

# Beta

Press release

Timișoara, April 10th 2024

*cover me softly*

**Beta - Timișoara Architecture Biennial 2024**

**September, 13 - October, 27, 2024**

**Timișoara, Romania**

The team behind Beta - Timișoara Architecture Biennial is excited to announce the theme of its 2024 exhibition, taking place in Timișoara, Romania between September 13th and October 27th.

**The fifth edition of Beta - Timișoara Architecture Biennial, titled *cover me softly*, looks to the cover song as a model for investigating contemporary art and architectural production. Beta 2024, *cover me softly*, is curated by Oana Stănescu.**

*“To cover is to work with what’s already there. Cover also means shelter. To protect or hide. To conceal or disguise, to extend over time or space. To run for cover, to cover one’s back.*

*cover me softly*, the curatorial exhibition of the 2024 Beta Biennial, is an exploration of covers across disciplines, mediums, and geographies. Counter to notions of copying, stealing, imitating, and bootlegging that may each come with their own ethical slant, the cover provides an alternate set of relational vocabularies for understanding how transferences of knowledge and structures of authorship are circulated through art and design. By centering our vast interconnectedness, *cover me softly* opens new realms of possibility for doing, making, and being.”

The curatorial exhibition of the 2024 Beta Biennial brings together a wide selection of architects, designers, musicians, artists, activists, photographers, writers, directors, and those that refuse categorization in a choreography of public exhibitions. *cover me softly* opens on Friday, September 13th 2024 at the Garrison Command building in the city centre of Timișoara.

Additional information and programming will be released throughout the coming year.

**End**

## Notes to Editors:

The graphic design for the exhibition is by © Something Fantastic.

Link to images from the launch event and digital assets:

### **Beta - Timișoara Architecture Biennial 2024**

**13.09-27.10.2024**

Taking place in Timișoara. Main Exhibition hosted in Comenduirea Garnizoanei Timișoara.

<https://betacity.eu/en/>

### **Social Media**

Facebook /bienalatimisoreanadearchitecturea

Instagram @betacity.eu

### **Press enquiries**

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### **About Oana Stănescu, curator of Beta 2024**

Oana Stănescu completed her architectural studies at FAUT – Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism from Timișoara, and gained experience across several continents before establishing [her eponymous studio](#) in New York and Berlin. Through her projects, Stănescu encourages us to rethink our relationship with the built environment and explore the possibilities of creating urban spaces that prioritise livability and sustainability. Her most recent notable works include the revitalisation of a 500-metre funicular in her hometown Reșița, retail stores for Virgil Abloh’s Off White fashion label across the world, and large scale installations including “Seriously Fun” at the Museum of Modern Art’s PS1 space in New York, “Mutts” at the 2022 Coachella music festival in Indio, California, and “Fresa” at the 2023 Concéntrico International Festival of Architecture and Design in Logroño, Spain. She is also a co-founder of the collaborative project [Plus Pool in New York](#). Oana Stănescu has taught and lectured at Harvard University, Columbia University, Princeton University, UCLA, and the Architectural Association. Most recently, she established the interdisciplinary “Blueprints of Justice” studio at MIT in collaboration with Stanford University’s Legal Design Lab and Virgil Abloh. In 2023, she established the “Nonprofessionals” lecture Series at EPFL in Lausanne.

### **About Beta - Timișoara Architecture Biennial**

Beta - the Timișoara Architecture Biennale is a cultural project of the [Timis Territorial Branch of the Order of Romanian Architects](#), organised by a dedicated team. Beta 2024 represents the fifth edition, marking ten years of activity.

Beta is the main architectural event in western Romania, with a Euroregional influence, having a collaboration component at the level of the neighbouring countries – Serbia and Hungary. An important part of the international connections is provided by Beta's membership of the [LINA community](#), a network connecting relevant institutions with emerging practitioners and thinkers working at the intersection of architecture and other culturally related fields space: this aims to promote budding talents.

Beta articulates a series of actions, projects, events and exhibitions around 3 pillars: Education, Profession and City. What we propose is an architecture of action, defined by the desire to be proactive, to collaborate, to enter into dialogue and to relate. To finally understand the complete and complex map of the built environment. We want to promote interaction between different entities, before talking about concrete interventions. We propose dialogue instead of statements, collaboration instead of isolation, processes instead of one-off events.

Beta 2024 is a priority project of the Romanian Order of Architects, financed through the architecture stamp and co-financed by the Municipality of Timisoara through the Center for Projects.