

## BABEȘ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITY



# MIHAI GLIGAN

*PhD candidate*

## 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Contact information
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## 2. RESEARCH INTERESTS

- The pedagogy of stage direction and the director's working tools
- The legacy and method of concept-directors
- Contemporary and devised performance
- Director-actor collaboration

## 3. ARTISTIC STATEMENT

I work as a theatre director across both institutional and independent stages, moving between staged readings, devised performance, and stagings of contemporary and classical texts. My practice is built around what a director actually does in the rehearsal room, the often invisible work of constructing a production's logic together with the actors, and around collaborative scenic conventions that keep the means deliberately simple and the attention on the performers. I am drawn to contemporary dramaturgy and to recontextualising classics for present-day audiences. This directing practice feeds directly into my research on the methods and pedagogy of stage direction.

## 4. EDUCATION

2024 – present	<b>PhD candidate in Theatre and Performing Arts.</b> Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babeș-Bolyai University, Romania. Thesis on Principles of Theatre Pedagogy: Radu Penciulescu and David Esrig.
2022 – 2024	<b>MA in Theatre Art (Theatre Directing).</b> Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babeș-Bolyai University, Romania. Dissertation: <i>Regizorul invizibil</i> (The Invisible Director).
2019 – 2022	<b>BA in Theatre Directing.</b> Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babeș-Bolyai University, Romania. Thesis: <i>Creație spontană sau premeditată? O introspecție asupra instrumentelor de lucru ale regizorului și a modului în care pot fi dobândite</i> (Spontaneous or Premeditated Creation?).

## 5. ACADEMIC POSITIONS & EMPLOYMENT

Sep. 2025 – present	<b>Assistant Lecturer.</b> Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babeș-Bolyai University, Romania. Tutor for Year I Theatre Directing.
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## 6. PUBLICATIONS

### 6.1. Books

Gligan, Mihai. *Doi* (poetry). Cluj-Napoca: Casa Cărții de Știință, 2018.

### 6.2. Peer-reviewed journal articles

Gligan, Mihai. "Synonym for Youth" (Festival Review: Fast Forward European Festival for Young Stage Directors, Dresden, 2–5 Nov. 2023). *Studia Dramatica* 68, no. 2 (2023).

Gligan, Mihai. "Race Preparation: A Dialogue with the Past and the Future of Theatre Director Pedagogy." *Colocvii teatrale* 13, no. 2 (2023).

### 6.3. Book chapters

Gligan, Mihai. "Despre praf și alte specii de pești." In *Despre praf și alte specii de pești*, edited by Radu Țuculescu. Gutenberg, 2018.

Gligan, Mihai. Contribution to *Fereastră către digital. Teatrul și noile tehnologii*, edited by Oltița Cîntec. Iași: Junimea, 2021.

### 6.4. Other publications (reviews, essays, blogs)

Theatre and film reviews for *Teatru.info*, *Neuma*, *Copilot* (editor) and *Suplimentul de cultură*.

Festival blog contributions for the International Theatre Festival for Young Audiences, Iași (FITPTI), 2018–2022.

Poetry and an open letter in *Orașul* magazine, Cluj-Napoca.

## 7. ARTISTIC PRACTICE

### 7.1. Artistic Production Credits

#### 2026

**Director.** Alfredo Sanzol, *Tandrețea*. Regina Maria Theatre, Oradea.

**Director (staged readings).** Craiova International Shakespeare Festival: *Hamlet Show, or Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Live* (Dmytro Ternovyi); *Codename Othello* (Olga Annenko); *When Winter Stays* (Maria Sawicka); *Don't Get Married after Scene 1. Shakespeare Remix* (Ștefan Iancu).

**Assistant director.** *Deșteptarea*, by Doru Vatavu. Regina Maria Theatre, Oradea.

**Assistant director.** *Second Skin*. Reactor de creație și experiment, Cluj-Napoca.

**Directing consultant.** *Corpus comun*. Orpheum Theatre, Cluj-Napoca.

#### 2025

**Director.** Vlad Sălbatecu, *Cum mi-am petrecut sfârșitul verii*. Baia Mare Municipal Theatre.

**Director.** *Kapnobatai*. Aureliu Manea National Theatre, Turda.

**Coordinating professor.** Sivan Ben Yishai, *Abuzarea scenei*, with MA students of the Collaborative Practices in Performing Arts programme.

#### 2024

**Director.** Thomas Eccleshare, *Instrucțiuni pentru asamblare corectă*. Youth Theatre, Piatra Neamț.

**Director.** Vlad Sălbatecu, *Covorul lui Freud*. Maidan Creation Centre, Cluj-Napoca.

**Director (staged readings).** Theater Networking Talents (TNT), Craiova — *Combates de Dramaturgia: Chiriașul* (Paco Gámez), *Tandrețea* (Alfredo Sanzol), *Vârsta mâniei* (Nando López), *Supernormales* (Esther F. Carrodegua), *Să vezi elefanți roz* (Piret Jaaks).

