

Chronology of Bulgarian Theatre and Maps

Compiled by NICOLE VIGOUROUX-FREY



CHRONOLOGY OF BULGARIAN THEATRE

Dates	Historical, National Events	Plays and Playwrights	Companies, Theatres and Towns	Actors and Directors
14th to 19th century	Ottoman occupation			
1833		Birth of Dobry Voynikov (Shumen), father of the Bulgarian theatre		
1835	First School in Bulgaria (Gabrovo)	Birth of Bacho Kiro (1835–76) (attempted to communicate dramatic ideas in script forms)		
	Schools are to play a prominent role in the development of the theatre. In turn, the theatre will become a school for adults			
1836	Dimitar Blagoev (1838–1924)			
1840		Birth of Vassil Drumev (Shumen) (1840–1901)		
1846		<i>Mother Bulgaria</i> by Neofit Bozveli	First School Festival (Drama) in Shumen	
1847	Hristo Botev (1847–76), poet			
1850		Birth of Ivan Vazov (1850–1921)		
1855		Birth of Konstantin Velichkov (1855–1907)		Stephen Popov (1854–1920)
1856	First theatrical performance (Shumen and Lom)	<i>Mihal Mishkoev</i> (a Serbian Comedy) performed in Shumen, adapted and staged as a farce by Sava Dobroplodni (Coffee-house)		
		<i>Long-Suffering Genoveve</i> performed in Lom, staged by Krastu Pishurka (in his home) (German melodrama)		
1865			First Bulgarian theatrical troupe, founded in Braila (Romania) →	by Dobry Voynikov (1833–78)
1866	Pencholi Slaveikov (1866–1912)			
1870				Birth of Vassil Kirkov in Karlovo (1870–1931) School in Plovdiv

1871		<i>Civilization Misunderstood</i> by Dobry Voimikov (a comic satire)		
1872	Anton Strashimirov (1872–1937)	<i>Ivanko, Assassin of Asen I</i> by Vassil Drumev (history play)	(Both plays are occasionally revived)	
1873 (→1876)		Vogue for Bulgarian historical drama		
1876		Birth of: Sava Ognianov (Ruse) Krestu Sarafov (Libiakhovo)	Sava Ognianov (1876–1939)	
1878	Bulgaria becomes independent after the Russo-Turkish war Peyo Javorov (1878–1914)	Death of Dobry Voimikov Birth of Adriana Budeska (Tolbukhin, now Dobrich)	Plovdiv: plans for the establishment of the first State subsidized company.	Adriana Budevska (1878–1955) Rosa Popova (1878–1949) Sofia
1879	Petko Todorov (1879–1916) Stefan L. Kostov (1879–1939)		Ruse: Vazov's anger at the mediocrity of plays produced	
1880	Yordan Jovkov (1880–1937)			
1881	In <i>The People's Voice</i> (Narodniglas), a newspaper, Ivan Vazov and Konstantin Velichkov call for a National Theatre		Plovdiv: Company established (→ 1883), support of K. Velichkov and I. Vazov	
1883			Plovdiv: (May) Stephen Popov (1854–1920) creates the first professional touring Company	
1884	Bulgaria and Serbia at war		Popov's company dismantled (war)	
1886			Popov's company re-established → →	[Ivan Popov, Vassil Kirkov: actors; Konstantin Sapunov: director]
1887			Popov's company in Sofia	
1888			Sofia: (December) Opening of Theatre Osnova (wooden playhouse) Beginning of a professional theatre activity in Sofia; company: 'Foundation'	
1889	Attempt at establishing a national repertoire	<i>Princess Raina</i> by Dobry Voimikov and Ivan Vazov: dominant figures in drama →	Theatre Osnova (Sofia)	

