



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
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Embassy of Switzerland in Romania



## Events supported through the Swiss Sponsors' Fund in 2023

### PROJECTS

#### Music: 7 projects

Title: **Concert of Sophie de Quay on Francophonie month**

Date: **19.03.2023**

Venue: **Suceava**

About the project:

Sophie de Quay Duo, composed by *Sophie Loretan* (singer) and *Simon Jaccard* (multi-instrumentalist), who had already performed in Romania in 2022, returned to Suceava for a concert, at the invitation of the local Alliance française. The Alliance challenged the duo to create an anthem inspired by the city of Suceava, the Francophonie celebrations and the famous Romanian composer Ciprian Porumbescu. On 19 March, the two musicians performed the anthem of the Alliance Française in Suceava in front of an enthusiastic audience at the Schmidt Auditorium of "Ștefan cel Mare" University in Suceava, receiving the title of Ambassadors of Francophonie in Bucovina. Click [here](#) to watch the video of the anthem in Suceava.

Title: **Tour of NøMad project in Romania**

Date: **11.04 – 24.04.2023**

Venue: **Bucharest, Mangalia, Buzau, Pitesti, Brasov, Ploiesti and Braila**

About the project:

In April 2023, the Swiss musician and novelist *Christophe Meyer* came to Romania for a tour with his new musical project: NøMad, French-language pop. Organised with the support of the Embassy, the tour included 7 concerts in 7 different cities (Bucharest, Mangalia, Buzau, Pitesti, Brasov, Ploiesti and Braila). In Bucharest, we had the chance to hear Christophe Meyer and his band, made up of *Swiss bassist Sébastien Bandelier* and *Romanian drummer Andrei Hâncu*, on 12 April at Green Hours Club. It was an electrifying concert, combining French pop music, rock rhythms, lights and video projections created using artificial intelligence.

Title: **Joseph-Maurice Weder, piano masterclass and recital on Europe Day**

Date: **09.05.2023**

Venue: **Bucharest**

About the project:

To mark Europe Day, Swiss pianist and teacher *Joseph-Maurice Weder* made his debut in Romania, giving a masterclass to students at the National University of Music in Bucharest, as well as an extraordinary piano recital at the Casa Artelor Dinu Lipatti. Steinway artist and winner of the prestigious Swiss Ambassador's Award in London, Joseph-Maurice Weder captured the attention of the audience, who enjoyed a wonderful evening of music. Click [here](#) for the video recording of the recital.

Title: **Jazz in Church Festival**

Date: **11.05 - 14.05.2023**

Venue: **Bucharest**

About the project:

After a cancelled edition due to the pandemic and a three-year break, the [Jazz.ro](http://Jazz.ro) team got together to resume the 8th edition of the jazz and contemporary music festival at the Lutheran Church in Bucharest, from 11 to 14 May.

Organised under the patronage of the Embassy, the festival welcomed 2 leading figures in the Swiss jazz scene: pianist *Collin Valon* and trumpeter/flugelhorn *Matthieu Michel*. They both showed off their talent and offered audiences some unforgettable musical experiences.

Title: **Children for Children" piano recital, a charity event for disadvantaged children**

Date: **08.06.2023**

Venue: **Bucharest**

About the project:

On 8 June, the Swiss embassy supported a charity event dedicated to the International Children's Day, a piano recital entitled "Children for Children", in aid of disadvantaged children, at "Casa Artelor Dinu Lipatti" in Bucharest.

The beneficiaries of the charity recital were 60 children from vulnerable backgrounds in Bucharest and Ilfov county, supported during their education by the Inocenți Foundation - Bucharest branch, in order to reduce the school drop-out rate and increase their chances of social integration. Following this charitable event, the children enjoyed a summer camp full of unforgettable experiences.

The event brought together people involved in protecting children's rights, young artists and a generous audience. Click [here](#) for a video recording of the recital.

