



Mihail Vasile Timofti (in some sources M. Timofte) (19.09.1948, Chisinau – 10.11.2023, Chisinau [Kishinev]) was a director, actor, professor, screenwriter, novelist, and musician. He held the honorary title of "Master of Arts," two gold medals, and the "Eugeniu Ureche" award. He began his career as an actor in 1965 and as a director in 1971. He was a notable representative of the culture of the Republic of Moldova.

Between 1971 and 2023, he was **the first and only director** from the Republic of Moldova who, throughout his career, actively promoted the operetta genre both in Moldova and abroad, also participating as an actor in his operetta productions in Romanian, English, and Russian, achieving full houses and remarkable success.

Master M. Timofti directed numerous operettas, notably "Die Fledermaus" ("The Bat") (Romanian and English versions – where he served as director and played the role of Frosch) and "The Merry Widow" (where he was both director and played the role of Negus). These operettas were successfully performed in Moldova as well as internationally, with other operettas directed by M. Timofti abroad also achieving success.

Between 1990 and 2023 the first and only opera director from the Republic of Moldova who, during his years of activity, staged a musical performance for children, with children playing the main roles and singing live (students of the "Ciprian Porumbescu/Eugen Coca" Music High School in Chişinău) – the opera Peter Pan by L. Profeta. This show was performed every Sunday for several months in a fully packed National Opera and Ballet Theater in Chişinău and was recorded by National Television.

Between 1967 and 2016, M. Timofti represented the Republic of Moldova in the arts in various countries, including the United Kingdom (all cities), Ireland, Romania, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Switzerland, and Russia, as a director and actor. Since 2016, his productions continued to tour internationally with different theater troupes, achieving success on various stages worldwide without his presence.

As a **director**, M. Timofti filmed approximately 40 documentary and musical short films and also staged around **60 dramatic performances, theatrical concerts, musicals, operettas, and operas.**

As a **theater and film actor**, he performed around **20 roles.**

As a **screenwriter**, he wrote approximately **6 scripts.**

As a **novelist**, he authored **7 novellas.**

As a **composer**, he created the music for the production "Dreams and Troubles", for which he received a gold medal in 1967 and another for his lead role in the same production.

Mihail Timofti **played various instruments**, including the piano, clarinet, flute, piccolo, trumpet, and saxophone. **His productions were performed approximately 10,000 times** on stages worldwide, receiving high acclaim.

Over the decades, he actively contributed not only to the arts but also to the development of the theater domain as a whole. Through his boundless dedication and efforts, many renowned theater actors in the Republic of Moldova took their first steps on stage under his guidance. Additionally, he proudly stated that many young students embarking on their theatrical journeys considered Maestro M. Timofti a mentor and succeeded in achieving professional excellence thanks to his lessons.

During this time, he not only created and implemented unique projects but also had the honor of collaborating with world-class artists whose names are known and respected across all continents.

His collaboration with global theater and film stars not only enriched Maestro M. Timofti's professional activity but also elevated the standards of the Moldovan national theater to international levels. Working hand-in-hand

with such legends, Mihail Timofti aimed to contribute to the development of art, making it more accessible and comprehensible to a wide audience without compromising depth and professional content.

Mihail Timofti paid **special attention to the development of operettas, musicals, and operas in the Republic of Moldova**. He regarded them as important elements of **cultural heritage** and tools for drawing young people to the theatrical arts.

REPERTOIRE

As a Director (Productions)

He directed approximately 40 documentary and musical short films, among which we mention:

- Filmul "Livezile intensive ale Moldovei"
- Film-portret Veronica Mihai "Cântecele mele"
- Film muzical de scurtmetraj "Covoarele moldovenești"
- Film muzical de scurtmetraj "Un cadou de nuntă"
- Filmele "Moldova Sovietică №1; №5-6; №8; №9"
- Filmul "Deputatul sovietului raional"
- Filmul "Ostașul e totdeauna-i ostaș"
- Filmul "Luminând calea altora – ard singur"
- Filmul "Ritmuri tomnatice"
- Filmul "Izvoarele"
- Filmul "A reîntoarce omul"
- Filmul "Natura vie și moartă a ținutului natal"
- Filmul "Securitatea muncii și ocrotirea depozitelor producției chimice"
- Filmul "Mecanizarea atelierelor de cusătorie"
- Filmul "Cahuleni"
- Filmul "Călătoria începea în Chișinău"
- Filmul "Remorcă ,TVS-2'"
- Filmul "Bicicleta ,Saliut'"
- Filmul "Haine de tricotaj"
- Filmul "Magnitola ,Tomi'"