**Assistant director.** *Expuși*, directed by Vlad Bălan, coordinated by Bobi Pricop. Marin Sorescu National Theatre, Craiova.

**Assistant director.** *HEBLU* (dir. Diana Aldea) and *PLAYLIST pentru sfârșitul lumii* (dir. Filip Odangiu). Maidan Creation Centre, Cluj-Napoca.

#### 2023

**Director and set designer.** Nick Payne, *Constelații*. Maidan Creation Centre, Cluj-Napoca.

**Co-director.** *gen.snowflake*, coordinated by Bobi Pricop. Marin Sorescu National Theatre, Craiova. Selected at TNT Craiova, Flight Festival Timișoara, FITPTI Iași and the Young Theatre Festival Sibiu (2023), Unscene Miercurea Ciuc (2024) and the Sibiu International Theatre Festival, FITS (2024).

**Director (staged reading).** Christian Lollike, *Spaimă cosmică sau ziua în care Brad Pitt a devenit paranoic*. National Theatre Festival (FNT).

**Assistant director.** *IN BETWEEN HOMES / ULISE*, part of the European project “*ULYSSES: A European Odyssey*.”

## 2022

**Director.** N. V. Gogol, *Căsătoria*. Baia Mare Municipal Theatre.

**Director.** *Hamlet*. Presented at the International University Theatre Departments Festival, Istanbul, and the Sibiu International Fringe Festival.

**Co-director.** *Te iubesc, dar nu pe tine*. Les Chobeaux (independent company).

## 2021

**Director.** *Un Cassa del Tesoro* (commedia dell’arte). Presented at the Ora de Teatru Young Theatre Festival, Focșani.

## Earlier

**Director / writer.** *Anticamera* (short film), 2021. Created with a Babeș-Bolyai University creation grant; selected in the TIFF local competition and the Balkans Beyond Borders Film Festival.

**Director.** *Vrăjitorul* (text and direction). Rondul de Noapte Association.

**Directing intern.** *B.O.P.*, directed by Gelu Badea. Al. Davila Theatre, Pitești, 2019.

## 7.2. Artistic Residencies & Workshops

Artistic residency, Oulu, Finland (Lumo Light Festival), 2023, through the “*ULYSSES: A European Odyssey*” project.

## 8. GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2023	<b>Research grant</b> , Babeș-Bolyai University — research on the pedagogy of stage direction (resulting in the article “ <i>Race Preparation</i> ”).
2021	<b>Creation grant</b> , Babeș-Bolyai University — the short film <i>Anticamera</i> .
2022	<b>Special Jury Prize for Direction and Prize for Set Design</b> , <i>Căsătoria</i> , Atelier International Theatre Festival.
2022	<b>Award</b> for <i>Hamlet</i> , International University Theatre Departments Festival, Istanbul.
2022	<b>Audience Award</b> , <i>Te iubesc, dar nu pe tine</i> , HOP Young Actor Gala.
2021	<b>Award for Direction</b> , <i>Antigona</i> , Turda International Theatre Festival.

## 9. CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

2023	<b>Invited participant</b> , <b>Fast Forward Festival Forum</b> , Dresden (following the article “ <i>Synonym for Youth</i> ”).
2021	<b>Paper presented</b> at the National Colloquium “ <i>The Romanian School of Directing in the 21st Century</i> ,” Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babeș-Bolyai University.

## 10. TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Theatre Directing.** BA level. Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babeș-Bolyai University.

**Director–Actor Collaboration.** BA level. Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babeș-Bolyai University.

**Coordinating professor** for the MA student production *Abuzarea scenei* (Sivan Ben Yishai), Collaborative Practices in Performing Arts programme, 2025.

## 11. THESIS AND DISSERTATION SUPERVISION

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## 12. SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

### 12.1. Journal editorial roles, peer review experience

**Editor.** *Copilot* magazine.

**Theatre and film critic.** *Teatru.info*, *Neuma*, *Suplimentul de cultură*.

**Jury member.** Histrioniada Liceenilor National Festival, Cluj-Napoca, 2021.

### 12.2. Conference / event organisation

**Organiser**, workshop “Art: A Breath of Air for an Asthmatic Generation,” Super Festival, 2021.

**Organiser**, performative masterclass “Collaborative Practices of Stage Expression,” with the *gen.snowflake* team, Flight Festival, Timișoara.

### 12.3. Memberships in professional associations

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## 13. OUTREACH & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

### 13.1. Public lectures, interviews, media appearances

**Radio România Cultural**, *Despre România, cu sinceritate* — a series portraying Romania from the perspective of Generation Z.

**Invited theatre critic**, TESZT Euroregional Theatre Festival, Timișoara (Csiky Gergely Hungarian State Theatre), 2018.

### 13.2. Community engagement projects

**Member**, Fabzine project, Fabrica de Pensule independent art centre, Cluj-Napoca.