Title: **Launch of a CD of Lieder "Lipatti and Enescu" performed by soprano Elena Mosuc Hebeisen and pianist Verona Maier**

Date: **13.09.2023**

Venue: **Bucharest**

About the project:

After the success of the project of the double CD album "The complete compositions for piano solo" by Dinu Lipatti, performed by the pianist Viniciu Moroianu, Casa Artelor Dinu Lipatti launched a new project to promote the creation of the great pianist and composer Dinu Lipatti, this time the recording of Dinu Lipatti's "Complete Lieder for High Voice", symbolically combined with the lieder cycle "7 Songs on verses by Clement Marot" by George Enescu, Dinu Lipatti' mentor.

The CD was recorded in Premiere with the *Romanian-Swiss soprano Elena Mosuc Hebeisen* accompanied by pianist *Verona Maier*, in the house where Dinu Lipatti lived and created the first drafts of his lieder.

A trilingual (RO – FR – EN) CD booklet containing the biographies of the two great musicians, data about the lieder included on the CD, information about the interpreters, as well the logos of all Swiss Sponsors' Fund partners were included in the CD.

The CD was released on September 13, at Casa Artelor Dinu Lipatti, in the presence of the interpreters, on a concert organized during George Enescu International Festival. Click [here](#) for a video recording of the recital.

Title: **Concert Time in our Hand by the Trio Chris Dahlgren (USA - contrabass), Mircea Tiberian (RO - piano), Claudio Puntin (CH/IT - clarinet)**

Date: **08.02.2024**

Venue: **Bucharest**

About the project:

The annual meeting of the Swiss Sponsors' Fund partners scheduled for 8 February 2024 will include an artistic performance by a trio of established jazz musicians: *Claudio Puntin* (CH/IT - clarinets), *Chris Dahlgren* (USA - contrabass) and *Mircea Tiberian* (RO - piano).

The three musicians have been working together in different line-ups for many years. Since 2018, the collaboration with Romanian pianist and composer Mircea Tiberian has resulted in an ensemble that works as a trio or with guests.

The trio launched a new program in 2023 with compositions by all members and will present it for the first time in Romania at the beginning of February 2024 under the title "Time In Our Hands Trio". The compositions have a multicultural background and show once again how musical art unites mental and spiritual levels across borders and independently and continues to act as an ideal instrument for new culture. The three musicians are all professors and lecturers and see teaching as one of the most important human activities in order to pass on what is not only explainable.

## Arts: photography, graphic design, multimedia installations and architecture - 6 projects

Title: **Exhibition of photographs by Swiss photographer René Gröbli**

Date: **18.03 - 07.05.2023**

Venue: **Bucharest**

### About the project:

From 18 March to 7 May, the Museum of Recent Art in Bucharest MARE hosted the exhibition *René Groebli. The Silent Eye: Time. People. Places*, an exhibition organised in collaboration with the Auer Ory Foundation for Photography (Switzerland), the Swiss Embassy and Pro Helvetia.

Organised for the first time in Romania, the exhibition presented 38 works by the renowned Swiss photographer René Groebli, focusing on his three main areas of interest - history, people and landscapes.

For more info click [here](#).

Title: **Special Poster Show - poster design in the spotlight**

Date and venue: **18.05 - 28.05.2023, Bucharest**

Date and venue: **04.10 – 10.10.2023, Iasi**

Venue: **Bucharest and Iasi**

### About the project:

The Special Poster Show, organised by Local Design Circle as part of Romanian Design Week 2023 at Bucharest's National Theatre from 18 to 28 May, put the spotlight on poster design and offered visitors a captivating perspective on contemporary visual creation.

One of the five sections of the exhibition included a careful selection of theatre posters by designers and studios from Switzerland and Germany, highlighting the beauty and importance of the theatre poster through inspiring examples of design that harmoniously combine aesthetics and functionality.

The selection of posters from Switzerland included 40 remarkable works by prestigious studios and designers.

The 40 Swiss posters were also exhibited in Iasi from 4 to 10 October, as part of the 14th edition of the International Festival for Young Audiences Find out more [here](#) and [here](#).

Title: **Ligeti Festival Transylvania 2023**

Date: **25.05 - 19.06.2023**

Venue: **Cluj-Napoca, Târnăveni, Turda**

### About the project:

The 14th edition of the Ligeti Transylvania Festival 2023 marked the centenary of György Ligeti's birth in his native country and highlighted the composer's aesthetic passions beyond music in a series of events bringing together music, visual arts and cinema in Cluj-Napoca, Târnăveni and Turda, from 25 May to 19 June.