He also directed dramatic performances, theatrical concerts, musicals, operettas, and operas:

- Spectacol dramatic "Macbeth" de W. Shakespeare
- Musical "Onomastica motanului Leopold" de B. Saveliev (*The first staging of the opera in the Soviet Union*)
- Musical "Comorile căpitanului Flint" de B. Saveliev
- Spectacolul de revistă "Ediție specială"
- Opera "Manon Lescaut" de G. Puccini
- Opera comică "Dorotea" de T. Hrennikov
- Opereta "Regele Valsului" de J. Strauss
- Musical "Donna Lucia" de O. Felțman
- Opereta "Silva" de E. Kálmán
- Opereta "Contele Luxembourg" F. Lehár
- Opereta "Povestea Soldățelului de Plumb" de D. Capoianu
- Opereta "Mam'zelle Nitouche" de F. R. Hervé
- Musical "Fantezie de Crăciun" de M. Timofti
- O seară de operetă "Ball-Surpriză" de M. Timofti
- Opera "Peter Pan" de L. Profeta
- Opera "Lucia di Lammermoor" de G. Donizetti

- Opereta "Rose-Marie" de R. Friml și H. Stothart
- Opera "Othello" de G. Verdi
- Concert teatralizat "În memoriam Tamara Alioșina-Alexandrova (1928-1996)"
- Opera "Carmen" de G. Bizet
- Opera "Aida" de G. Verdi
- Opereta "Liliacul" de J. Strauss (*versiunea engleza*)
- Concert Jubiliar - Ioan Paulencu (70 ani)
- Concert teatralizat "Dor de Eminescu" de M. Timofte
- Opera "Trubadurul" de G. Verdi
- Opereta "Văduva veselă" de F. Lehár
- Opereta "Liliacul" de J. Strauss (*versiunea română*)
- Musical "Rațușca cea Urâtă" de I. Covaci

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Actor

As a **theater and film actor**, he played approximately **20 roles**, among which we mention:

- Musical "Visuri și necazuri" de M. Timofte — Take
- Spectacol dramatic "Serghei Lazo" de G. Timofte — ordonat
- Spectacol dramatic "Jertfa" de G. Timofte — ofițer român
- Spectacol dramatic "Dragoste cu bucluc" de G. Timofte — Nicolae
- Filmul "Lăutarii" de E. Loteanu — Vasile
- Vodevil "Pețirea Husarului" — Husar
- Spectacol dramatic "Moartea lui Tudor Ioan" — Boierul Cleșnin
- Spectacol dramatic "Suflete moarte" de N. Gogol — Nozdriov
- Spectacol dramatic "Macbeth" de W. Shakespeare — Macbeth
- Musical "Onomastica motanului Leopold" de B. Saveliev — motanul Leopold
- Opereta "Liliacul" de J. Strauss — Frosch (*versiunea engleză*)
- Opereta "Văduva veselă" de F. Lehár — Neguș
- Opereta "Liliacul" de J. Strauss — Froș (*versiunea română*)

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Screenwriter

- Film-portret Veronica Mihai "Cântecele mele"
- Film muzical de scurtmetraj "Covoarele moldovenești"
- Film muzical de scurtmetraj "Un cadou de nuntă"
- Musical "Fantezie de Crăciun"
- O seară de operetă "Ball-Surpriză"
- Concert teatralizat "Dor de Eminescu"

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Composer

- Musical "Visuri și necazuri" (Libretto: G. Timofte)

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Author of Novellas

- Nuvela "Întâlnirea"
- Nuvela "Izvorul"
- Nuvela "Destinul"
- Nuvela "Călătorii îndrăgostiți"
- Nuvela "M-A-M-A"
- Nuvela "Dragoste destinată"
- Nuvela "Pian cu coadă"

Teatrul Național de Operă și Balet "Maria Bieșu", Chișinău

DIRECTOR, ACTOR

(2019 – 2023, *invitat special*); (1990 – 2019, *angajat*)

As a director he staged the following shows:

