MODERNISM RAMPANT







BOLSHEVISM AND MODERNISM

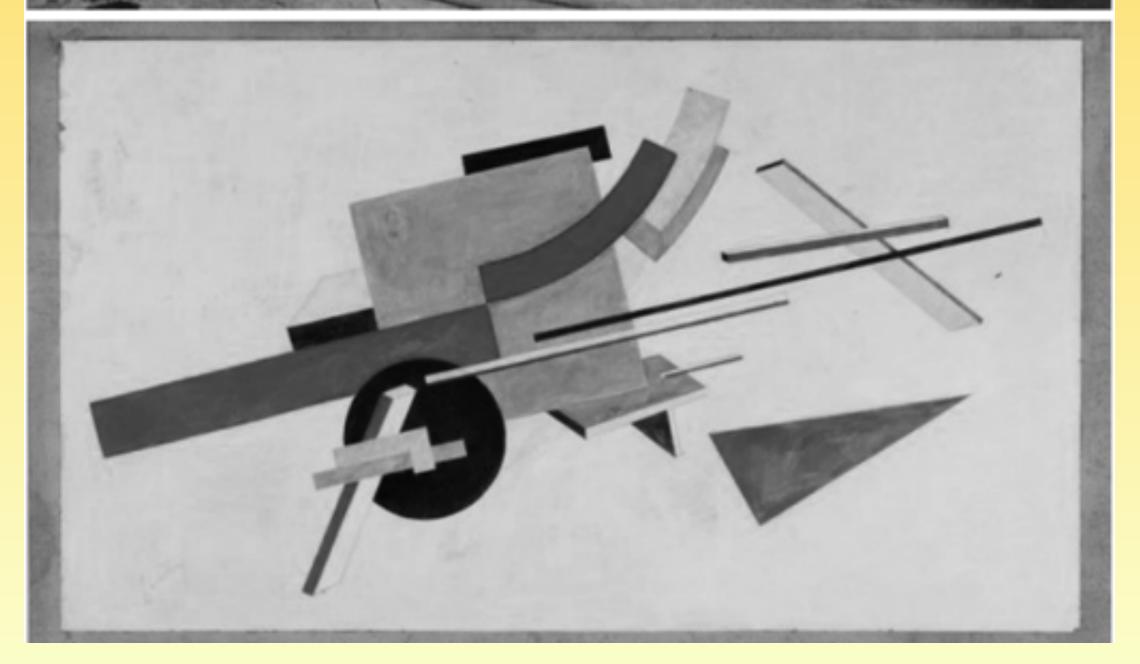


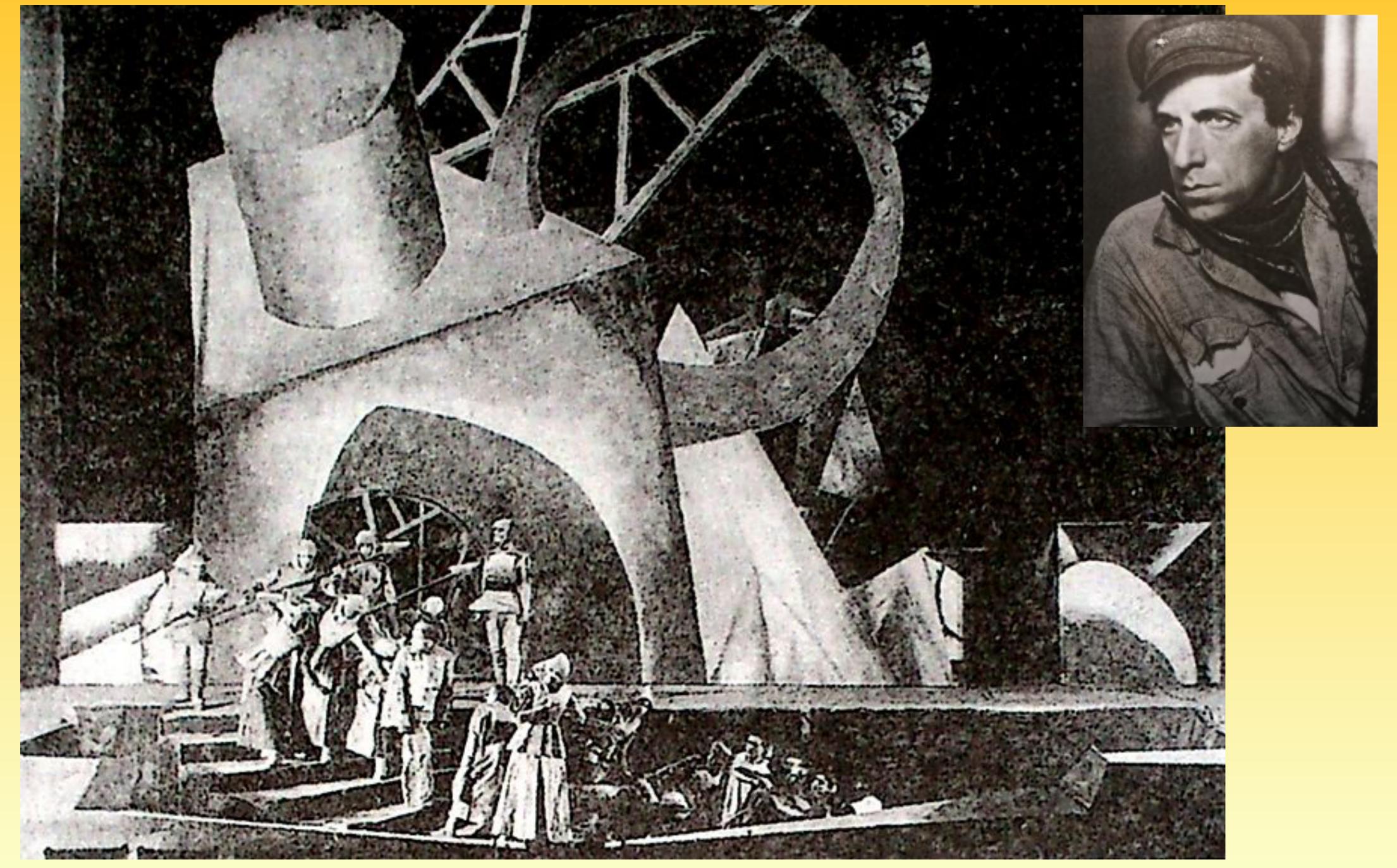
Konstantin Yuon, New Planet (1921)