Dates	Historical, National Events	Plays and Playwrights	Companies, Theatres and Towns	Actors and Directors
1890			Sofia:	New group of actors: Dragomir Kazakov Ivan Slavkov Anguel Bukurechtliev etc. . .
1892			1 January, Sofia: A new company emerges out of the Plovdiv's 'Tears and Laughter' (Sulza i Smyah), inspired by the work of Ivan Vazov Plovdiv: first professional puppet performance; company founded by Vassil Kostov Nalbuov	
1893	Konstantin Velichkov becomes minister for education.	<i>The Marrowbone</i> by A. N. Ostrovski ('Tears and Laughter')	Death of Nalbuov Dragomir Kazakov becomes head of 'Tears and Laughter'. Radul Kaneli soon takes over (for 5 years)	Radul Kaneli in <i>The Marrowbone</i>
1894		<i>Kushove</i> by Ivan Vazov →	'Zora = Dawn Theatre' →	(director: Boris Pojarov actress: Rosa Popova)
1895	Geo Milev (1895–1925), Bulgarian director, introduced 'the supreme reality of art'.	A new generation of playwrights appears		
1899–1900				Adam Mandrovic comes to Bulgaria and works with young talents: V. Kirkov, K. Sarafov, A. Budevaska
1901		<i>Vampire</i> by Anton Strashimirov (1872–1937)	Krestu Sarafov works for 'Zora'	Strolling company: Contemporary Theatre Company created by – Matei Ikonov (→ 1912) – Sava Ognianov in Sofia ('Tears and Laughter')
1902		<i>Masons</i> by Petko Todorov (1879–1916)	Sofia: Several workers' theatres founded: 'Gueorgui Kirkov' 'Zadruijen teatar' (Dotcho Kassabov) 'Borba' (= Fight) Plovdiv, Varna have their own	

1903		<i>Job Hunters</i> by Ivan Vazov	'Tears and Laughter' is restructured (Ilia Milarov, director) (dramaturge: Anton Strashimirov) Company created in Plovdiv	Vassil Kirkov in Vienna
1904	State National Theatre founded	<i>The Woodsprite</i> by Petko Todorov	'Tears and Laughter' becomes the Bulgarian National Theatre (Ilia Milarov, director; Joseph Smaha, artistic director)	
1905			A group of actors leave the National Theatre and create the 'Free Theatre'	
1907	University closed for one year as a consequence of protest against Tsar Ferdinand, on the grand opening of the National Theatre	<i>Mother-in-Law</i> by Anton Strashimirov (1872–1937)	3 January: Opening of the National Theatre (new building) (directors: Pencho Slavejkov and Peyo Javorov, 1878–1914)	
1908			Anton Strashimirov at the head of 'Tears and Laughter' (Strolling Company)	
1909			Ruse: the company 'Izgrev' becomes the Municipal Theatre	Plovdiv: Tacho Tanev, director of the Municipal Theatre
1910		<i>Under the Yoke</i> by Ivan Vazov	Varna: the 'People's Theatre' is founded Director: Stoyan Bachvarov	Plovdiv Municipal Theatre, director: Radul Kaneli Varna: Gueorgui Kostov, stage director Rosa Popova, director of 'Izgrev' (Ruse)
1911		<i>At the Foot of Vitosha Mountain</i> by Peyo Javorov (1878–1914) <i>The Dragon's Wedding</i> by Petko Todorov		
1912–13				
1914 →	The Balkan wars 1919 World War I		Theatres closed in Bulgaria	
1917	October Revolution (Russia)			
1918			A Theatre is opened in Pleven Theatre in Sliven (→ transferred to Burgas in 1929)	

