LEAVING (TO) ROMANIA
Curated by Mihai Fulger

Statistics say that Romania is the second country in the world, after Syria, with the highest number of people who have emigrated in the last 15 years. At the moment, the Romanian diaspora is estimated at 4 million people, while the population living within the borders has decreased to 20 million. It comes as no surprise that Romanian post-communist migration represents a particularly appealing topic for fiction and documentary filmmakers, as does (attempting to) escape from communist Romania. However, in more recent years, as the local economy has shown steady growth, and while life in the West has become tougher than before, many Romanians living abroad have returned to their native country, sometimes even followed by westerners. The ten feature films (of which three are documentaries) and three short films included in the programme, all of them notable titles from the Romanian cinema of the last decade (including co-productions with a significant Romanian contribution), present various ways of leaving (to) Romania.