- 1990 - Musical "Rățușca cea urâtă" de I. Covaci
- 1991 - O seară de operetă "Ball-Surpriză" (scenariul și regia artistică - Mihail Timofti)
- 1993 -
 - Opera "Lucia di Lammermoor" de G. Donizetti
 - Opera "Peter Pan" de L. Profetta
- 1996 -
 - Musical "Fantezie de Crăciun" (scenariul și regia artistică - Mihail Timofti)
 - Concert teatralizat "În memoriam Tamara Alioșina-Alexandrova (1928-1996)"
- 1997 - Opera "Carmen" de G. Bizet
- 2005 - Opera "Aida" de G. Verdi
- 2006 - Opereta "Liliacul" de J. Strauss (*versiunea engleză*)
- 2010 - Concert Jubiliar - Ioan Paulencu (70 ani)
- 2012 -
 - Concert teatralizat "Dor de Eminescu" (scenariul și regia artistică - Mihail Timofti)
 - Opereta "Văduva veselă" de F. Lehár
- 2013 -
 - Opera "Trubadurul" de G. Verdi
 - Opereta "Liliacul" de J. Strauss (*versiunea română*)
- 2014 - Musical "Rățușca cea urâtă" de I. Covaci

As an actor he played the roles of:

- 2006 - **Frosch** la Opereta "Liliacul" de J. Strauss (*versiunea engleză*)
- 2012 - **Neguș** la Opereta "Văduva veselă" de F. Lehár
- 2013 - **Froș** la Opereta "Liliacul" de J. Strauss (*versiunea română*)

Academia de Muzică, Teatru și Arte Plastice (AMTAP), Chișinău

Profesor universitar - Clasa de Operă, Arta Teatrală (*angajat*)

(2014-2017)

Turnee – Moldova, România, Spania, Portugalia, Marea Britanie, Irlanda, Germania, Elveția, Rusia (*a vizitat toate orașele din Marea Britanie cu spectacole*)

Some productions were specifically made for tours in the UK and Germany.

REGIZOR, REGIZOR COORDONATOR ȘI ACTOR

(1967 – 2016). *Since 2016, the maestro's productions have continued to tour with different theater troupes in his absence, achieving success on various stages around the world.*

- Musical "Visuri și necazuri" de M. Timofti (*muzica și rolul lui Take*)

- Musical "Onomastica motanului Leopold" de B. Saveliev (*Prima montare în Uniunea Sovietică*) (*regia artistică și rolul Motanului Leopold*)
- Musical "Comorile căpitanului Flint" de B. Saveliev (*regia artistică*)
- Opera comică "Dorotea" de T. Hrennikov (*regia artistică*)
- Opereta "Regele Valsului" de J. Strauss (*regia artistică*)
- Musical "Donna Lucia" de O. Felțman (*regia artistică*)
- Opereta "Silva" de E. Kálmán (*regia artistică*)
- Opereta "Contele Luxembourg" F. Lehár (*regia artistică*)
- Opereta "Povestea Soldățelului de Plumb" de Dumitru Capoianu (*regia artistică*)
- Opereta "Mam'zelle Nitouche" de F. R. Hervé (*regia artistică*)
- Opereta "Rose-Marie" de R. Friml și H. Stothart (*regia artistică*)
- Opera "Lucia di Lammermoor" de G. Donizetti (*regia artistică*)
- Opera "Carmen" de G. Bizet (*regia artistică*)
- Opera "Aida" de G. Verdi (*regia artistică*)
- Opereta "Văduva veselă" de F. Lehár (*regia artistică și rolul lui Neguș*)
- Opera "Trubadurul" de G. Verdi (*regia artistică*)
- Musical "Rățușca cea urâtă" de I. Covaci (*regia artistică*)
- Opereta "Liliacul" de J. Strauss (*versiunea engleză*) (*regia artistică și rolul lui Frosch*)
- Opera "Madama Butterfly" de G. Puccini (*regizor coordonator*)
- Opera "Nabucco" de G. Verdi (*regizor coordonator*)
- Opera "Tosca" de G. Puccini (*regizor coordonator*)
- Opera "Traviata" de G. Verdi (*regizor coordonator*)
- și altele...