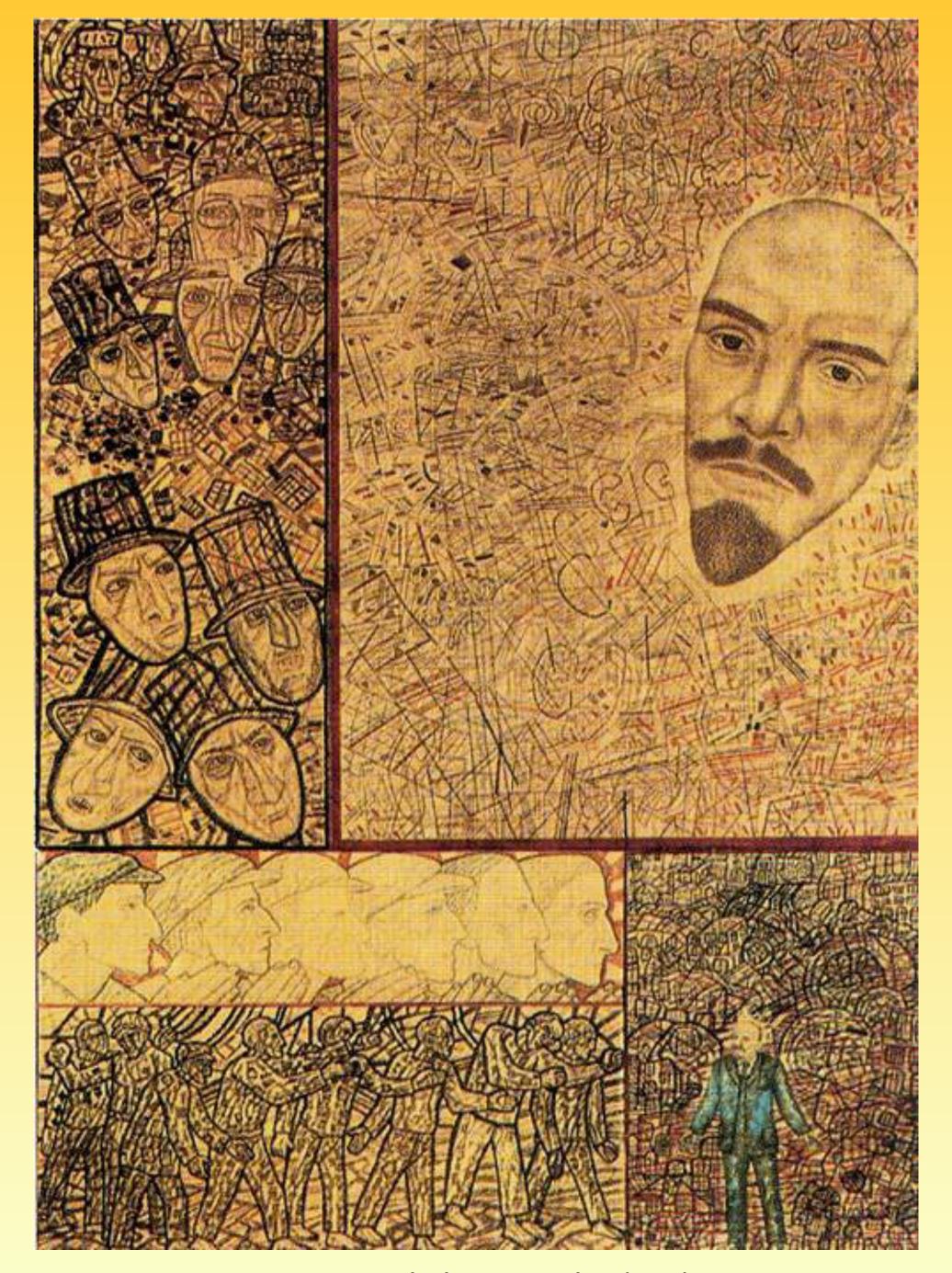
Kazimir Malevich and El Lissitzky decorating buildings in Vitebsk , 1919-20





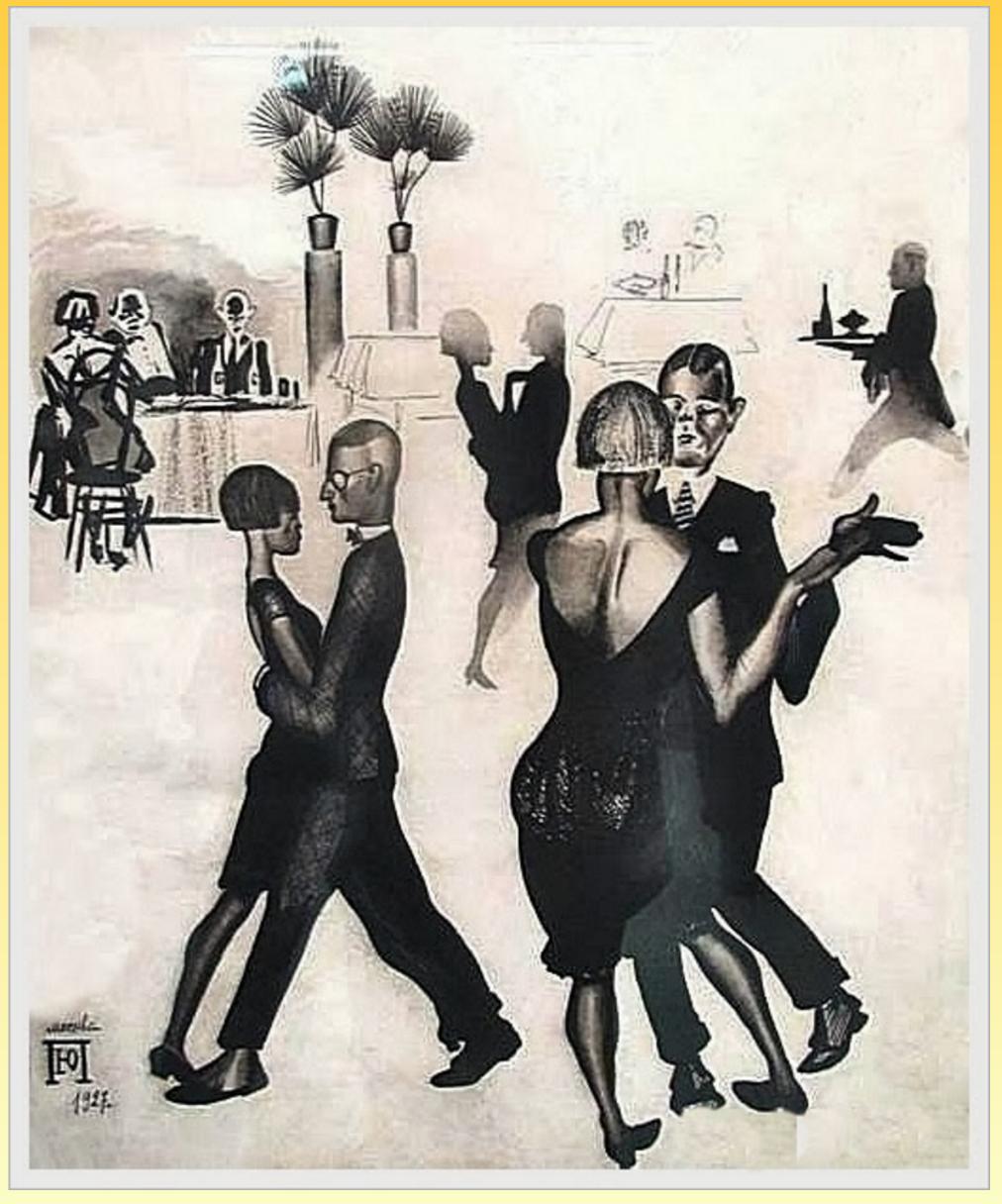


Meyerhold's production of The Dawn (1920)



Pavel Filonov, GoElRo (1931)

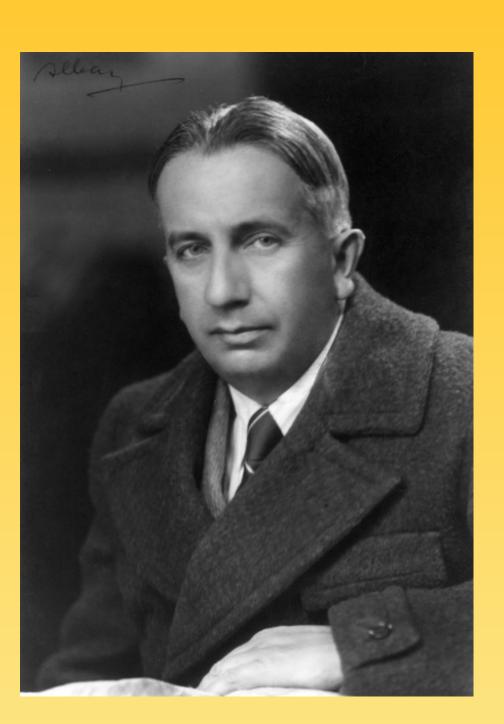
NEP AND FOREIGN IMPORTS



Yury Pimenov, NEP. At the restaurant (1927)