Switzerland was represented with an exhibition of *Ligeti facsimiles* entitled "Ligeti, painter of musical word» presented for the first time in Romania by *Felix Meyer*, director emeritus of the *Paul Sacher Foundation in Basel*, one of the largest centres for archives and research on 20th and 21st century music.

Open from 26 May to 4 June at the Cluj-Napoca Art Museum, the exhibition presented the public with a wide variety of documents from Ligeti's multifaceted legacy: sketches and drafts in instructive colours, calligraphic manuscripts, photographs and other documents from his life.  
For more info click [here](#).

**Title: Festival of Architecture Schools of Tomorrow**

**Date: 01.11 – 05.11.2023**

**Venue: Timisoara**

About the project:

The first edition of FAST: Festival for Architecture Schools of Tomorrow, organised by the Romanian Order of Architects took place in Timisoara, European Capital of Culture in 2023, from 1-5 November.

The festival connected and mobilized - for the first time under the umbrella of the same event - the 5 architecture schools in Romania (Timisoara, Cluj-Napoca, Oradea, Iasi and Bucharest) and expanded the network of cooperation at regional and European level. The 1<sup>st</sup> edition brought to Timisoara more than 20 national and international speakers, delegates from all the architecture centres in the country, debates, exhibitions, lectures, activities and workshops, in an event addressed to both established and emerging architects, as well as those passionate about the built environment.

The 3 sections of the festival #TALKS, #ACTIVATIONS, #EXHIBITIONS focused on the response that architects and built environment professionals can give to the current and future challenges of society and, in particular, on teaching methodologies and continuous professional development in schools and institutions on which the future of the profession and the built environment we all live in depends.

The last day of #TALKS (Friday 4 November) brought together Walter Angonese, Director of the Academy of Architecture in Mendrisio, Switzerland, and the renowned Professor Quintus Miller, representative of the same institution, on the stage of the National Opera in Timisoara, in a dialogue on the future of architectural education.

For more info click [here](#).

**Title: 2 Exhibitions of the work of the artist duo based in Switzerland, Maria Guță and Lauren Huret**

**Date: 06.11.2023 – 02.03.2024**

**Venue: Bucharest**

As part of the collaboration with the Swiss-based artist duo [Maria Guta](#) and [Lauren Huret](#), laureates of [Swiss Art Awards 2023](#), the Suprainfinit Gallery invited them to present their work for the first time in Bucharest on two different occasions:

- a solo installation entitled "*I want you to believe in things that you cannot*" on 16 of November 2023 at Cinema Europa, one of the last standing public cinemas in Romania. This project was part of the gallery's efforts to culturally activate the neighbourhood of the region, where Suprainfinit Gallery is located.
- a group exhibition entitled "*Skin of the Shapeshifter*" on 23 of November 2023, where they showed the multi-media work Baby's Dilemma, one of the projects for which they were awarded a Swiss Art Award this year.

At the core of the Duo collaboration lies a mutual fascination with the phenomenon of hyper-mediated and over-exposed figures within the framework of contemporary communication techniques. They refer to this as «media bewitchment» and find particular interest in how it influences our behaviours.

For more info click [here](#).

**Title: Therapeutic murals in Dr. Victor Gomoiu Children's Hospital**

**Date: End of February – beginning of March 2024**

**Venue: Bucharest**

About the project:

[Anouk Foundation](#) is a Swiss NGO based in Geneva, which developed a method of therapeutic murals to improve the physical, psychological, and emotional care in hospitals. Based on a participative approach involving patients and staff, artists from Anouk Foundation paint therapeutic murals in hospitals that create a reassuring and child-friendly environment.

In 2019 and then in 2022 Anouk Foundation collaborated with Dr. Victor Gomoiu Children's Hospital in Bucharest, which commissioned the NGO to create engaging and welcoming murals throughout all the key areas. There are still spaces, which need to be painted, especially the Intensive care units and main stairs used by children, parents and doctors.

In 2023 Anouk Foundation managed to collect donations especially from Switzerland in order to continue the works in the hospital, having as local partner in this project Inocenti Foundation - Bucharest branch.