Dates	Historical, National Events	Plays and Playwrights	Companies, Theatres and Towns	Actors and Directors
1919	The first Bulgarian artists' union is founded by Gyorgy Dimitrov (1882–1949)		Krestu Sarafov, part-time director at the National Theatre Strolling company. 'The Bulgarian Artistic Theatre'	Issak Daniel (1894–1942) in Sofia and Varna. Experimental theatre: 'Theatre Studio' (Teatar Studial), Stephen Sarchadjiev (1912–65) → 'Experimental Theatre'
1923	Abortive uprising against the regime →	Blacklisting of many theatre professionals.	The National Theatre building is destroyed by fire	Geo Milev (1895–1925) stages <i>Masses and Man</i> (by Ernest Toller)
1924	Beginning of a troubled era in Bulgaria		Hrisan Tzankov (1890–1971): director, emphasis on directorial techniques, influenced by Max Reinhardt. The Slavonic Interchange Society (puppets), led by V. Bazilevich (→ 1940)	
1925	Assassination attempt against the Bulgarian Tsar Boris III → massive purge of intellectuals, among them Geo Milev, (1895–1925) director at the National Theatre		Nikolai Ossipovich Massalirinov settles at the National Theatre for 4 decades; cooperates with actors → Decides the principle of a training school for actors Major figure from 1925 to 1977.	Stefan L. Kostov Yordan Yovkov Racho Stoyanov Vladimir Tenev, actor, joins the National Theatre A new school of actors after Stanislavsky's principles: Petia Guerganova; Zorka Yordanova; Vladimir Trandafilov; Ivan Dimov; Konstantin Kissimov
1926				Gueorgi Kostov, secretary of the Actors' Union (→ 1929), editor of <i>Bulgarski artist</i>
1928			Pleven Theatre: Boyan Danoski, dramatuge Burgas Theatre is created (the Sliven Theatre is transformed) Plovdiv: creation of a professional touring puppet theatre →	S. Penchev and L. Georgiev
1929	Opening of a new theatre building on the site of the burnt down theatre (advanced technology of production) in Sofia		Emphasis on directorial techniques →	Ch. Tzankov B. Danovski N. Fol

1930s	Birth and development of revolutionary forces throughout Bulgaria	Artistic development through various workers' associations and theatres Introduction of Bertolt Brecht	Development of a more revolutionary political art	
1930			Podreca's Teatro dei Piccoli visits Sofia Sofia: creation of a company: 'Sineite Blouzi', (Blue Shirts), politically committed	Boyvan Danoski (1899–1976), artistic director of 'Blue Shirts'
1931			S. Penchev creates his own Bulgarian Theatre dei Piccoli (puppets), a touring company for adults	Issak Daniel, director, National Theatre, Sofia Gueorgui Kostov, director, Pleven Theatre, Pleven Nadia Stanislavova, associated with Varna Theatre Petar Dimitrov, director, in Varna, Burgas, Sofia
1932			Boyvan Danoski, director of 'Tribuna' and 'Narodna Scena', two Workers' Companies	
1935			Boyvan Danoski in Ruse	
1940			Four state theatres in operation	
1941		Birth of Stanislav Stratiev	Plovdiv theatre focuses on Bulgarian Drama National Theatre, Sofia: N. Massalitinov, director	
1942			Sofia 1st theatre school is founded Sofia: Professional puppet troupe, led by K. Batembergsky (→ 1950)	
1944	Socialist revolution and take over in Bulgaria (9 September)	<i>The Fight Goes On</i> by Krum Kuliavkov, National Theatre, director: N. Massalitinov	Ruse theatre attracts many talents (realistic drama) Burgas theatre becomes part of National Heritage (State subsidized) (mostly Bulgarian plays)	Stefan Karalambov, director of Burgas Theatre (→ 1945) Petar Dimitrov is made a National Theatre actor for life