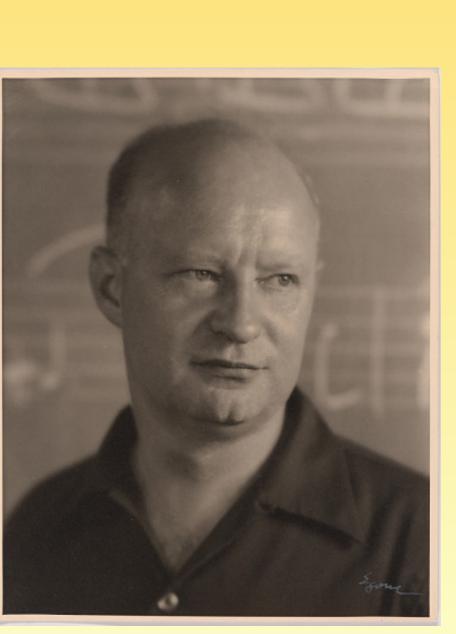
Darius Milhaud



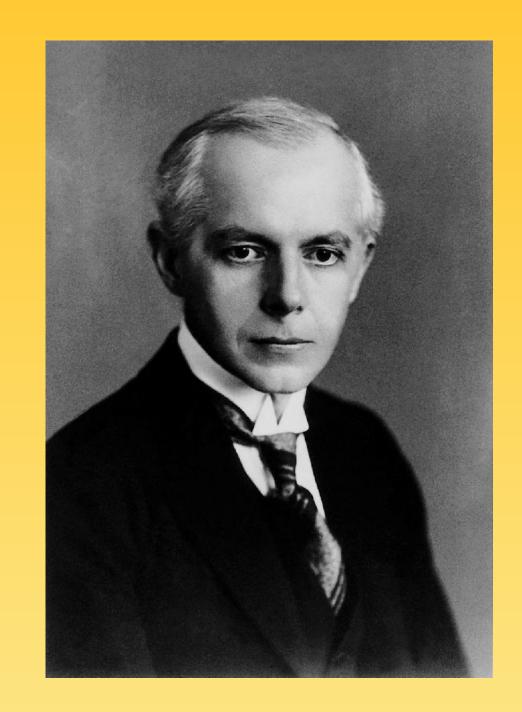
Alfredo Casella



Arthur Honegger



Paul Hindemith



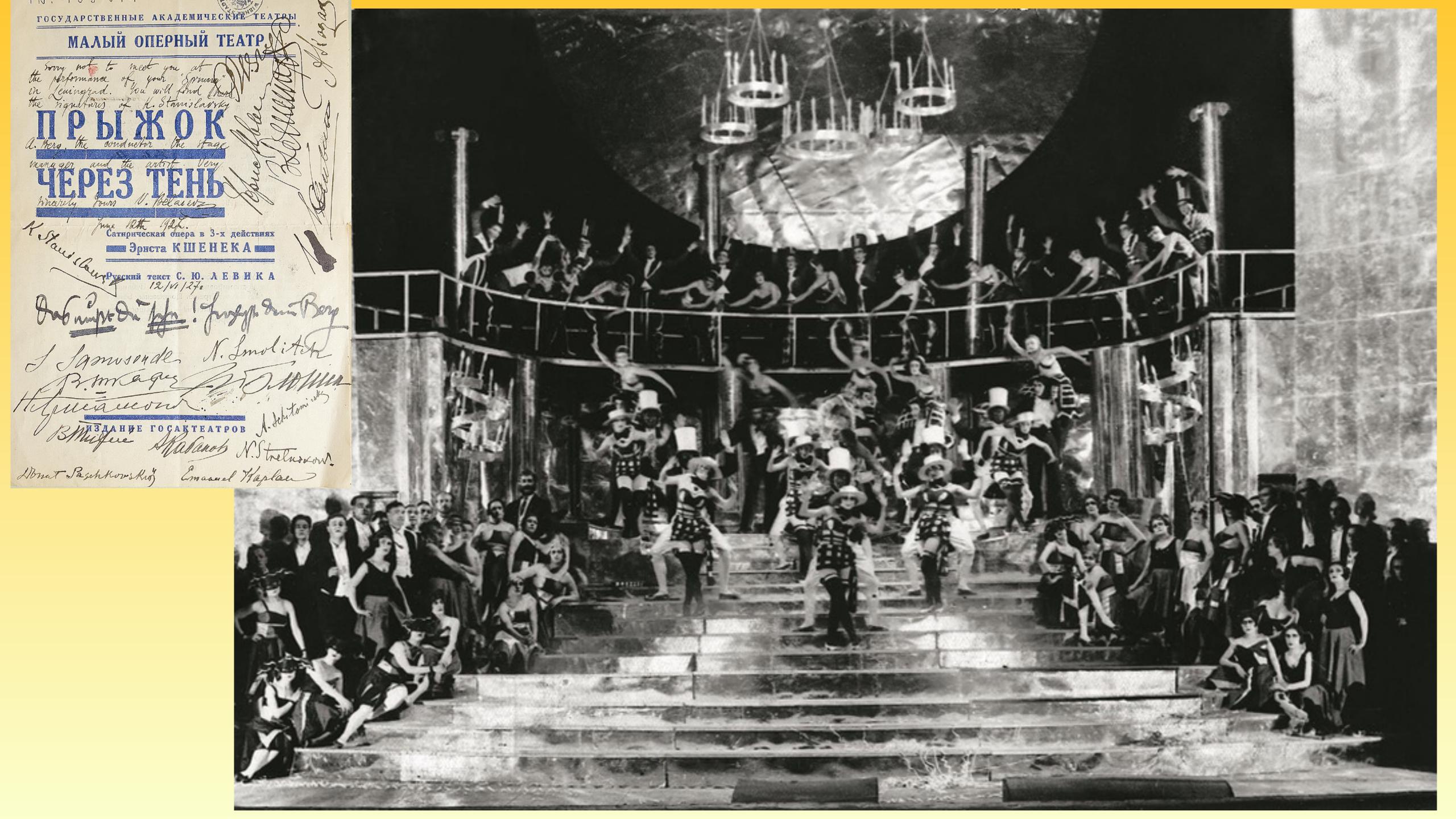
Bela Bartók

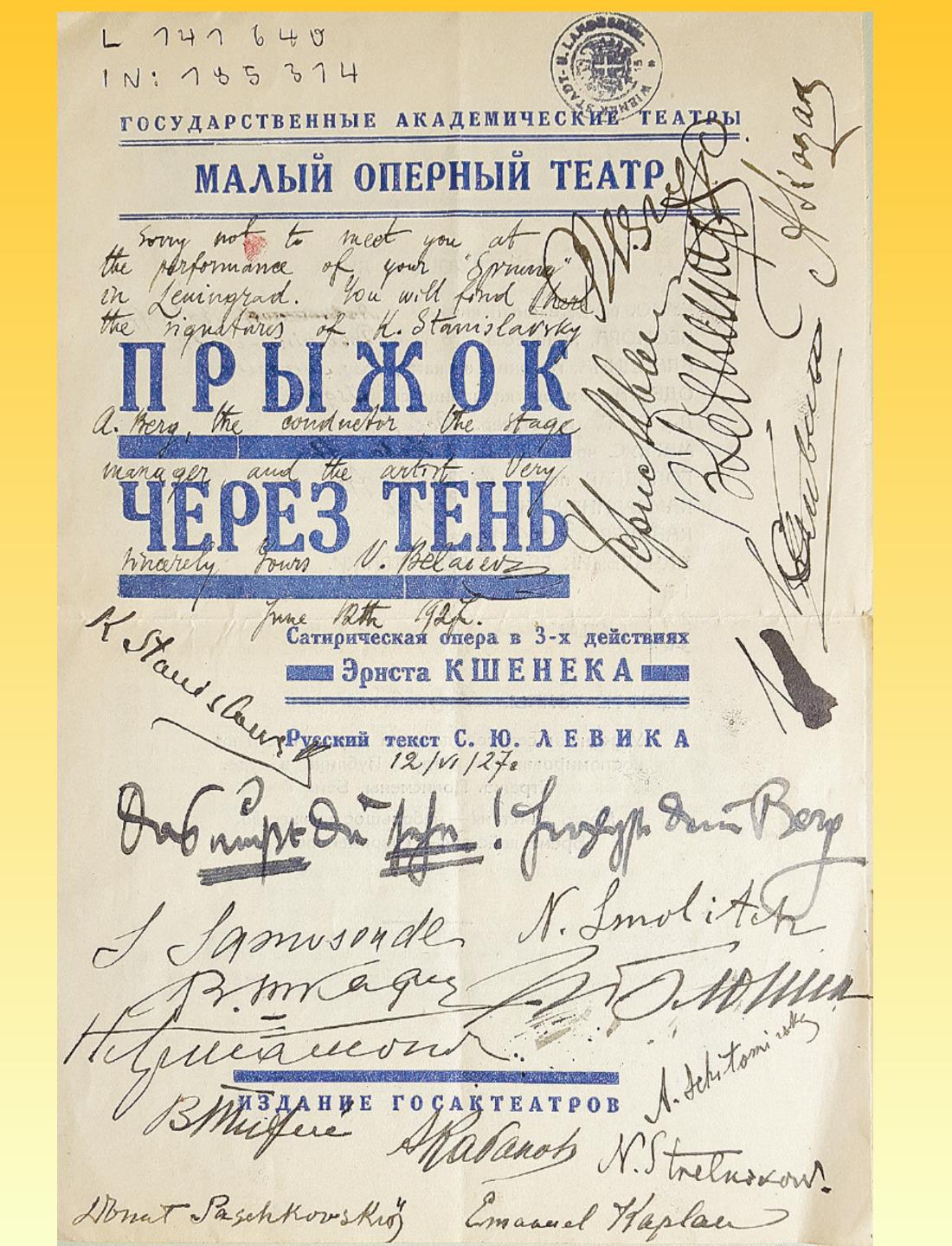


