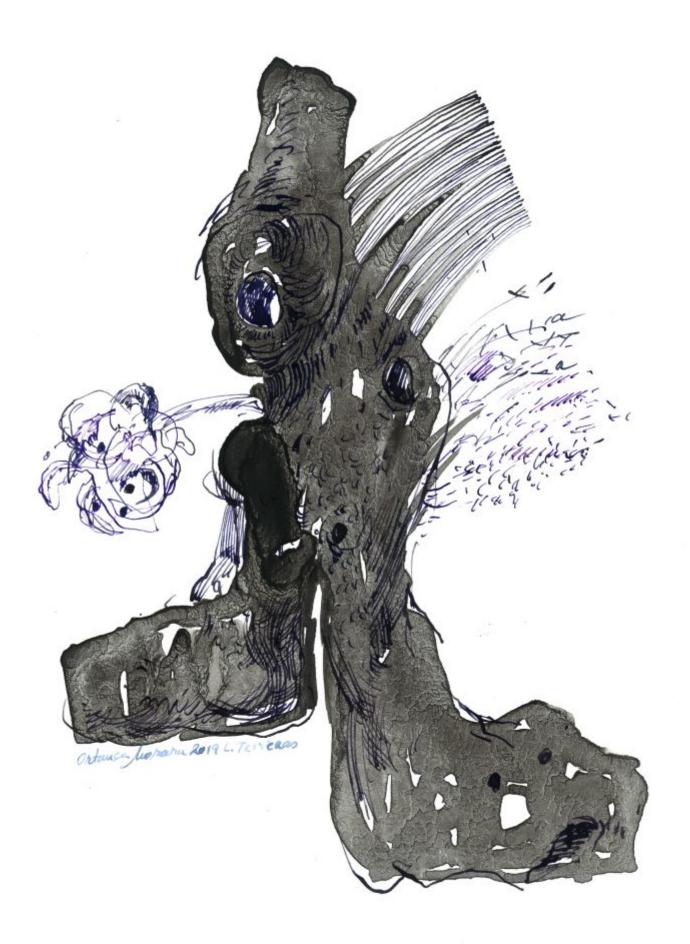












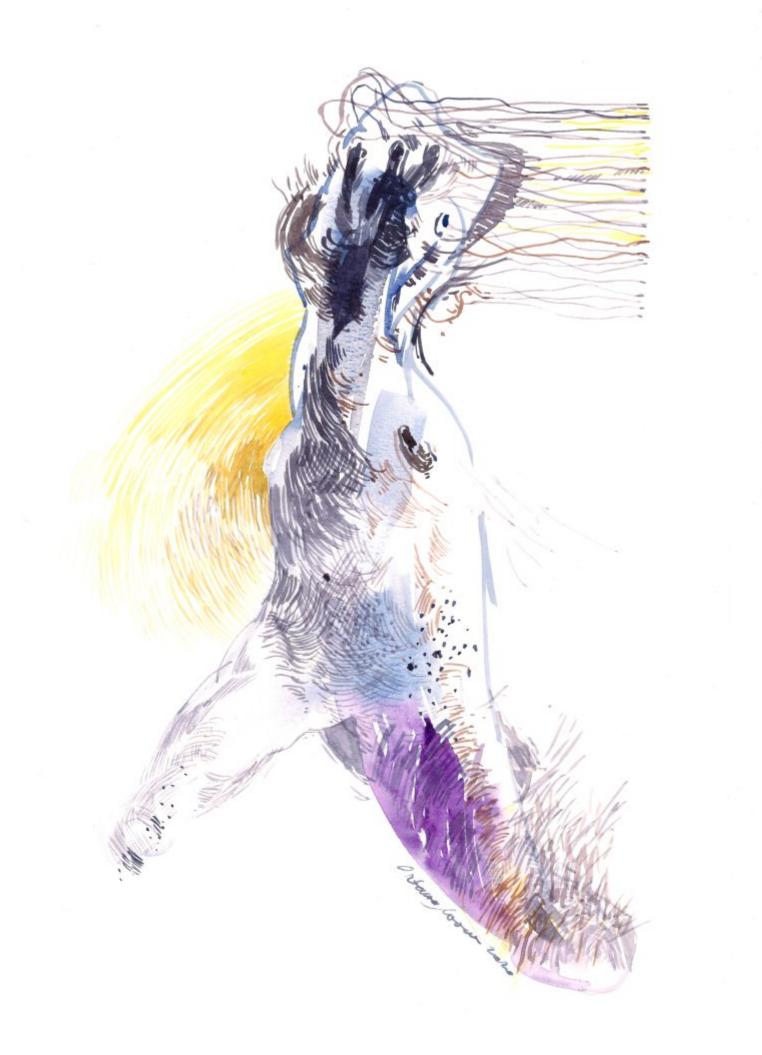












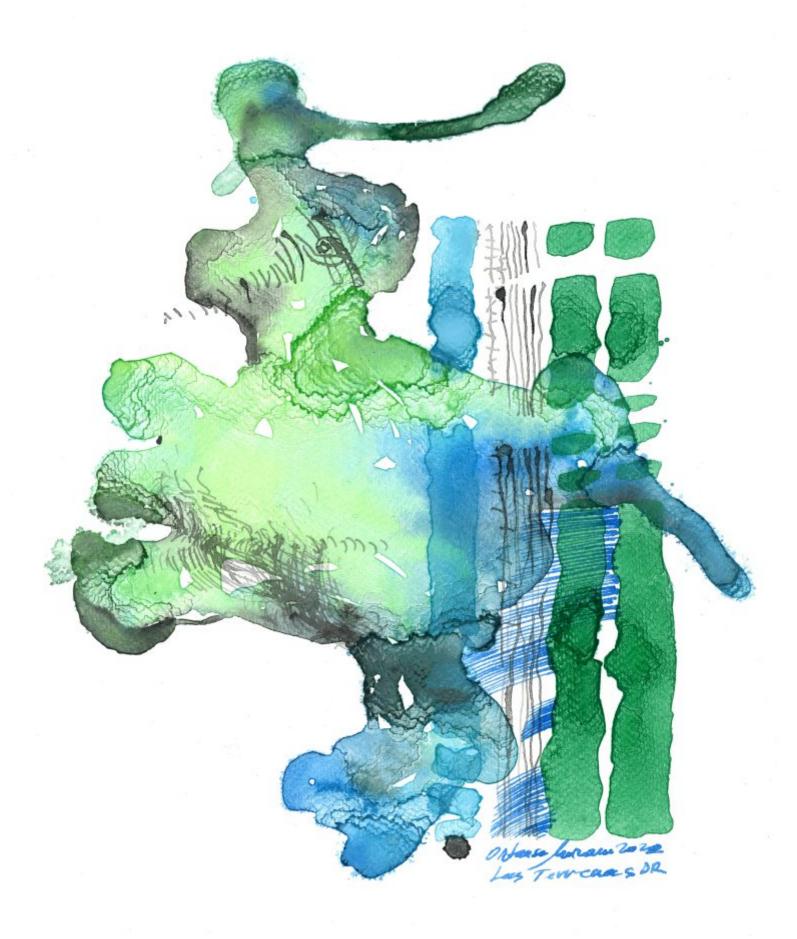




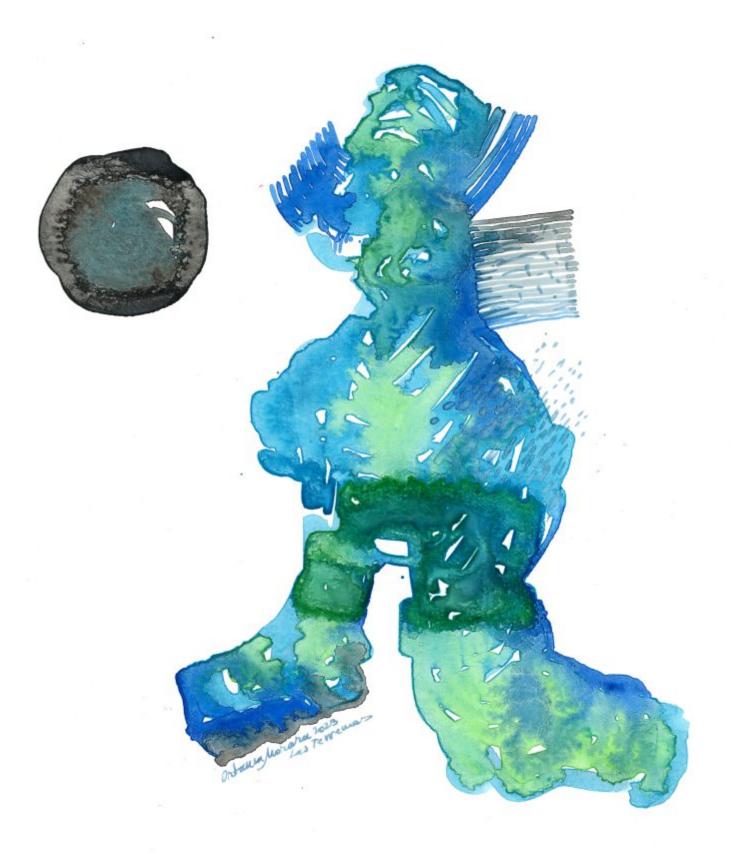






































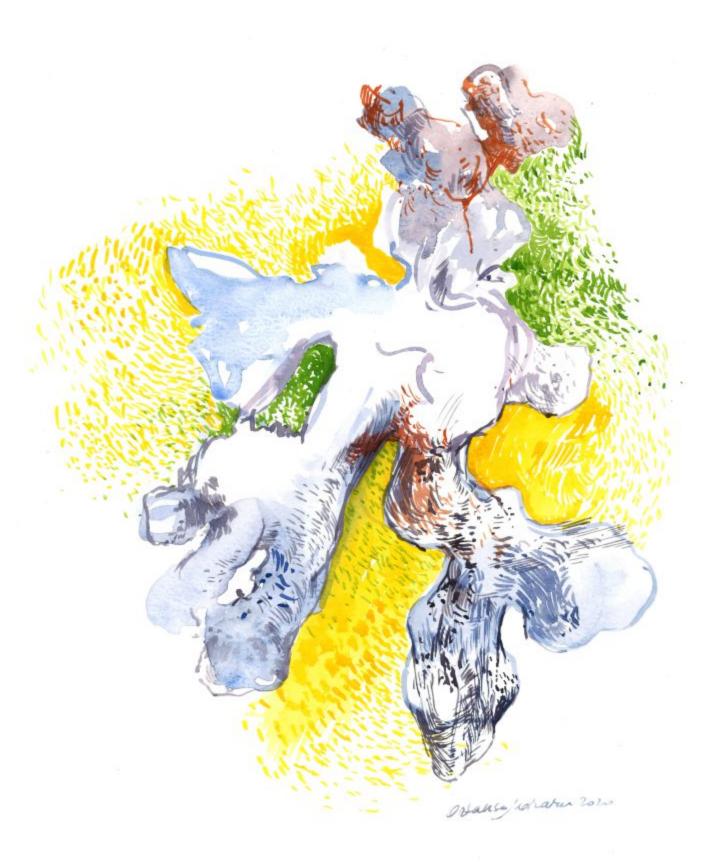


















ORTANSA MORARU

1968 Born in Corabia, Olt, Romania

Education

2010-2013 PhD, Western University of Timisoara, Fine Arts Department, Timisoara, Romania 1991-1997 MFA, B.Ed., Western University of Timisoara, Fine Arts Department, Timisoara, Romania 1985-1988 Cornetti School of Arts, Craiova, Romania

Scholarships

| 1998 | Dante Alighieri Cultural Society, Rome, Italy |
|------|---|
| | Italian Language and Culture Study. |
| 1996 | Dante Alighieri Cultural Society, Rome, Italy |
| | Italian Language and Culture Study. |
| 1993 | The 4-th Biennial of Fine Arts Academies, Maastricht, Holland |
| | Master class section - Prof. Luciano Fabro, Milano |