Dates	Historical, National Events	Plays and Playwrights	Companies, Theatres and Towns	Actors and Directors
1945	National Youth Theatre founded		Hristo Botev Programme (Sundays) Orpheus Programme → Beginning of Bulgarian Radio Drama The Youth (National) Theatre is created to educate through story-telling: Liliana Todorova, Gueorgui Kostov, directors	
1946	The Bulgarian State Theatre Academy founded to train actors, directors, critics and puppeteers		Trudov Front Theatre, Sofia; Stevka Prokhashova, director → Closed down: 1966 Maria Penkova: First State Puppet Theatre (CKT) in Sofia → National Puppet Theatre for children	
1948	Bulgaria is declared a People's Republic Magazine: <i>Teatar</i> ('Theatre') founded Film industry founded.	Full State support for the theatre, supervised repertoire	New theatres open throughout the country: 35 (6 in Sofia) The High Institute for Theatrical Arts (VITIS) provides training for actors and directors Varna Theatre: a major company (Stancho Stanchev, 20 years) The National Puppet Theatre of Bulgaria is founded Plovdiv: G. Saranov founds a marionette company	VITIS nurtured the talents of: Andreï Tchapravov Apostol Karamitev Assen Milanov Stefan Getzov Mila Pavlova Margarita Duparinova etc. . .
1950			Radio Drama includes a Sunday Programme for children (Leads to the creation of a Radio Drama Archives Programme) The State School for Higher Theatre Education (1948) becomes the Sarafov Higher Institute for Theatre Arts	Tacho Tanev, associated with the development of local theatre: Pleven, Plovdiv, Ruse. Initiates a new approach to Gorki's work in Bulgaria
1956			Plovdiv: Hristo Hristov's epic production of the People's Life (→ 1968) Burgas: Vili Tzankov becomes director of the Theatre and produces Ivan Radoev's first play: <i>It's a Small World</i>	
1957	State Satire Theatre founded. The weekly cultural newspaper <i>Narodna Kultura</i> ('People's Culture') begins publication		The Theatre of Satire, Sofia, created to promote comedy and satire (Stefan Sarchadjev) directors: Boyan Danoski Gricha Ostrovski Metodi Andonov	Iulia Ognianova, V. Tzankov, Leon Daniel, M. Andonov meet and work in Burgas: rich activity

1958			Boyan Danoski in charge of the Theatre of Satire (→ 1965) National Puppet Theatre taken over by: Atanas Ilkov, Nikolina Gueorguieva, Ivan Tzonev		Leon Daniel in Sofia (Army Theatre)
1960s	Active development of the various Puppet Theatres New interest in Meyerhold, Vakhtangov and Brecht				
1960		<i>Peter and the Wolf</i> adapted for puppets by Atanas Ilkov and Nikolina Gueorguieva	'Theatre 199' ('Teatar 199') promoted as a form of fringe/lunch-time theatre throughout the country End of Burgas Theatre creative years, due to media disapproval Vratsa offers a National Drama Festival of Fringe Theatre CKT (Puppets) → 1 st prize in Bucarest for <i>Peter and the Wolf</i> and for <i>A School for Rabbits</i> by P. Manchev, (directors L. Docheva and Y. Licheva)		
1961		<i>When the Roses Dance</i> musical by V. Petrov <i>Improvisation</i> by V. Petrov and R. Ralin	→ →	'Theatre of Satire', Sofia 'Theatre of Satire', Sofia	director: G. Ostrovski director: G. Ostrovski
1962		<i>Tumult</i> by Yordan Radichkov <i>The Poet and the Mountain</i> by Ivan Teoflov	→	'Theatre of Satire', Sofia A school of puppetry is opened within VITIS ('Kr. Sarafov')	director: M. Andonov directors: Atanas Ilkov and Nikolina Gueorguieva
1965		<i>We Don't Believe in Storks</i> by Nedyalko Yordanov <i>The Clockmaker</i> by Iv. Teoflov (puppets)	→	(L. Docheva and Iv. Tzonev directors) obtains UNIMA 1 st prize	
1966		<i>Golemanov</i> by St. L. Kostov <i>Aristocrats</i> by Pogodine <i>Poems and Puppets</i> by Iv. Teoflov (directors: L. Docheva I. Tzonev)	→	'Theatre of Satire', Sofia Vassil Kirkov's Theatre is renamed 'Tears and Laughter', promotes contemporary drama	director: N. Popov
1967					Leon Daniel dismissed from official theatre circles after a 'patriotic' production of <i>Hamlet</i>

