

# 104GALERIE

## Press Release

### 【104GALERIE relocation】

104GALERIE is relocating in August 2021.

Since the opening of 104GALERIE in Aobadai 3-chome, Meguro, in 2013, we have actively introduced artists from overseas. In 2016 we opened 104GALERIE-R, and in 2019 Warszawa, in the neighboring Ikejiri-Ohashi area. We held exhibitions using these three spaces differently according to the needs of each show.

From August 2021, in order to step forward in our exhibition of artwork, we will relocate these three spaces into one new gallery, in Aobadai 1-chome, Meguro, five minutes walk from Nakameguro station. The 120m2 basement space, with a ceiling height of 4m, facilitates a more suitable environment for viewing artwork. The very first show in this new space is a solo exhibition by Romanian artist Teodora Axente. We hope that you enjoy the work of Axente in this new gallery space.



Inside is Light, 2021, Oil on canvas, 148 x 112 cm ©Teodora Axente

# 104GALERIE

**Teodora Axente**

**Listen How the Horns are Growing**

**18th August - 11th September 2021**

The first exhibition in 104GALERIE' s new home is "Listen How the Horns are Growing" , a solo exhibition by Teodora Axente. From August 18th to September 11th 2021, we will be showing medium and large canvas works, and small paintings, 10 pieces in total. This is the first exhibition in Asia for the artist, who is based in Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

The second-biggest city in Romania, Cluj-Napoca has produced many celebrated artists in recent history, such as Adrian Ghenie, Victor Man and Ciprian Muresan, known collectively as the 'Cluj-School' . Within the next generation, positioned as their successors, Axente is one of the artists representing the Cluj-School of today.

Axente has always worked in the territories of real and imaginary worlds, and on the dualism of the material and the spiritual. In her earlier paintings, Axente worked from photographs for which she created costumes and designed the space. Her work, set against a simple background, depicted models wearing shiny costumes made of tin foil, fur, laces and satin, creating a contemporary impression with a connection to fashion. Recently, she has shifted more towards using classical Western portraits as a reference, and reconstructs elements that appear in historical, religious and mythical contexts in digital collage, before painting it on canvas.

In the exhibited work, the deer is depicted as a symbol of regeneration, as its horns are replaced with new growth. In the person whose body is merged with a deer, and in the space shared by people and deer, she expresses the sacred presence and complex inner state of humans.

*I am talking about the man who camouflages his moods and feelings through some aesthetic clothing artifices in the case of the characters in my paintings or the sumptuous rooms or crowded with objects. My characters are vulnerable in open frames. Landscapes, nature, water like a mirror reflect the man in it and seem to reveal him and put him in the middle of the scene. - Teodora Axente*

The work of Teodora Axente, who attempts to grasp the territory of consciousness through metaphor and story, draws the audience into her fantastic work instantly. We hope that you enjoy the exhibition.

Teodora Axente

Born in 1984 in Sibiu, Romania and completed Ph.D at The University of Art and Design of Cluj in Romania in 2004. She currently lives and works in the Cluj-Napoca. In 2011 she received the Essl Art Award, and participated in a group exhibition at the Essl Museum in Vienna, Austria. In 2015 she exhibited her work in various museums like Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, (Colorado/US), Museum of Art, Cluj-Napoca (Romania), and also Art Center Hugo Voeten (Herentals/Belgium), where she then had her solo exhibition in May 2016. In 2017 she was awarded with the 3D Frissiras Award for European Painting in Athens (Greece), followed by solo exhibitions at Museum of Art, Cluj-Napoca in 2018 and Frissiras Art Museum (Greece) in 2019, gaining international acclaim.

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## 【OUTLINE】

Teodora Axente 「Listen How the Horns are Growing」

Period: 18th August - 11th September 2021

\*Closed on Sunday and Public Holidays

Hours : 12:00 - 17:00

by appointment only

Venue : 104GALERIE FORCE Building B1F, 1-20-4 Aobadai Meguro-ku Tokyo

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1. Inside is Light, 2021  
Oil on canvas  
148 x 112 cm  
©Teodora Axente

2. Detail of a Deer, 2021  
Oil on canvas  
19 x 25 cm  
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