Awards

- 2011 Premio I, Apocalisse Oggi, Galleria d'Arte ARIPA, Turin, Italy
- 2011 Honorary Diploma, 9th "losif Iser" International Contemporary Printmaking Biennial, Romania
- 2009 Arts / Social Justice Award of the National Ethnic Press and Media Council of Canada presented by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario
- 2009 Third Prize, Abstract, The 41st Open National Juried Exhibition, Papermill Gallery, Toronto
- 2009 Nica Petre Prize, The Observatorul Magazine, Toronto, Canada
- 2007 Juror's Award, Glenhyrst Art Gallery, Juried Drawing Exhibition, Brantford, Canada
- 2006 Third Prize Award IV International Biennial of Graphic Arts, Francavilla al Mare, Italy
- 1996 The Youth Prize Award The Fine Arts Museum, Craiova, Romania
- 1994 Small Prints Award, Vulcan, Romania
- 1992 First Prize Award for Graphics "Dante Alighieri" Cultural Society, Timisoara, Romania
- 1989 "Gheorghe Sincai" Association Award, Oradea, Romania
- 1988 Third Prize Award (xylography) "Ion Creanga" Exhibit, Bacau, Romania

Solo & Two Person Exhibitions

- 2023 Ditto, Ortansa Moraru, Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC
- 2015 New Allegories, Ortansa Moraru & New Mythologies, Anna Glyn, Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC
- 2014 Down on the Danube II, General Consulate of Romania in Toronto
- 2013 Drawn and Incised, Doctoral Exhibition, Mansarda Gallery, Timisoara, Romania
- 2012 Hammer & Spoon, Doug Alcock and Ortansa Moraru, Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC
- 2011 Homer Watson Home and Gallery, Kitchener, Curator Sandu Sindile (Video)
- 2011 Joseph D. Carrier Gallery, Curator Teodoro Dragonieri
- 2009 Consulate General of Romania, Toronto, Canada
- 2004 Ontario Club, Toronto, Canada
- 2003 Time Just Passing By Out/Aut Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 1999 "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 1998 "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 1997 Dante Alighieri Cultural Society, Timisoara, Romania
- 1996 "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 1995 Dante Alighieri Cultural Society, Timisoara, Romania

Group Exhibitions

- 2016 8th International Printmaking Biennial Douro 2016, Portugal (Invited artist)
- 2014 Oltre il Segno, Oltre Il Segno, Associazione Donna Sommelier, Spazio Arte Castello, Turin, Italy.
- 2013 Salonus Papyrus, Headbones Gallery, Vernon BC. Curator, Julie Oakes
- 2013 Open Studio 100 Prints, Toronto
- 2012 Int'l Printmaking Exhibition Mezzotint 2012, EDUCONS University- Novi Sad
- 2012 L'Eccezione e la Regola, Aripa Gallery, Turin, Italy, Curator Mariana Paparà and Ivan Fassio
- 2012 The "Xylography-Stylistic Matrix VI" Visual Art Museum, Galati, Romania.
- 2012 Open Studio 100 Prints, Toronto
- 2012 Imitare il Caso, Giocarsi la Ragione. Aripa Gallery, Turin, Italy. Curators: Ivan Fassio and Mariana Paparà
- 2012 Artists of the Gallery 2012, 6th Annual AGO Staff Show, Hang Man Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2012 Casualita Mediate, Aripa Art Gallery, Turin, Italy, Curator Mariana Papara and Ivan Fasio
- 2012 Lonsdale Gallery, Toronto, ON, Curator Stanzie Tooth
- 2011 I Cavalieri dell' Apocalisse, Aripa Art Gallery, Turin, Italy, Curator Mariana Papara and Ivan Fasio
- 2011 The National Show of Contemporary Art, Ramnicu-Valcea, Romania
- 2011 Apocalisse Oggi-Eterno Ritorno, Aripa Gallery, Turin, Italy. Curator Mariana Papara
- 2011 Open Studio 100 Prints, Toronto
- 2011 The "Xylography-Stylistic Matrix V" Durango, Mexico. Curator Cristina Sandor
- 2011 Apocalisse Oggi-Aripa Gallery, Turin, Italy. Curator Mariana Papara & Silvana Nota
- 2011 Artists of the Gallery 2011, 5th Annual AGO Staff Show, Hang Man Gallery
- 2010 The "Xylography-Stylistic Matrix IV" Durango, Mexico. Curator Cristina Sandor
- 2010 Open Studio 100 Prints, Toronto
- 2010 Fourth International Printmaking Juried Exhibit. Monterrey, Mexico
- 2010 Artists of the Gallery 2010, 4th Annual AGO Staff Show, Hang Man Gallery
- 2010 Pulled (A Print Show) Headbones Gallery, Toronto, Curator Julie Oakes
- 2009 Whodunit, Ontario College of Art and Design, Toronto
- 2009 Paper Salon, Headbones Gallery Toronto. Curator Julie Oakes
- 2009 DIN A4, Sala del Archivo Municipal, Malaga, Spain. Curator Ernst Kraft
- 2009 Back to the Garden, Headbones Gallery, Toronto, curator Julie Oakes (Video)
- 2009 The 41st Open National Juried Exhibition, SCA, Papermill Gallery, Toronto
- 2009 Open Studio 100 Prints, Toronto
- 2009 The "Xylography Stylistic Matrix" Group, Pod Gallery, Timisoara, Romania
- 2008 Aligning with Beauty, Varley Art Gallery of Markham, curator Julie Oakes
- 2008 V International Biennial of Graphic Arts, Francavilla al Mare, Italy
- 2008 The 1st International Printmaking Biennial, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2008 Artist Proof and Sale Group Exhibition, Open Studio, Toronto
- 2008 International 400 Prints Exhibition, Engrame, Quebec
- 2008 Xylography Stylistic Matrix II, Timisoara, Romania
- 2008 Second International Mini Print Exhibition, Ottawa School of Art
- 2008 Naestved International Exhibition of Contemporary Mini Square Prints, Denmark
- 2008 The Americas Biennial Exhibition
- 2007 Juried Drawing Exhibition, Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant, Brantford
- 2007 Abstract (B & W), Headbones Gallery, Toronto,, ON curator Julie Oakes
- 2007 Home/Acasa Project, London, England
- 2007 5th International Small Engraving Biennial, Cremona, Italy
- 2007 5th Kiwa Exhibition, Japan
- 2007 Acqui Biennale Internazionale dell'Incisione, Acqui Terme, Italy