Alban Berg and a Russian composer Nikolai Strelnikov, 13 June 1927

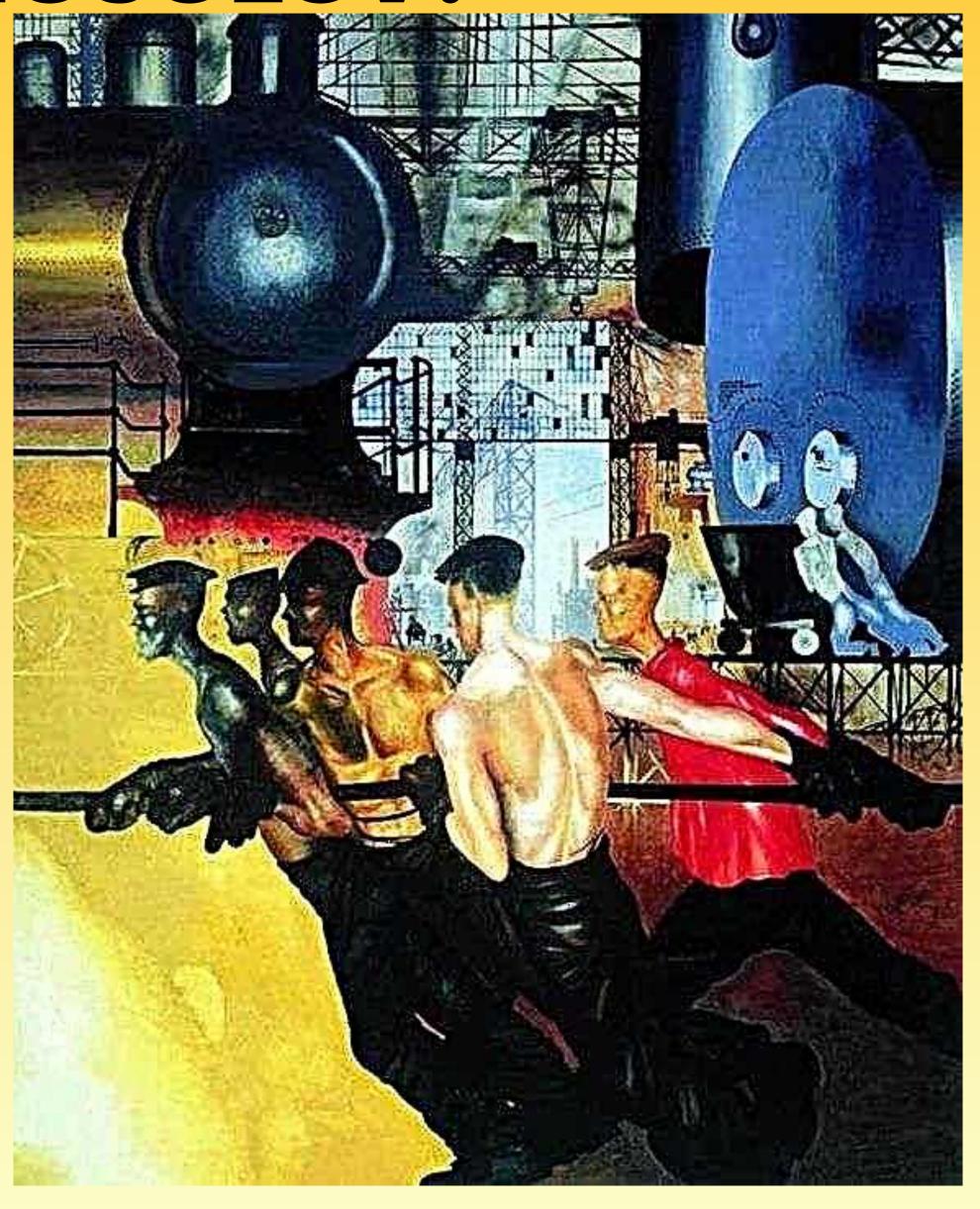


Set design for Krenek's opera Der Sprung über den Schatten





WHO WAS ALEXANDER MOSOLOV?



Yury Pimenov, Let There Be Heavy Industry! (1927)



