PRESS RELEASE

A new voice in contemporary figurative painting: Lari Rafailă in his first solo exhibition at Mobius Gallery

Bucharest, 10 October, 2026

Mobius Gallery opens ***Stand Guard Over the Solitude of the Other*** on **Friday, 16 October 2026, from 6 pm**, **Lari Rafailă's first solo exhibition**, a new voice in contemporary figurative painting. The exhibition can be visited until **7 November 2026** at the gallery's space in **Piața Amzei 13**, Bucharest.

The exhibition brings together recent oil paintings that start from the most ordinary situations, rendered at a scale equal to or larger than the real body and in tight framing that places the viewer in close proximity to the figures. There are images we feel we remember although we never lived them, and Rafailă's paintings belong to this category: the scenes capture a present and carry, simultaneously, the air of things already remembered, as if experience began turning into memory before it had ended.

“Subtle contradictions are a fundamental element of the images I build: common scenes with distant figures, strong chromatic contrasts between warm and cold, sensations that are familiar yet hard to define, intimate and tight frames that leave out much of the context, calm atmospheres that still hold a certain tension.” **Lari Rafailă**

Lari Rafailă (b. 1996, Romania) is a graduate of the National University of Arts in Bucharest. In his painting, the human figure appears outside the logic of portraiture, as a presence open to the viewer's projection, while colour, saturated and freed from its descriptive function, is his main instrument. Rafailă suspends narrative in favour of atmosphere and places his images between the real and the oneiric. He is represented by Mobius Gallery, Bucharest.

First solo exhibition

Stand Guard Over the Solitude of the Other brings together, for the first time in a solo exhibition, works made over the past two years. Seen together, they form a coherent series, held by the same attention to light, colour and atmosphere. Some of the works are already in **private collections in Romania and abroad**. In the gallery's programme, the exhibition follows ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS, the project of Spanish artist Gino Rubert, and continues Mobius's commitment to presenting emerging artists alongside established ones.

Curatorial perspective

Stand Guard Over the Solitude of the Other, Lari Rafailă's first solo exhibition, takes its title from a phrase in the correspondence of Rainer Maria Rilke (Rainer Maria Rilke, *Rilke on Love and*

Other Difficulties: Translations and Considerations of Rainer Maria Rilke, trans. John J. L. Mood (New York: Norton, 1975)). In his writings from the early 1900s, Rilke sees solitude as the condition of any inner life. For him, the highest task of a bond between two people is that each should stand guard over the solitude of the other. The exhibition places us, in turn, in the position of the one who keeps watch, and makes this attention a form of closeness.

“Something always remains between the viewer and what is seen: a turned face, the edge of a frame, colour itself. Rafailă leaves this distance in place and paints it as a form of care. Brought together in the gallery, the works form a sequence of solitudes placed side by side and propose an ethics of looking grounded in trust and in the willingness to hold the other.” (excerpt from the curatorial text)

_____

Founded in 2015, **Mobius** is an established gallery on the Romanian contemporary art scene, with an exhibition programme that has consistently encouraged cultural exchange between East and West. Alongside presenting established and emerging artists from Eastern Europe, Mobius has developed a series of programmes for the general public, aimed at a better understanding of contemporary art. The gallery's initiatives include **P.E.V.A.** (Ecaterina Vrana Awards for Young Women Artists), the first long-term initiative in Romania dedicated to supporting young women artists, and **Salon de Papier**, a space dedicated exclusively to contemporary artistic practices on paper.

_____

Press contact:
Ștefania Dobrescu
stefania.dobrescu@mobius-gallery.com
+40 727 169 079