Group Exhibitions continued

- 2007 2nd Interantional Ex-Libris Competition, Ankara, Turkey
- 2007 Internationale d'Art Miniature, Ville de Levis, Quebec
- 2007 SCA 50th Anniversary Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery, Toronto
- 2006 International Triennial of Graphic Art, Macedonia
- 2006 5th Egyptian International Print Triennial, Egypt
- 2006 IV International Biennial of Graphic Arts, Francavilla al Mare, Italy
- 2006 "Romanian Modern Artist's Exhibition", Koga City Museum, Japan
- 2006 First International Miniature Print Competition, Ottawa School of Art, Canada
- 2006 Elected Member's Spring Exhibition, Art Gallery of Northumberland, Cobourg, Canada
- 2005 Prize Jean Chieze, Paris, France
- 2005 11th International Biennial of Small Graphics, Ostrow, Poland
- 2005 3a International Biennial Gravura Douro, Alijo, Portugal
- 2005 6th "losif Iser" International Biennial, Ploiesti, Romania
- 2005 International Artexpo, New York, USA
- 2004 General Consulate of Romania, Toronto, Canada
- 2004 International Miniprint Salon GRAPHIUM, Timisoara, Romania
- 2004 International Small Engraving Salon, Baia Mare, Romania
- 2004 Iowa Biennial Exhibition Contemporary Prints, Iowa, U.S.A.
- 2004 Women's Art Association, Toronto, Canada
- 2004 Open October Salon Out/Aut Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
- 2004 International Artexpo, New York, USA
- 2004 4th Printmaking Festival, Évora, Portugal
- 2004 SCA Show Heliconian Club, Toronto, Canada
- 2004 3rd International Miniature Exhibition "little m", Vilnius, Lithuania
- 2003 4th International Exhibition Ex-Libris, Rijeka, Croatia
- 2003 SCA Show Hummingbird Centre, Toronto, Canada
- 2003 Open October Salon Out/Aut Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 2003 Still Life Praxis Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 2003 4th International Graphic Trieenial, Bitola, Macedonia
- 2003 Museo Civico di Grafica, Brunico, Italy
- 2003 Small Prints State Museum of Fine Arts, Ankara, Turkey
- 2000 Groupe Art '999 "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 2000 The Fine Arts Museum (Jean Mihail Palace), Craiova, Romania
- 2000 "Oltenia" Museum, Craiova, Romania
- 2000 "Atelier 35" Group "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 2000 Group 6872 "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 1999 Cranach und Dürer in Ex-Libris Kreisbibliothek, Kronach, Germany
- 1999 The Small Printings Biennial, Cluj, Romania
- 1999 Groupe Art '999 "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 1999 Fine Arts Teachers Group "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 1998 C.I.A.C Pallazo del Espozitioni, Rome, Italy
- 1998 The First Small Printings Works Exhibition, Beijing, China
- 1998 First Art Addiction Annual, Venice, Italy
- 1998 Group 6872 "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 1998 "Atelier 35" Group "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 1998 The Southern Exhibit, Rm. Vilcea, Romania
- 1997 The 19th International Independent Exhibition of Prints Prefectural Art Gallery, Kanagawa, Japan