The partnership with Anouk Foundation will contribute to the transfer of Swiss expertise in Romania, to the creation of a healing environment that benefits paediatric patients, their families, and the dedicated medical staff, fostering a positive atmosphere that aids in recovery and promotes a healthier healthcare ecosystem.

## Digital education & Cyber security: 2 projects

### Support to the Romanian authorities in the campaign to raise awareness of online dangers among children and their families

In 2022 the Swiss Embassy has joined the Romanian authorities' efforts to raise awareness of the dangers of the Internet among children and their families. Thus, the Embassy initiated the translation into Romanian and the printing of the first two series of the Webster's comics: **Întâmplări de pe net** and **"Povești cotidiene digitale"**, published by the Swiss Federal Office of Communications with the support of Swiss cybersecurity specialised institutions.

The two publications were supported by the Romanian authorities and widely distributed in Romania. Since November 2022 the two publications have been included in the national campaign run by the National Cyber Security Directorate and the Romanian Police. They became educational resources for teachers, parents, grandparents and young people in Romania. They can be downloaded free of charge in Romanian from the [sigurantaonline website](#).

Given the interest of the Romanian authorities and NGOs promoting digital education and online safety in further distributing these valuable resources in various regions of Romania, the Swiss Embassy initiated:

- **the translation into Romania and to print the 3th band of Webster's comics "Întâmplări din viața digitală"**, which continues the presentation of real life incidents that we can all face when surfing the internet and offers tips on how not to become a victim of cybercrime (**7'000 copies**);
- **the reprinting of the first 2 bands of Webster's comics "Întâmplări de pe net" and "Povești cotidiene digitale" (7.000 copies of each band), which were sold out.**

Following a request from the Institute for Crime Research and Prevention of the Romanian Police, 4000 copies of each comic strip are offered to the Institute for dissemination within the framework of prevention actions in Bucharest and in the country.

Title: **Cybersecurity Dialogues Congress**

Date: **20.09 – 22.09.2023**

Venue: **Sibiu**

#### About the project:

Launched in Sibiu in 2013 by the NGO Swiss Webacademy, *Cybersecurity Dialogues Congress* became an important platform for international dialogue on the challenges in the field, as well as on solutions, strategies and behaviours related to cybersecurity. The Congress is organised annually in Sibiu under the patronage of the Swiss Embassy in Romania and with the support of the International Telecommunication Union (UN, Geneva).

This year's edition of the congress addressed many topics on working in a new digital world with emerging technologies, new challenges and threats but also possible solutions for securing our future. The

Congress brought together high-level security specialists from Switzerland, France, Italy, UK and Romania. Representatives of numerous Romanian institutions, business representatives and an important number of decision makers attended the congress.

The Congress was organised over three thematic days:

20.09 - *Awareness Day* - for 350 children and teenagers, with the participation of all the partners of the [sigurantaonline.ro](http://sigurantaonline.ro) campaign.

**On this occasion, the 3rd season of The Websters comic was launched.**

21.09 - *Congress Day* - with international VIP speakers and 150 participants.

22.09 - *Masterclass Day* - for directors and members of the management team, for institutions and for the Military Academy of the Land Forces, in total 69 participants.

## Youth Civic Engagement: 2 projects

Title: **Debate on accelerating ESG transformations for business and society**

Date: **18.03.2023**

Venue: **Bucharest**

### About the project:

On 18 March, the embassy supported a debate on accelerating environmental, social and good governance transformations for society and business in Romania. The debate was organised in Bucharest by the *Global Shapers Bucharest Hub*, an urban hub of young professionals that is part of the Global Shapers network initiated by the World Economic Forum.

The event brought together ESG specialists and business professionals to discuss the importance of measuring and reporting on ESG performance, and provided actionable recommendations for businesses and organisations seeking to contribute to a more sustainable and equitable future.

For more information click [here](#).

Title: **Romanian Students' Gala**

Date: **30.11.2023**

Venue: **Cluj-Napoca**

### About the event:

The Romanian Students' Union is one of the largest student federations in the country, bringing together a number of 120 organizations from 16 university centres. The statutory purpose of the federation is to represent, promote and defend the rights of students, in relation to the relevant institutions at the national level, while also creating socialization and development contexts for young people.