Dates	Historical, National Events	Plays and Playwrights	Companies, Theatres and Towns	Actors and Directors
1968		<p><i>A Small World</i> by Ivan Radoev →</p> <p><i>Snow</i> by V. Petrov →</p> <p><i>Krali Marko</i> (puppets) by Iv. Teofilov and Iv. Tzonev</p>	<p>V. Tzankov at the head of Burgas Theatre (directors: L. Daniel, I. Ognianova, M. Andonov, N. Yordanov)</p> <p>'Theatre of Satire' Varna International Puppet Theatre created</p>	<p>director: Gr. Ostrovski</p>
1969		<p><i>We Are 25 Years Old</i> by N. Yordanov</p> <p><i>The Carnival of Animals</i> (puppets) adapted by Nikolina Gueorguieva →</p> <p><i>Sylvestre's Treasure</i> (puppets) (text by Angel Wagenstein, directors: A. Ilkov, I. Tzonev)</p> <p><i>The Soldier's Tale</i> adapted by Iulia Ognianova (puppets)</p> <p><i>Petrushka</i> adapted by I. Ognianova →</p>	<p>Beginning (→ 1976) of the heydays of Vassil Spassov Pazardjuk Theatre →</p> <p>1st prize at the Montreux festival</p> <p>The National Theatre (Sofia) is renamed 'Ivan Vazov'</p> <p>Plovdiv Puppet Theatre</p>	<p>directors: Nikolai Poliakov Krikor Azarian</p>
1970		<p><i>Piesi</i> by Nikolai Russev</p> <p><i>Musketeers' Words</i> by V. Petrov</p>	<p>Appearance of pantomime groups in Sofia, Sliven, Ruse, Gabrovo and Silistra</p>	<p>'Studio Pantomine' (Velyo Goranov and Vasil Indjev)</p>
1974		<p><i>The Roman Bath</i> by Stanislav Stratiev →</p> <p><i>January</i> by Y. Radichkov →</p> <p><i>The Saede Jacket</i> by Stanislav Stratiev →</p> <p><i>When the Roses Dance</i> by V. Petrov →</p>	<p>'Theatre of Satire', Sofia →</p> <p>'Theatre of Satire', Sofia →</p> <p>'Theatre of Satire', Sofia →</p> <p>Youth Theatre (National) →</p>	<p>director: N. Popov</p> <p>director: I. Sharlandjiev</p> <p>director: Mladen Kisselov</p> <p>director: L. Daniel</p>
1978		<p><i>Lazaritza</i> by Y. Radichkov →</p> <p><i>This Little Earth</i> by G. Djagarov →</p> <p><i>January</i> by Y. Radichkov →</p> <p><i>Easter Wine</i> by Konstantin Iliev →</p> <p><i>Bus</i> by Stanislav Stratiev →</p>	<p>'Theatre of Satire', Sofia →</p> <p>National Theatre, Sofia →</p> <p>'Theatre of Satire', Sofia →</p>	<p>director: Ml. Kisselov</p> <p>director: Ml. Kisselov</p> <p>director: Ml. Kisselov</p>
1980	<p>Arts' development encouraged by national policy</p>			<p>Leon Daniel director of <i>Easter Wine</i></p> <p>'MOVEMENT' (Pantomime group Velyo Goranov)</p> <p>Burgas: Nedyalko Yordanov, director</p>

