PRESS RELEASE

AnnArt Presents Alexandru Dascălu's First Solo Exhibition

On **22 October**, AnnArt Gallery opens *The Things We Become*, the first solo exhibition by artist **Alexandru Dascălu**, curated by **Cristina Chirilă**.

The exhibition brings together a body of sculptural works exploring transformation, repetition and the unstable relationship between image and object. Taking the human profile as its point of departure, Alexandru Dascălu cuts, fragments, multiplies and reassembles the image, tracing the moment at which it detaches itself from its original referent and acquires an autonomous existence. The face gradually becomes a sculptural element, a mechanism, a tool, a body or an abstract form, without entirely relinquishing its connection to the image from which it originated. Something remains recognisable within each configuration: a trace of its origin that continues to operate even when the form appears to have become something altogether different.

In Dascălu's work, transformation does not entail the complete disappearance of the original form, but rather an ongoing negotiation between what remains and what changes. The image is removed from its original context, multiplied and subjected to processes of cutting, rotation and assembly until it begins to generate new structures and relationships. Repetition thus becomes a principle of construction: a singular profile can expand into an ensemble, while the fragment, released from its initial function, acquires a presence of its own. Through accumulation and variation, the works move from the intimacy of the face towards the corporeality of the sculptural object, from the familiar to the ambiguous, from representation to materiality.

The title *The Things We Become* extends this investigation beyond the boundaries of the object itself. Becoming is understood neither as a succession of forms that definitively replace one another, nor as a trajectory directed towards a final identity. Rather, it unfolds as a continuous movement in which each form carries traces of those that preceded it while holding the potential for transformations yet to come. What we once were does not entirely disappear into what we become; it remains embedded, sometimes visibly, sometimes almost imperceptibly, in the structures we construct and the identities we continually reconfigure. In this sense, the sculptures do not simply represent becoming; they make it visible as a process that remains perpetually in motion.

The exhibition extends this process into the gallery space itself. The drawings, templates and modular structures on display reveal traces of construction and the successive stages through which forms take shape. These elements function not merely as documents of the working process or as supports for the sculptures, but also contribute to the creation of an environment in which relationships between objects remain open and the act of construction appears to

continue beyond the forms already realised. Space, in turn, becomes a site of assembly and reconfiguration, where each component acquires new meaning through proximity, repetition or contrast.

The Things We Become brings together artistic directions developed over time alongside works created specifically for this exhibition, tracing both the continuity of an ongoing visual investigation and its capacity to generate new forms. Beyond the material transformations of the image, the exhibition proposes a reflection on how forms, objects and identities take shape through accumulation, relation and change. Nothing remains entirely what it once was, yet nothing becomes wholly detached from its origin. It is within the tension between these two conditions that the space of becoming unfolds.

The exhibition is part of the Romanian Art Week 2026 programme, an initiative dedicated to promoting contemporary art and connecting local art scenes with audiences and international networks.