At the Students' Gala, the Romanian Students' Union strive to highlight the importance of academic excellence. Through special awards and recognitions, it recognise students who have distinguished themselves through outstanding academic results, civic engagement, artistic and sports performance. This year's edition also promoted and rewarded active volunteers and associations whose projects have had a positive impact on civic life.

Switzerland has a strong tradition of civic engagement, and when embraced by young people, it has the potential to shape communities and create a harmonious future for all. This is why the Embassy has chosen to recognise and encourage civic engagement among students by offering two awards, each of 500 euros. The *award for Association of the Year* went to the *Organisation of Economics Students of Cluj-Napoca*, and the *award for Project of the Year* went to the *University Association for Medicine and Nursing in Bucharest*.

## Film: 1 project

Title: **One World Romania (OWR) International Human Rights and Documentary Film Festival, 16<sup>th</sup> edition**

Date and venue: **31.03 - 09.04.2023 (Bucharest)**  
**10.04 - 30.04.2023 (online)**

One World Romania International Documentary and Human Rights Film Festival has become an important landmark in the Romanian landscape, making a significant contribution to the development of film culture and education in Romania.

The 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the festival offered to the public the opportunity to discover 35 of the most significant documentaries of the moment, and to take part in over 25 special events - debates, workshops, concerts, performances, exhibitions and dialogues with festival guests - under the theme "A good life", The Swiss co-production documentary film *Don't worry about India* by R. Nama Filmcollective was presented at the festival, in the presence of *Swiss guest Bigna Tomschin*, a member of the film crew.

### Theatre and performing arts: 1 project

Title: **Sibiu International Theatre Festival (FITS), 30th edition**

Date: **23.06 – 02.07.2023**

Venue: **Sibiu and online**

#### About the event

The largest theatre and performing arts festival in Romania and one of the largest in the world celebrated this year in Sibiu 30 years of existence and continuity, under the motto ***Miracle***.

For 10 days, Sibiu was a vibrant stage, bringing together 825 events, 5.000 artists, guests from 81 countries and 470 volunteers.

The Swiss season of the festival included outstanding Swiss artists and institutions:

- Organist *Jean-Christophe Geiser* opened the Festival with an impressive organ concert at St. Maria Lutheran Church with Paul Cristian, Brasov (RO), Brita Falch Leutert (NO / CH), Jürg Leutert (CH).
- *Comédie de Genève* presented the play "Dans la mesure de l'impossible" by Tiago Rodrigues. This play presents the dilemmas of men and women working in the humanitarian field, travelling between troubled areas and their peaceful "homes".
- *Compagnie Les Malles* presented two street performances, combining puppetry, theatre and dance. Voluptuousness and grace were the watchwords of their performances.
- *The Zurich University of the Arts* presented "Raconter une histoire c'est un acte d'amour" (Telling a story is an act of love), a show that moves you and makes you laugh at the same time.
- The renowned *director Milo Rau* received a star on the Walk of Fame at the Gala of Fame.

For FITS30 figures in a collection infographic click [here](#).

### Literature: 1 project

Title: **Translation into Romanian of the book "Letter à mon dictateur" by the Swiss writer of Romanian origin Eugène**

Date of the book launch: **by 30 May 2025 at the latest**

#### About the project

Born in Bucharest in 1969, Eugène (Eugène Meiltz by his full name) immigrated to Switzerland at the age of 6. He writes novels, short stories, children's stories, plays and reviews. He has been running writing workshops and he is teaching at the Swiss Literary Institute in Biel since 2006.

For his book "Lettre à mon dictateur" the Swiss Federal Jury for Literature awarded him the [Swiss Prize for Literature in 2023](#).

Conceived as a letter to the Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, the book presents the author's relationship with the shadow that hovered over his life and his journey as a migrant. It is a powerful testimony, conceived between a theatrical text and an open letter.

The book is currently being translated into Romanian by [Fides publishing house](#) and is expected to be published by the end of November 2024.

At the book launch, we plan to invite the author and organise a public event.

Note: 2 Projects marked in red planned for early 2024 are funded from the 2023 Swiss Sponsors' Fund budget.