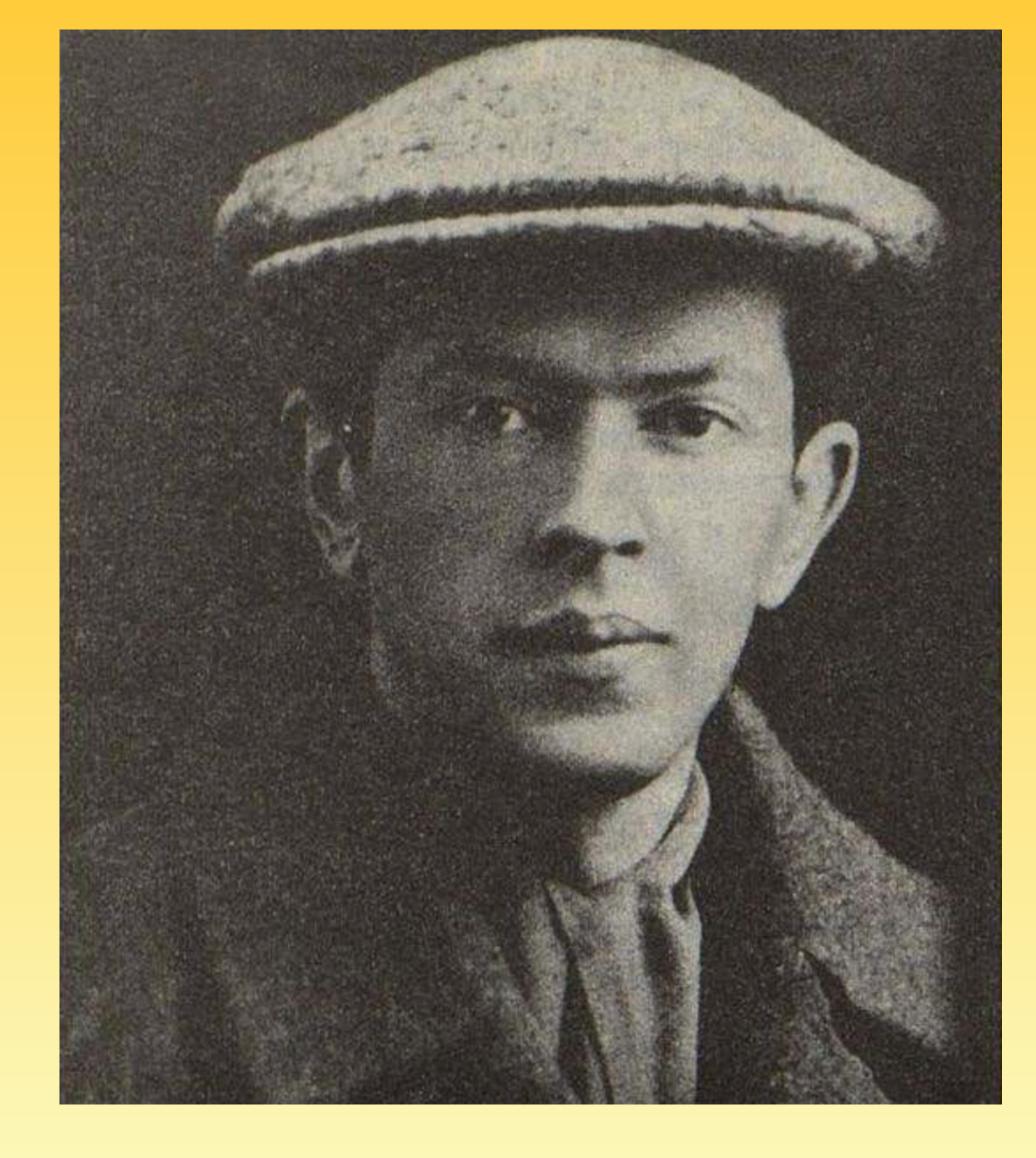




Rostov Symphony Orchestra, conductor Alexander Titov







Mosolov in the 1920s Mosolov in 1930

A. MOSSOLOW

Chant et plano

QUATRE ANNONCES VIER ZEITUNGANNONCEN

Singetimme and Klavier

A. MOCOIOB

четыре газетных об'явления



TENTON:

2. "Собака сбежала..."





4. "Лично хожу..."





THE REVOLUTIONARY CONCERT OF 1927



A. Starchevsky, 10th Anniversary of October (1927)

The first section is most successful as a depiction. The principal rhythmic-melodic figure, which is very expressive, runs through the entire section, from beginning to end, and creates a vivid musical picture of a factory running at full tilt. But the composer did not limit himself to the creation of a mere 'naturalistic' scene. He goes further and deeper. Without changing his main musical theme, but concentrating intensely on the logic of the gradual build-up, the composer transcends the illustration as he approaches the climax. His mighty melodic-rhythmic figures begin to sound so victorious and uplifting (especially when the brass add their sustained chords over the rhythmic-melodic background) – then this vivid overture, while losing none of its illustrative character, is transformed into a mighty hymn to mechanised labour.

Simon Korev on "The Iron Foundry" in 1927 (later became a member of RAPM)

СИМФОНИЯ №2

« ПОСВЯЩЕНИЕ ОКТЯБРЮ »

С ЗАКЛЮЧИТЕЛЬНЫМ ХОРОМ НА СПОВА А.БЕЗЫМЕНСКОГО

CO₄. 14

1927















SHOSTAKOVICH, THE NOSE



Kazimir Malevich, Complex Presentiment: Half-Figure in a Yellow Shirt (1928-32)

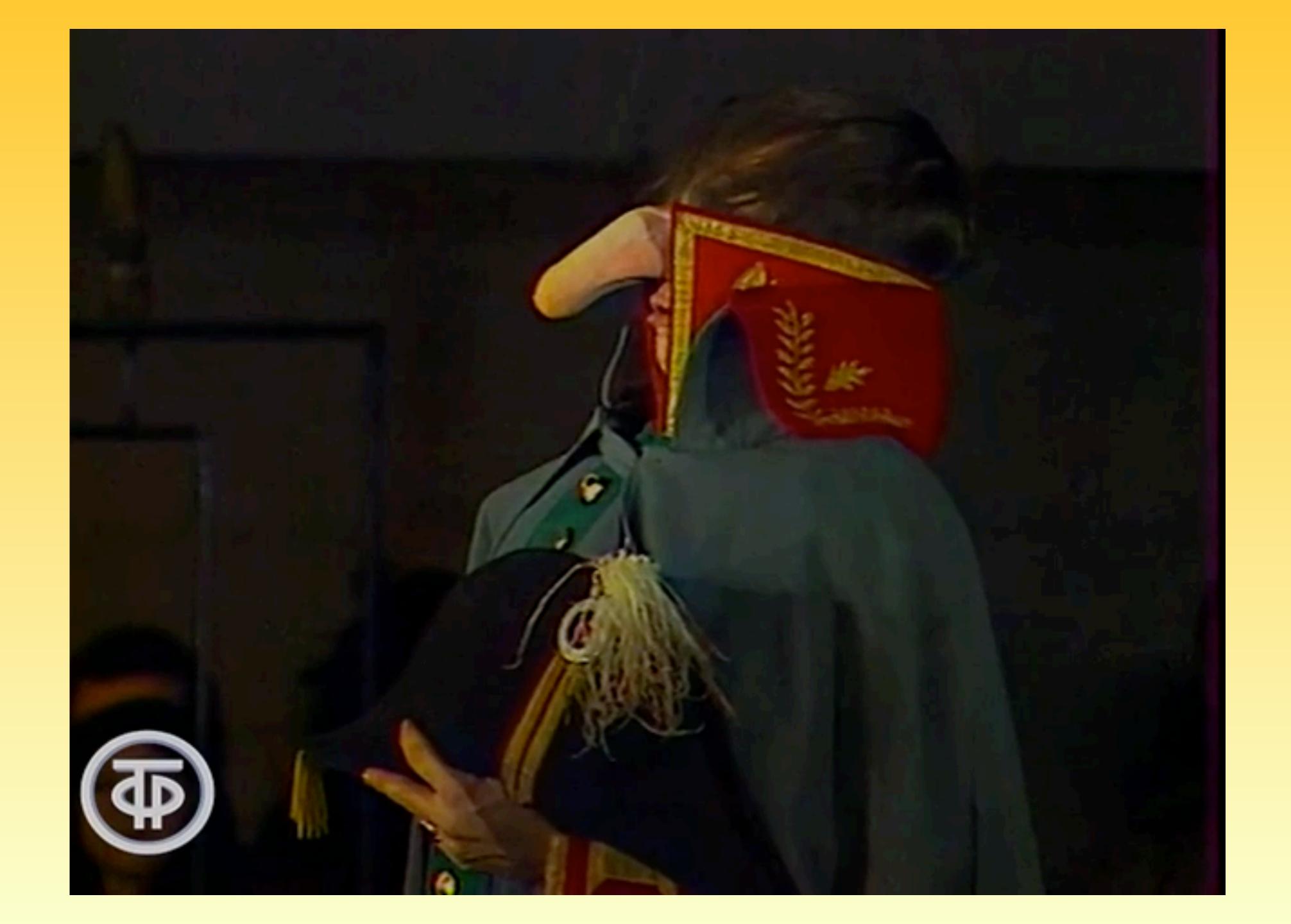














And indeed, 'it is totally beyond me', what interest or instruction the students, or the metal and textile workers who populate the opera boxes could draw from watching crowds of people rushing across the stage for several hours looking for ... a lost nose. Our theatre demands spectacles that are ideological and socially significant. Gogol's social satire is stuck with its arbitrary and socially pointless plot; and none of the play's brilliance can save a production if the action itself lacks any meaningful core.

In this opera, Shostakovich has undoubtedly moved away from the mainstream of Soviet art. If he does not recognise the falsity of his path, if he fails to comprehend the live reality that is 'under his nose', his artistic work will unavoidably find itself in a cul-de-sac.