1981		<i>The She Cannibal</i> by Ivan Radoev <i>The Buffalo</i> by Ivan Radoev	→	National Theatre	→	director: Ml. Kisselov
1982		<i>Trying to Fly</i> by Y. Radichkov <i>Miracle</i> , I. Radoev <i>Escape</i> , Mihail Velichkov <i>Mata-Hari</i> , N. Yordanov	→	at the Yale Repertory Company, New Haven, USA. director: Ml. Kisselov		
1983				Radio drama develops a series of feature programmes: Marin Galovski		
1985		<i>The Odyssey: a Voyage to Ithaca</i> by Konstantin Iliev <i>Folklore and Magic</i> (puppets) by Bonio Lungov <i>The Key</i> , by Kalin Iliev	→	in Pazardzjik	→	director: Leon Daniel
1986	Historical subject matter used to deal with contemporary issues	<i>Piesi</i> , Nikolai Haitov, <i>The Balkans Syndrome</i> , St. Stratiev (show, story telling)	→	Theatre of Satire, Sofia	→	director: Ivan Dobtchev
		<i>The Odyssey</i> by Konstantin Iliev	→	Theatre of Satire, Sofia	→	director: I. Dobchev
1987		<i>Nirvana</i> , Konstantin Iliev <i>Gonzago's Murder</i> by Nedyalko Yordanov		New Puppet Festivals are developed: – Plovdiv (miniatures) – Pleven – Smolyan (children) (20 professional companies across the country)		
1988	Restructuring and change caused, in the theatre, by the collapse of the Soviet Union	<i>That Thing</i> by Hristo Boychev <i>The Hedgehog</i> (Taralej) by Ivan Radoev <i>Levski's Last Supper</i> by Stefan Tzanev	→	National Theatre, Sofia	→	New experimental companies emerge in Sofia, Plovdiv, and Pazardjik director: A. Shopov
1989	Beginning of a political, social and cultural crisis 10 November: Fall of the Communist regime	<i>The Fireplace</i> , Margarit Minkov <i>Mammoth</i> , Stanislav Stratiev		SFUMATO (=AIR) created as 'Chamber Theatre–Studio Sfumatato' by two directors:	→	Margarita Mladenova and Ivan Dobchev

Dates	Historical, National Events	Plays and Playwrights	Companies, Theatres and Towns	Actors and Directors
1990	Beginning of a period of 'Sturm und Drang' (→ 1992) in the Bulgarian theatre: drastic budget cuts (→ 1992) affecting the 'Youth Theatre' and the 'National Theatre' and many provincial theatres	<p><i>Requiem</i> by Petar Marinkov, staged in 'Sofia' Theatre</p> <p><i>Red Wine for Farewell</i> by Konstantin Iliev →</p>	<p>Recurrent cancelling of shows, throughout the country, due to lack of audiences →</p> <p>at the Army Theatre →</p> <p>Creation of a small City Theatre, 'Beyond the Canal', by Borislav Chakrinov (director) and Rousi Chaney (actor)</p>	Nédyalko Yordanov, director, Renaissance Theatre, Sofia director: L. Daniel
1991		<p><i>The Bulgarian Model</i> by Stanislav Stratiev</p> <p><i>Miracle, I. Radoev</i> →</p> <p><i>Regional Hospital</i> by Hristo Boychev</p> <p><i>The Sin Called Kutzar</i> by Yordan Yovkov</p>	<p>staged at 'Beyond the Canal' We, <i>The Sparrows</i>, Puppet Theatre, text by Radichkov, 'Perpetuum Mobile' (Katya Petrova)</p> <p>at 'SFUMATO', →</p> <p>First Festival of independent theatre troupes (1992); private theatres from Sofia: 'Dialogue', 'Alternative', 'Manufacture', 'La Strada', etc. . . .</p>	<p>director: Leon Daniel</p> <p>directed by Ivan Dobchev</p>
1992	Theatres are autonomous, no more quota of Bulgarian plays required	<p><i>Trying to Be Different</i>, St. Stratiev, staged →</p> <p><i>The Sin Called Zlatii</i> by Y. Yovkov →</p>	<p>at 'Beyond the Canal' (Zad Kanal) at 'SFUMATO' →</p>	director: M. Mladenova

