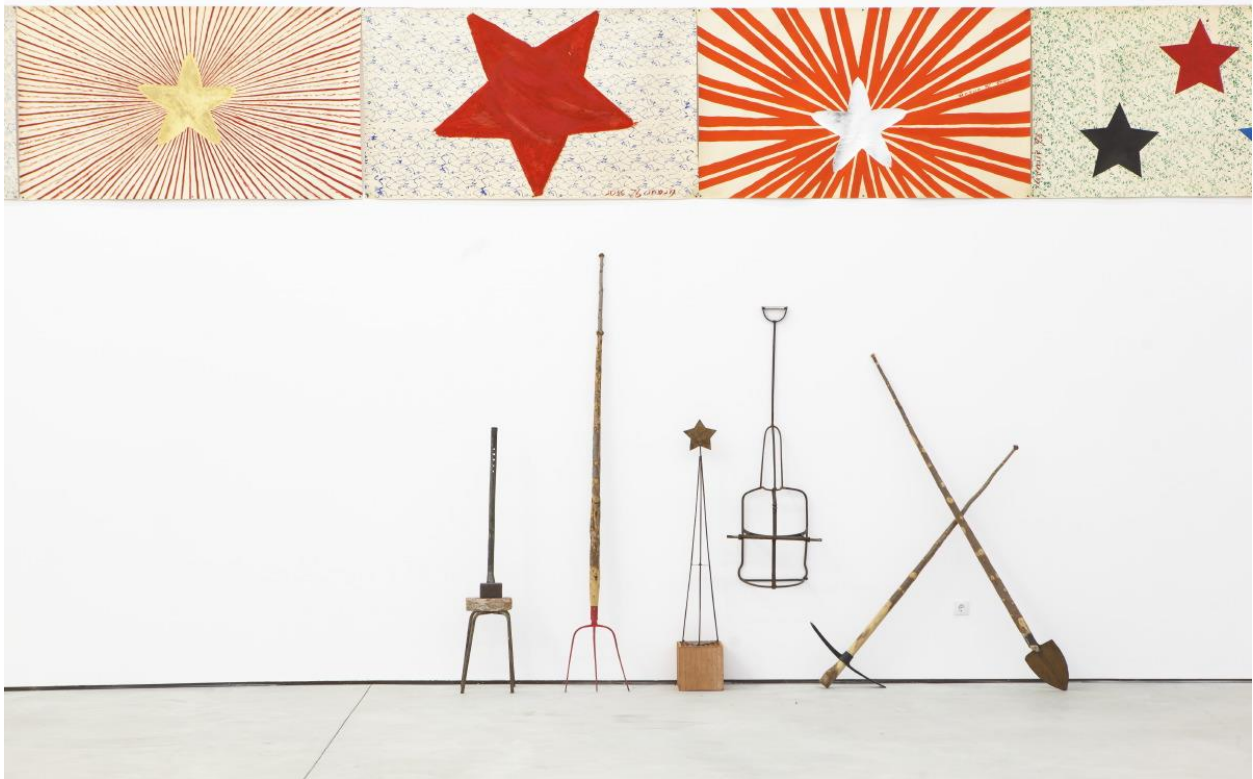


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SAMPLE of European Contemporary Art by Teodor Graur

December 16 - January 20, 2018



Nicodim Gallery is pleased to announce *SAMPLE of European Contemporary Art by Teodor Graur*, Teodor Graur's (born 1953, Pogaceau/Mureș, Romania) first Stateside exhibition.

A passionate recycler of symbolic waste from Eastern European contemporary culture, Graur is currently experiencing a personal renaissance and emerging as an optimist. While his early work was a pointed, though humorous, critique of Socialist Romanian culture that later evolved into a satirical commentary of the country's transitional form of capitalism, his recent output finds a practicality in the futility of it all, and delights in

571 south anderson street, suite 2
los angeles, california 90033

Info@nicodimgallery.com
www.nicodimgallery.com
t 323.262.0260

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adding function to familiar forms. With *SAMPLE of European Contemporary Art* by *Teodor Graur*, the artist holds a warped mirror to the bounty and ethos represented by western pop art and reflects it through the filter of 20th and 21st century art history, as well as **Eastern Europe's tumultuous political past. Structures borrowed from Brancusi make excellent coatracks; Duchamp's readymades are completed and made** to be ready for practical use—in one work, Graur comically provides a rear-wheel to the original *Bicycle Wheel*, so the objects can be used in tandem for transportation. This is a show about the completion of incomplete ideals.

Graur has been active in the visual arts internationally since 1978. His work has been selected for inclusion in a number of international biennials including Venice (1997, 2001), Sao Paulo (1994), and Istanbul (1995). He won the Romanian Fine Arts Association Award in 2000 and 2006, and is a frequent contributor to the Romanian journals *Arta* and *Artelier*.