Carmen Lidia Vidu (born 1980, Arad, Romania) is a Romanian theatre and documentary film director whose work explores the intersection of documentary research, multimedia performance, and civic memory. Based in Bucharest, she develops hybrid artistic formats that combine theatre, film, video installation, and large-scale videomapping. Her projects frequently draw on personal testimonies, archives, and overlooked histories, examining how individual lives intersect with political and social transformations.

Vidu is the only Romanian director to have received both the **UNITER Award for Best Theatre Direction** and the **GOPO Award for Best Documentary Film**. Her acclaimed performance *Romanian Diary. 1989* at the National Theatre Bucharest reconstructs the Romanian Revolution through civic testimonies and personal archives, reflecting her long-standing commitment to documentary storytelling.

Since 2017 she has been a multimedia director for **the George Enescu International Festival**, where she creates video design and multimedia environments for opera and symphonic productions. Within the festival she has collaborated with internationally renowned conductors including Vladimir Jurowski, Tan Dun, Hannu Lintu, and Giancarlo Guerrero.

She is the creator of the long-term documentary theatre project ***Romanian Diary***, a series of performances developed with local actors and communities across Romania. Through extensive documentary research, interviews, and archival material, these works explore themes such as the 1989 Revolution, the state-organized sale of ethnic Germans during communism, forgotten seismic events, and the mythology surrounding iconic cultural figures like Maria Tănase.

Her works have been presented and awarded internationally in **Germany, Austria, New York, Seattle, India, Italy, Sydney, Los Angeles,** and **Moscow,** positioning her among the most distinctive documentary voices in contemporary Romanian performing arts.

Speaker

TEDxBucharest, 2009
https://youtu.be/I_ZNN-6CS_Y

Education

2003 — National University of Theatre and Film “I.L. Caragiale”, Bucharest — Theatre Directing
1998 — Moise Nicoară College, Arad

Multimedia Director — George Enescu Festival

2025 — *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, conductor Giancarlo Guerrero
2025 — *Scheherazade*, conductor Vasily Petrenko
2023 — *Billy Budd*, conductor Hannu Lintu
2023 — *Nu Shu*, conductor Tan Dun
2021 — *Les Noces*, *Renard*, *The Flood*, conductor Vladimir Jurowski
2021 — *Der Zwerg*, conductor Oleg Caetani
2021 — *Ecce Homo*, *Te Deum*, *Modus*, conductor José Cura
2019 — *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, conductor Vladimir Jurowski
2019 — *Peter Grimes*, conductor Paul Daniel
2017 — *Mathis der Maler*, conductor Lawrence Foster
2017 — *Oedipe*, conductor Vladimir Jurowski — opening of the festival

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Films and Short Films

2025 — *Klimt at Peleș*, documentary
2025 — *Arad, Film Set*, documentary
2022 — *The Factory*, documentary
2022 — *I Am Her. Stories that Heal*, documentary
2021 — *#newTogether*, documentary
2020 — *The Diary of a Revolution*, National Theatre Bucharest
2019 — *My Romanian Diary / Mein Rumänisches Tagebuch*, documentary
2017 — *Romanian Diary. Muslim Diary*, documentary
2016 — *Constanța. A Dancing City*, Teodor T. Burada County Cultural Center, Constanța
2015 — *ARAD. My Virtual Diary*, documentary hybrid
2015 — *Bucharest. A World by Ion Bârlădeanu and Carmen Lidia Vidu*
2014 — *A Short History of Astra Film*, documentary
2013 — *Hotel California*, Noblesse Oblige, Germany

Video Installation / Dance / Visual Arts / Fashion

2026 — Bucharest Fashion Week
2026 — Video Mapping — *NADIA – The Perfect 10*, iMapp
2025 — Bucharest Fashion Week — ALMAZ, Romexpo
2025 — Bucharest Fashion Week — Fashion Talks
2025 — Video Mapping — Brâncuși, iMapp
2025 — Video Mapping — Enescu, iMapp
2025 — Bucharest Fashion Week — ALMAZ, Nicodim Gallery
2025 — Bucharest Fashion Week — Closing Party
2024 — Bucharest Fashion Week — ALMAZ, Nicodim Gallery
2022 — *MAPPING ’89*, history and videomapping performance, Timișoara