1993	The audience finds its way back to playhouses (low prices)	<p>Other Types of Exercises by Stanislav Stratiev</p> <p>Crazy Grass by Yordan Radichkov →</p> <p>There Is Something Rotten in Denmark by Nedyalko Yordanov →</p> <p>The Falling of Icarus, Y. Radichkov →</p> <p>Upi by Ivan Radoev</p> <p>Free Birds of God by N. Yordanov →</p>	<p>at 'SFUMATO',</p> <p>'Renaissance Theatre', Sofia</p> <p>at 'STUMATO'</p> <p>'Renaissance Theatre', Sofia</p>	<p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p>	<p>director by M. Mladenova</p> <p>director: Ivan Dobchev</p> <p>New generation of actors: Tedi Moskov Zdravko Mitkov Boyko Bogdanov Professor Vassil Stefanov, director of the National Theatre, he encouraged interesting experimentations in the famous building</p>
1994		<p>The Rise and Fall of Stefan Stambolov by Stefan Tzanev →</p> <p>Blueberry Silence by Yana Dobreva</p> <p>The Ball of the Snakes by Kalin Iliev</p> <p>The Shoes by Dimitar Zlatinov</p>	<p>Army Theatre</p> <p>Radio Drama creates a prize 'Radio Workshop' (The Good-Natured Grass Snakes by Y. Radichkov)</p> <p>Most of the major playwrights contribute (e.g., St. Stratiev: <i>On the Other Side</i>)</p>	<p>→</p>	<p>director: Nikolai Lambrev</p>
1996		<p>When Painters Meet About their Painting, M. Minkov</p> <p>Good-Bye, We'll Meet Again in Another Life by N. Yordanov →</p> <p>The Voyeurs by Dimitar Zlatinov →</p> <p>Nirvana by Konstantin Iliev</p> <p>The Winter Habits of Rabbits by Stanislav Stratiev</p> <p>→</p> <p>Kutzular or Wolf's Madonna by Konstantin Iliev →</p>	<p>'Sulza i Smyah' (Tears and Laughter), Sofia</p> <p>National Theatre, Sofia</p> <p>'Theatre of Satire', Sofia</p> <p>National Theatre, Sofia</p>	<p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p>	<p>New generation of directors: Galina Stoev Alexander Morfov</p> <p>director: M. Mladenova</p> <p>director: Pl. Markov</p> <p>director: I. Dobchev</p>

Dates	Historical, National Events	Plays and Playwrights	Companies, Theatres and Towns	Actors and Directors
1997	April: New elections, a new government led by the Democratic Forces Party	<p><i>John's Secret Gospel</i>, St. Tzanev (performed in Ruse and Pazardzjik)</p> <p><i>Colonel Bird</i> by Hristo Boychev</p> <p><i>Sand Puzzle</i> by Yana Dobreva</p> <p><i>Feast in Time of Democracy</i> by St. Tzanev</p> <p><i>The Village at the End of the World</i> by Nedyalko Yordanov</p>	<p>A group of vanguard theatres emerge 'Elisabeta Bam', Boyko Bogdanov at its head</p> <p>'Surrealist Theatre', organized by Vuzkresia Vihurova</p> <p>at 'Theatre 199', Sofia</p> <p>Theatre 'Sofia'</p> <p>in: Iambol, Gabrovo, Pleven, Vidin, Pazardzjik</p>	<p>Kamen Donev, actor at the Army Theatre</p> <p>director: Nikolai Poliakov</p>
1998		<p>Death of Margarit Minkov</p> <p><i>Pay Attention</i> by Kamen Donev</p> <p><i>Tiresias</i> by Kiril Merdjansky</p> <p><i>The Bed-Wetter</i> by Kalin Iliev</p> <p><i>The Whore</i> by Ana Petrova</p> <p><i>Everyone Covets his Neighbour's Wife</i> by Ana Petrova</p>	<p>at 'La Strada', Sofia (one of the first private theatres)</p> <p>at 'SFUMATO'</p> <p>Puppets companies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshop 313 - Theatre Credo - Perpetuum Mobile - Theatre Si - Training Theatre - Stark Training Theatre <p>'Kouklar I' prize created by the Union of Bulgarian Artists (Puppetry)</p>	<p>director: Ivan Dobchev</p>
1999			<p>A total of 56 repertory theatres spread throughout the country. (Drama and puppet theatres)</p>	



Minorities in Bulgaria