Daniil Zhitomirsky in Proletarian Musician

THE DIRE YEARS OF RAPM RULE (1929-32)

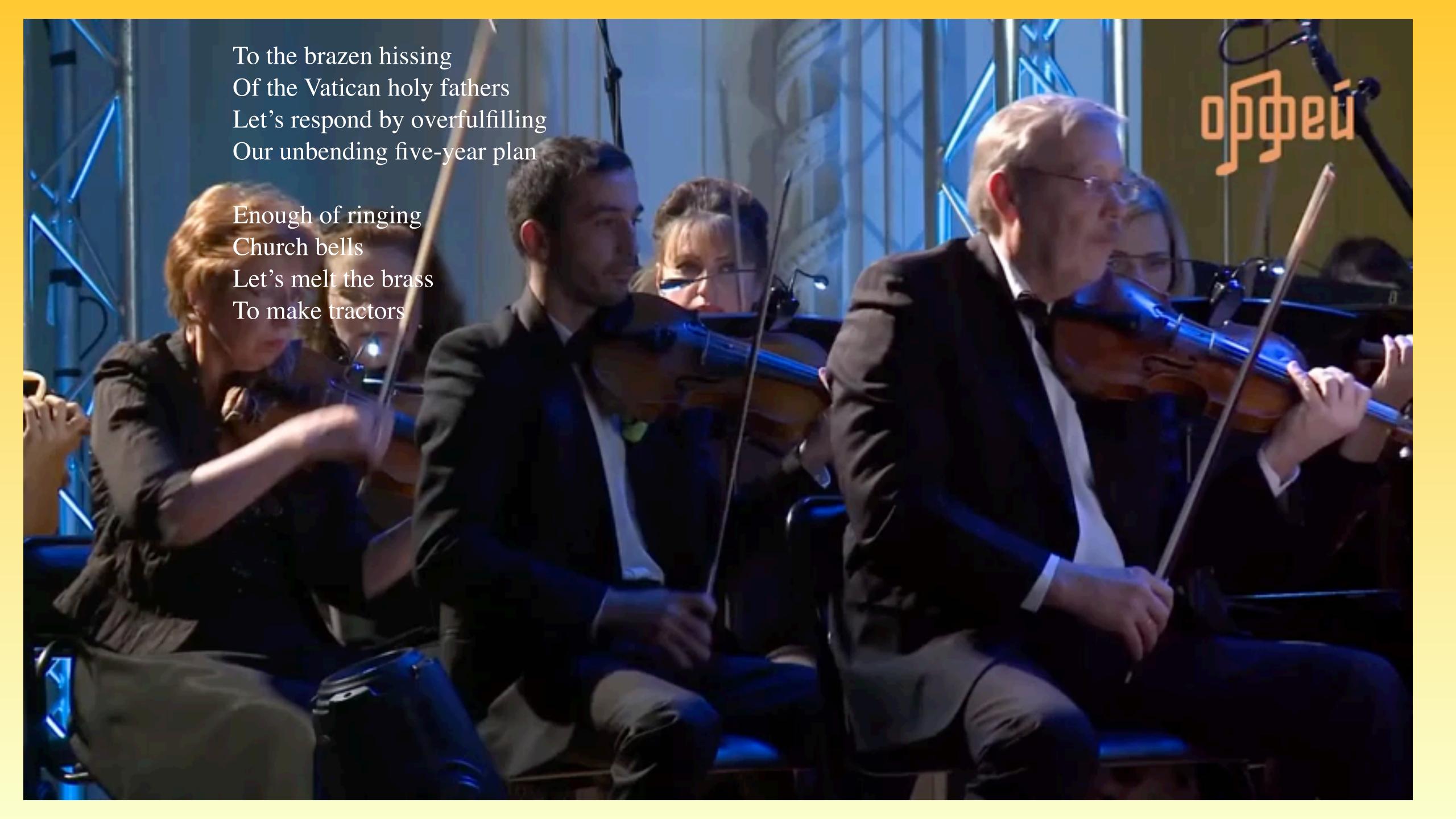


Pavel Filonov Composition (A Raid), 1931

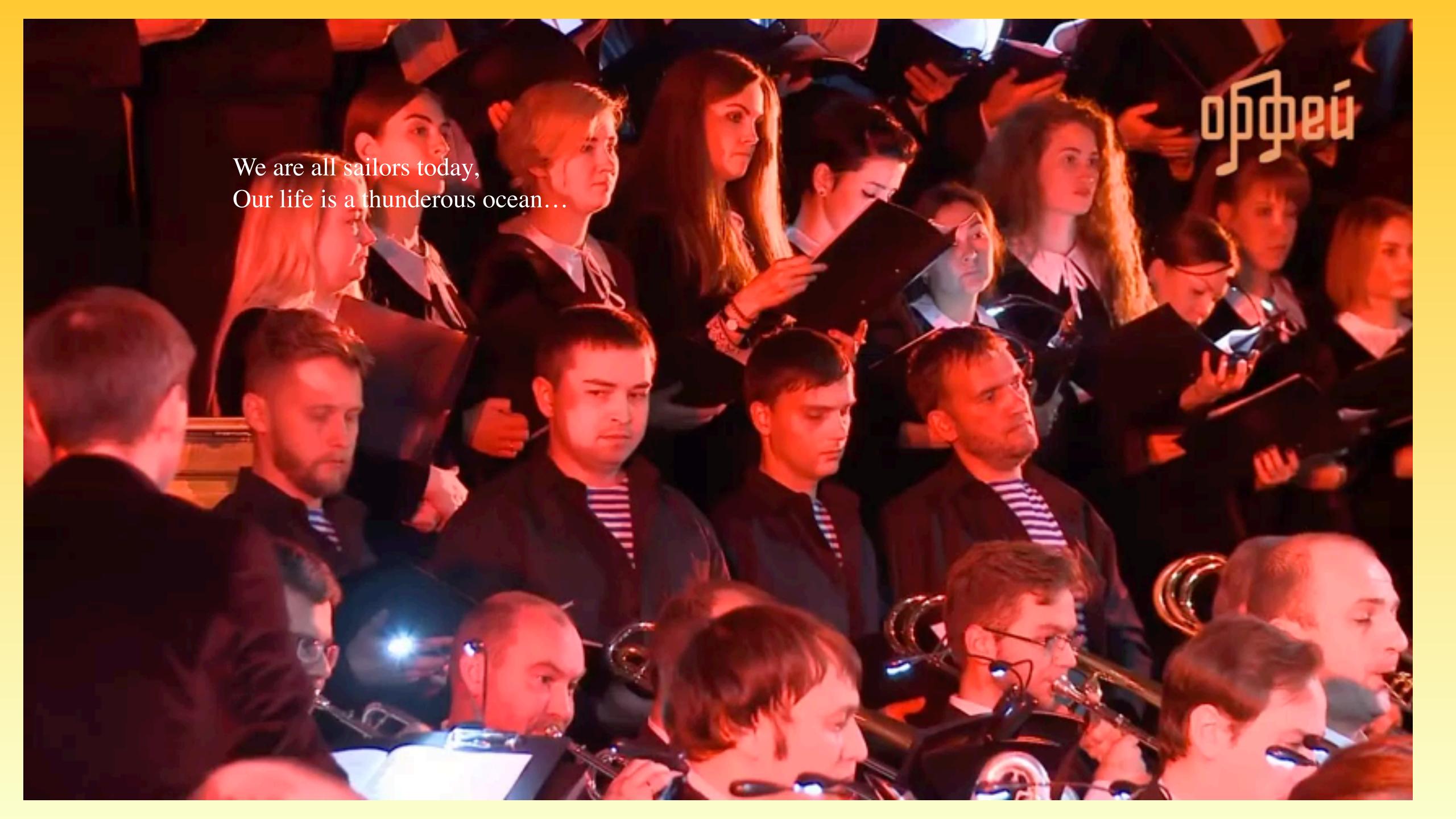




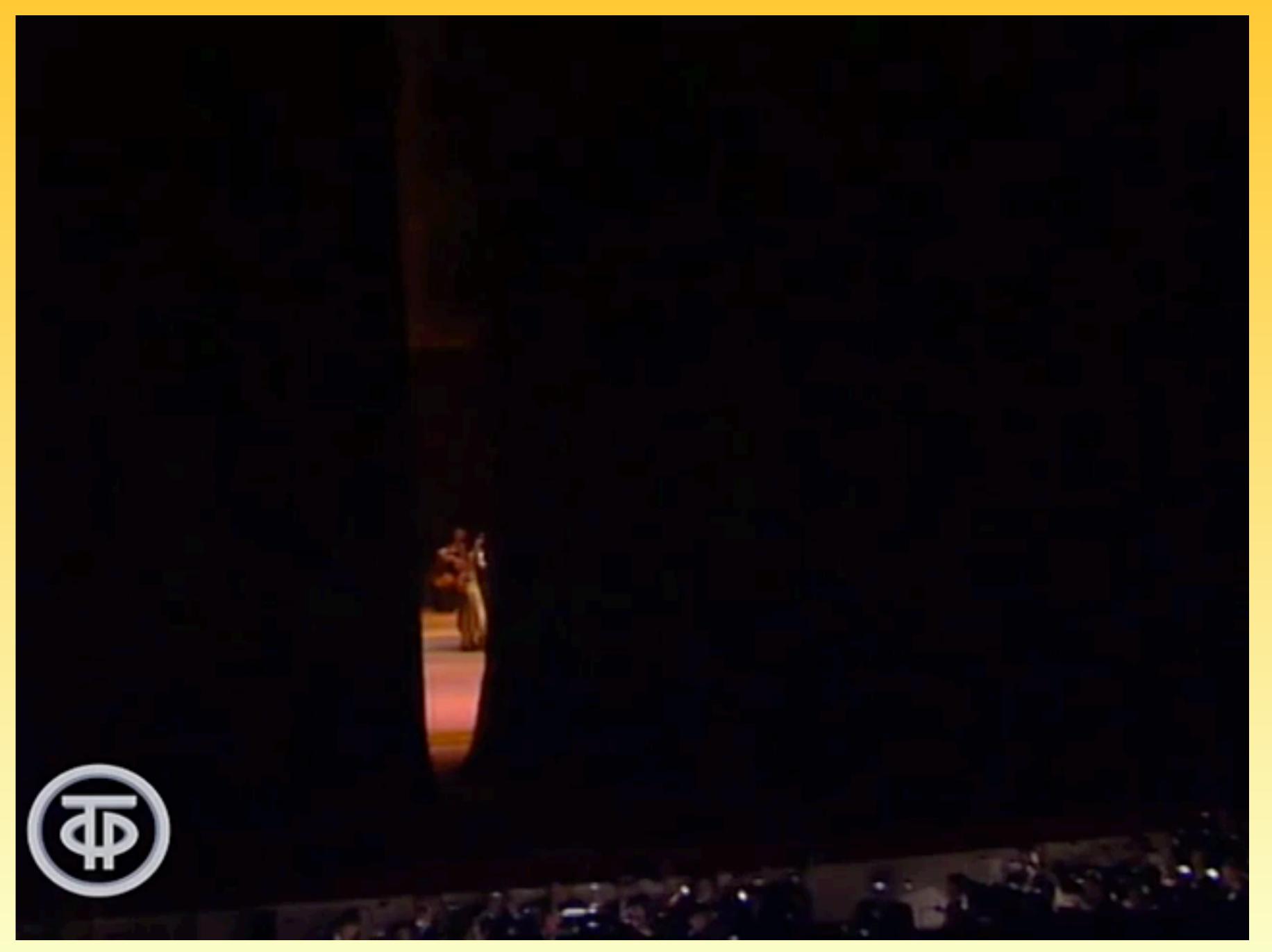












Shostakovich *The Golden Age* (the Bolshoi Production)

I consider it a political error on my part to have given the conductor Malko permission to perform my arrangement of the Tahiti Trot, since this is actually a number from my ballet The Golden Age, and if it is performed outside of its proper context (which would demonstrate the composer's attitude to this material), it can create the mistaken impression that I am a proponent of the 'light genre'. Three months ago, I sent word to Malko, who is abroad, telling him that I now withdrew permission.

Shostakovich, writing for Proletarian Musician

MOSOLOV'S LETTER TO STALIN (CONCLUSION)