2021 — Video Mapping — launch of DMTR.ro, National Theatre Festival, Odeon Theatre
2018 — *Confessions of Faith*, Solo Exhibition, Mogoșoaia Palace (Curator: Ana Negoiță)
2015 — *Bucharest. A World by Ion Bârlădeanu and Carmen Lidia Vidu*, Gabroveni Inn, ARCUB
2014 — *Dancing in the Citadel*, Dilema Veche Festival, Alba Iulia
2013 — *Ion Bârlădeanu, My Cowboy*, French Institute, Bucharest
2013 — *Dancing City*, Bucharest, Brașov, Cluj, Timișoara
2013 — *Dancing Frames*, Aiurart Gallery, Bucharest

Theatre Productions

2026 — *Migration Diary. New York City Edition*, La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club, New York
2025 — *The Eichmann Trial*, theatrical reenactment
2025 — *Romanian Diary #ChangeIsDreamedHere*, Masca Theatre
2023 — *The Fragile Feeling of Hope*, Odeon Theatre
2022 — *4 July 1977. The Unknown Earthquake*, Odeon Theatre
2022 — *People. For Sale*, German State Theatre Timișoara
2021 — *Maria Tănase. A Story*, Constanța State Theatre
2021 — *Diary. Bacău*, Bacovia Municipal Theatre
2020 — *Romanian Diary. 1989*, National Theatre Bucharest
2018 — *POWER. Personal Stories*, Contrasens Association, Timco Halls
2018 — *Romanian Diary. Timișoara*, German State Theatre Timișoara
2017 — *Romanian Diary. Constanța*, Constanța State Theatre
2016 — *Romanian Diary. Sfântu Gheorghe*, Andrei Mureșanu Theatre
2015 — *Me. A Doll's House*, adaptation after Ibsen's *Nora*, Odeon Theatre
2014 — *The Seagull. The Last Act*, after Chekhov, National Dance Centre Bucharest
2014 — *The Fisherman and His Soul*, Oscar Wilde, Odeon Theatre
2013 — *Lullaby. A Story about Maria Tănase*, Godot Café-Theatre
2011 — *The Little Prince*, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, Odeon Theatre
2010 — *Don't Cry, Baby*, Peca Ștefan, Green Hours
2009 — *C'est pas une chanson d'amour*, Temps d'Images, Fabrica
2008 — *Baby Smile*, inspired by Shakespeare's Sonnet 120, Undercloud
2007 — *The Nightingale and the Rose*, Oscar Wilde, National Theatre Bucharest
2006 — *I Hate Helen*, Peca Ștefan, ARCUB
2006 — *[...a Station]*, Peca Ștefan, Comedy Theatre
2005 — *Bitter Sauce*, Eric Bogosian, Green Hours
2003 — *Fool for Love*, Sam Shepard, ACT Theatre

Awards

2026 — Grand Prix — International Film Festival Manhattan (IFFM), New York, USA (*My Romanian Diary*, written & directed by Carmen Lidia Vidu)

2026 — Silver Trophy — Eventex Awards 2026, Art Event — Carmen Lidia Vidu & Mindscape, *George Enescu – Romanian Rhapsody No. 1*, iMapp Bucharest
2021 — UNITER Award, Best Direction — *Romanian Diary. 1989*
2020 — Female Award — Independent Days International Film Festival, Germany (*My Romanian Diary*)
2018 — Best Women Short — Independent Shorts Awards, Los Angeles (*Romanian Diary. Muslim Diary*)
2018 — Finalist — Eurasia International Monthly Film Festival, Moscow (*Romanian Diary. Muslim Diary*)
2018 — Best Documentary Based on Women (Non-Fiction) — JIFF, Jaipur, India (*Romanian Diary. Muslim Diary*)
2018 — Award Winner — MedFF, Sicily (*A Short History of Astra Film*)
2018 — Award Winner — Changing Face International Film Festival, Sydney (*Romanian Diary. Muslim Diary*)
2018 — Finalist — International Music Video Underground, Los Angeles (*Constanța. A Dancing City*)
2017 — Best Short Documentary — Mediterranean Film Festival (*A Short History of Astra Film*)
2015 — Jury Special Prize — Indian Cine Film Festival (*ARAD. My Virtual Diary*)
2015 — Mention — Delhi Shorts International Film Festival (*ARAD. My Virtual Diary*)
2015 — Award of Excellence for Dramatic Arts — Arad City Hall
2015 — GOPO Award — Best Documentary Short — *A Short History of Astra Film*
2007 — Award — Heidelberg Theatre Festival (*[a Station…]*)
2006 — Best Performance — Buzău Festival (*[a Station…]*)
2006 — Best Performance — Terminal 00 Festival, Slovenia (*[a Station…]*)