Group Exhibitions continued

- 1997 C.I.A.C. Bramante Hall (Piazza del Popolo), Rome, Italy
- 1997 Professional Artists Annual Exhibit The Fine Arts Museum, Timisoara, Romania
- 1997 "Oltenia" Annual Exhibit The Fine Arts Museum, Craiova, Romania
- 1997 "Iosif Iser" Contemporary Printmaking Biennial, Ploiesti, Romania
- 1997 National Fine Arts Exhibit, Resita, Romania
- 1997 Drawings Biennial, Arad, Romania
- 1996 Kreisbibliothek, Kronach, Germany
- 1996 F.I.S.A.E. Congress, Prague, Czech Republic
- 1996 "Paul Verlaine" Ex-Libris Exhibit, Metz, France
- 1996 "Oltenia" Annual Exhibit The Fine Arts Museum, Craiova, Romania
- 1996 "Color Print" Biennial Exhibit, Iasi, Romania
- 1996 "Atelier 35" Group "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 1996 "Tristan Tzara" Ex-Libris Exhibit, Bacau, Romania
- 1995 Ex-Libris Exhibit Kreisbibliothek, Kronach, Germany
- 1995 The 18th International Independent Exhibition of Prints Prefectural Art Gallery, Kanagawa, Japan
- 1995 The Small Prints Triennial, Vilnius, Lithuania
- 1995 The Annual Exhibition of Miniature Art, Del Bello Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 1995 KIWANIS Club Auction, Maastricht, Holland
- 1995 Annual Prints Exhibit The National Theatre, Bucuresti, Romania
- 1995 The Fine Arts Museum, Constanta, Romania
- 1995 "Graphium" Biennial Prints Exhibit, Timisoara, Romania
- 1995 The Fine Arts Museum, Tulcea, Romania
- 1995 "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 1994 The Annual Exhibition of Miniature Art, Del Bello Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 1994 Ex-Libris Exhibit Kreisbibliothek, Kronach, Germany
- 1994 "Dante Alighieri" Cultural Society, Timisoara, Romania
- 1993 International Exlibriscentrum Stedelijke Musea, Sint-Niklaas, Belgium
- 1993 Ex-Libris Exhibit Kreisbibliothek, Kronach, Germany
- 1993 The 4th Biennial of Fine Arts Academies from, Europe MECC Congress Palace, Maastricht, Holland
- 1993 The Annual Exhibition of Miniature Art, Del Bello Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 1993 The Watercolour Biennial for Youth Fondazione SINAIDE GHI, Rome, Italy
- 1992 Small Prints Exhibit Heffner Gallery, Bratislava, Slovakia
- 1991 "Dante Alighieri" Cultural Society, Timisoara, Romania
- 1990 International Exlibriscentrum Stedelijke Musea, Sint-Niklaas, Belgium
- 1990 The Watercolour Biennial for Youth Fondazione SINAIDE GHI, Rome, Italy
- 1990 "Atelier 35" Group "Arta" Gallery, Craiova, Romania
- 1989 Ex-Libris Exhibit Kreisbibliothek, Kronach, Germany
- 1989 "Gabriele D'Annunzio" International Museum, of Ex Libris and Prints, Pescara, Italy