Here, in the USSR, I am not being given the opportunity to work and compose music. I have been enduring persecution since 1926. I don't want to wait any longer. I ought to compose and be performed! I ought to test my works before a mass audience, and let them fail, but then I will know in what direction I should move and how I need to reform. Let me fail, but before the mass listener – I don't want to be nailed shut inside a RAPM coffin.

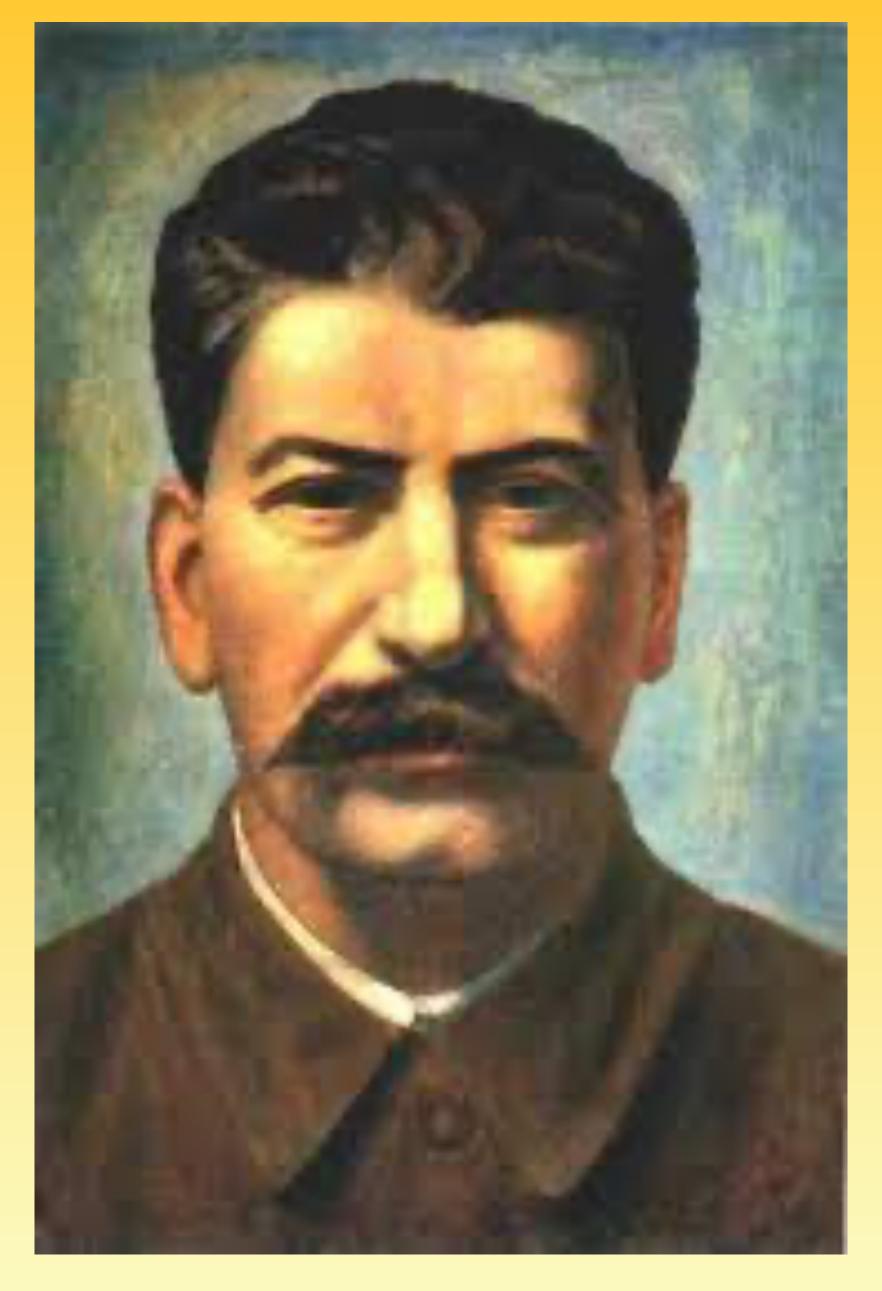
I am valued abroad (press cuttings and quotations from letters attached) and I am performed there (although they criticize me there for being a "Bolshevik"). My work is of interest over there.

Thus, I request:

Either persuade RAPM and their underlings to cease my persecution, which has been going on for a whole year, and give me the opportunity to work in the USSR;

Or give me the opportunity to leave the country, so that I can be more useful to the USSR while abroad, since here I am rejected, persecuted, and prevented from revealing my abilities and testing myself.

