Romanian Pavilion at the 61st International
Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia

BLACK SEAS

Scores for the Sonic Eye

La Biennale di Venezia
61. Esposizione Internazionale d'Arte
Partecipazioni Nazionali

Facts Sheet

Exhibition

Black Seas – Scores for the Sonic Eye
Artists **Anca Benera & Arnold Estefán**
Curators **Corina Oprea, Diana Marincu**
Commissioner **Ioana Ciocan**

Partners

Organisers **Ministry of Culture, Romanian Cultural Institute, Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
Strategic Partner **UniCredit Bank**
Producers **Art Encounters Foundation, FIR Cultural Association**

Venues

Romanian Pavilion, Giardini della Biennale, Sestiere Castello, 30122 Venice
New Gallery of the Romanian Institute for Culture and Humanistic Research, Palazzo Correr, Cannaregio 2214, 30121 Venice

Exhibition Period

Public 9 May – 22 November 2026
Professional Preview 6–8 May 2026

Official Opening
Sonic Performance by Attila Faravelli – 6 May 2026, 14:00, Romanian Pavilion, Giardini della Biennale
Official Opening – Romanian Pavilion – 7 May 2026, 15:30, Giardini della Biennale
Official Opening – New Gallery of the Romanian Institute of Culture and Humanistic Research – 8 May 2026, 18:00, Palazzo Correr, Cannaregio

Core Concept

A large-scale polyphonic installation that reconceives the Black Sea as a site of acoustic memory and geoecological fracture. Structured through the notion of the "sonic eye", the project advances listening as both method and metaphor, activating the sea as a resonant system rather than a passive surface. The works on display explore themes of ecology and environmental politics, interpreting the Black Sea as plural, networked, and shaped by the rivers that flow into it, symbolising Europe's intertwined colonial and political histories.

Key Themes

Anoxic zone / Resurrection ecology / Hydrofeminism
Hydro-politics and extractive histories
Acoustic memory / The "Sonic Eye"
The Black Sea as a living archive

Contact

Mail **press@blackseas.ro**
Website **www.blackseas.ro**
Social Media **@blackseas.ro**