A.V. Mosolov, March 1932



Pavel Filonov, Portrait of Stalin (1936)

MOSOLOV: THE AFTERMATH



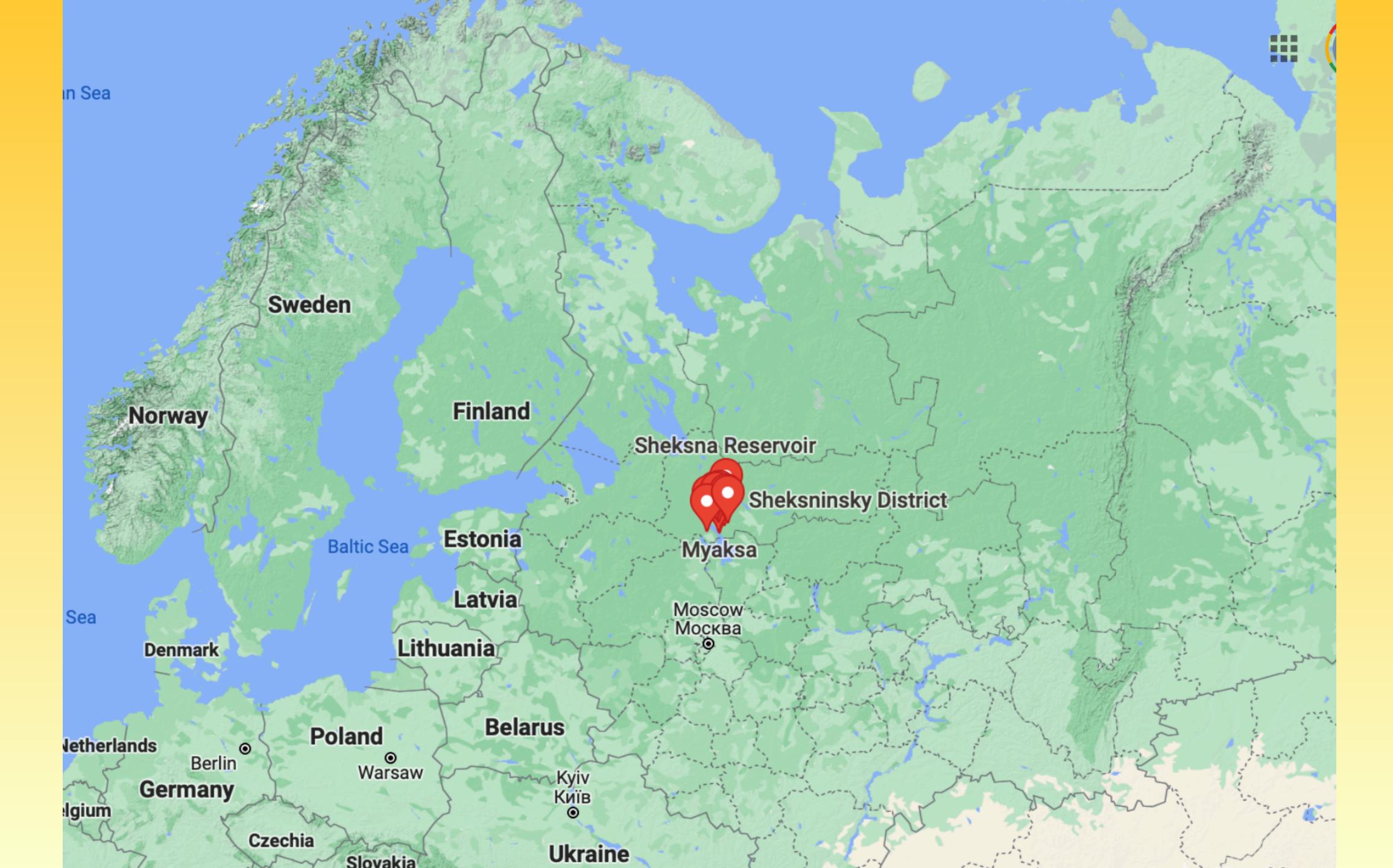
Solomon Nikritin, Judgement of the People (1934)

18 SEPTEMBER 1937 - ARTICLE IN IZVESTIYA ACCUSING MOSOLOV OF BEING DRUNK AND DISORDERLY ON A REGULAR BASIS

4 NOVEMBER 1937 – ARRESTED

23 DECEMBER 1937 – SENTENCED TO EIGHT YEARS IN THE CAMPS FOR "COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY PROPAGANDA" AND SENT TO THE VOLGA CAMP TO FELL TREES

25 AUGUST 1938 – GRANTED EARLY RELEASE, BUT NOT PERMITTED TO RESIDE IN ANY OF THE MAJOR CITIES FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

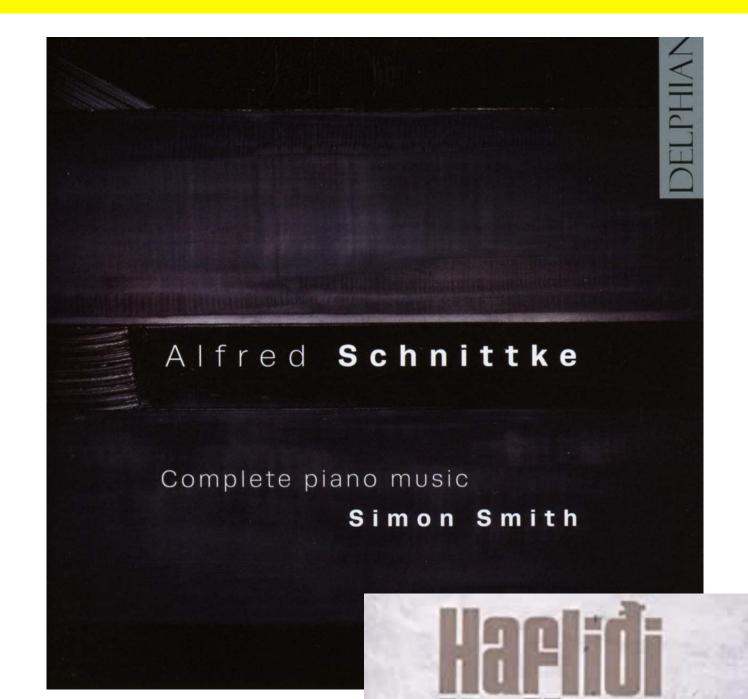


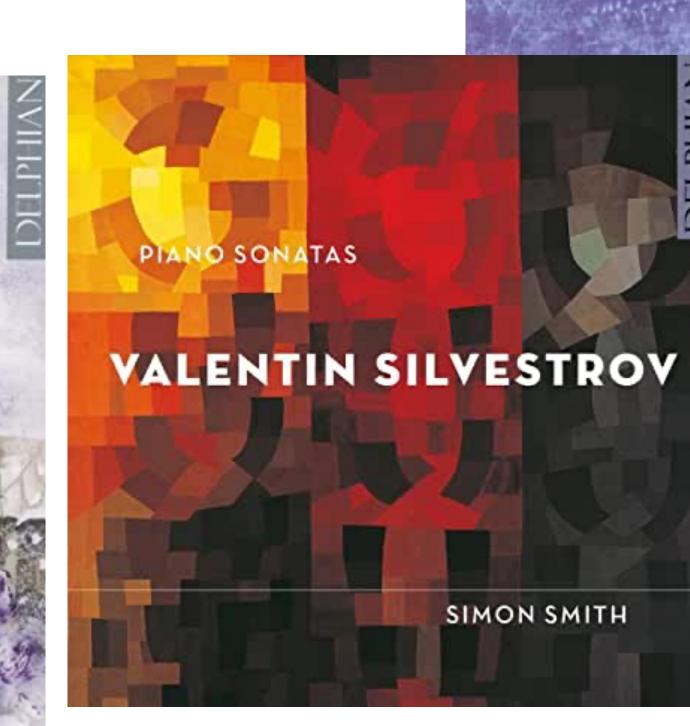
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Music for solo piano Simon Smith