Teatrul muzical "N. Leonard" (*în prezent Teatrul Național de Operă și Operetă "Nae Leonard"*), Galați

REGIZOR (*invitat special*)

(1992-1993)

- Spectacolul de revistă "Ediție specială"
- Opereta "Mam'zelle Nitouche" de F. R. Hervé

Teatrul Liric (*în prezent Teatrul Național de Operă și Balet "Oleg Danovski"*), Constanța

REGIZOR (*invitat special*)

(1991), (1999)

- Opereta "Povestea Soldățelului de Plumb" de Dumitru Capoianu
- Musical "Fantezie de Crăciun" (*scenariul și regia artistică*)

Teatrul dramatic rus de stat "A. P. Cehov", Chișinău

REGIZOR (*invitat special*)

(1991)

- Musical "Comorile căpitanului Flint" de B. Saveliev

Teatrul muzical din Tomsk-7, Seversk

REGIZOR (*invitat special*)

(1989-1990)

- Musical "Comorile căpitanului Flint" de B. Saveliev
 - Opera comică "Dorotea" de T. Hrennikov
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Teatrul de Comedie Muzicală, Saransk

PRIM REGIZOR ȘI DIRECTOR ARTISTIC (*angajat*)

(1987-1988)

- Opereta "Regele Valsului" de J. Strauss
 - Opera comică "Dorotea" de T. Hrennikov
 - Musical "Donna Lucia" de O. Felțman
 - Opereta "Silva" de E. Kálmán
 - Opereta "Contele Luxembourg" F. Lehár
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Teatrul Național "Mihai Eminescu", Chișinău

REGIZOR (*invitat special*)

(1986)

- Musical "Onomastica motanului Leopold" de B. Saveliev
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Conservatorul de Stat "Gavriil Musicescu", Chișinău

Conducător de curs la Actori la Facultatea: Comedie Muzicală – Catedra: Pregătirea de operă (*angajat*)

(1985-1987)

Teatrul de Comedie Muzicală, Orenburg

REGIZOR (*invitat special*)

(1984-1985)

- Musical "Onomastica motanului Leopold" de B. Saveliev (*Prima montare în Uniunea Sovietică*)
 - Opereta "Rose-Marie" de Friml și Stotgardt
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Studioul "Moldova - Film", Chișinău

REGIZOR (*angajat*)

(1973-1981)

ASISTENT DE REGIZOR (*angajat*)

(1971-1973)

A montat circa 40 filme documentare și muzicale de scurt metraj printre care menționăm:

- Filmul "Deputatul sovietului raional" (1975)
- Filmul "Ostașul e totdeauna-i ostaș" (1975)
- Filmul "Luminând calea altora – ard singur" (1976)
- Filmele "Moldova Sovietică №1; №5-6; №8; №9" (1976-1981)

- Filmul "Ritmuri tomnatice" (1977)
- Filmul "Izvoarele" (1977)
- Filmul "Călătoria începea în Chișinău" (1977)
- Filmul "Cahuleni" (1977)
- Filmul "Magnitola „Tomi”" (1977)
- Filmul "A reîntoarce omul" (1978)
- Filmul "Natura vie și moartă a ținutului natal" (1978)
- Filmul "Livezile intensive ale Moldovei" (1978)
- Filmul "Haine de tricotaj" (1978)
- Filmul "Securitatea muncii și ocrotirea depozitelor producției chimice" (1979)
- Film muzical de scurtmetraj "Covoarele moldovenești" (1979)
- Film muzical de scurtmetraj "Un cadou de nuntă" (1979)
- Filmul "Remorcă-TVS-2" (1980)
- Filmul "Bicicleta „Saliut”" (1980)
- Filmul "Mecanizarea atelierelor de cusătorie" (1981)
- Film-portret Veronica Mihai "Cântecele mele" (1983)

În calitate de actor:

- Filmul "Lăutarii" de E Loteanu — Vasile (1972)

Teatrul popular "Contemporanul", Chișinău

ACTOR ȘI COMPOZITOR (*invitat special*)

(1965-1971)

- Musical "Visuri și necazuri" de M. Timofti — (*muzica scrisă și rolul lui Take*)
- Spectacol dramatic "Serghei Lazo" de G. Timofte — ordonat
- Spectacol dramatic "Jertfa" de G. Timofte — ofițer român
- Spectacol dramatic "Dragoste cu bucluc" de G. Timofte — Nicolae

PRESS RELEASE / MASS-MEDIA

Erau publicate multe articole despre M. Timofti printre care menționăm:

- "...Mihail Timofti was not only an extraordinary opera theater director but also an architect of emotions, an inspired leader, and a visionary in the truest sense of the word. A diplomat of emotions and an unmatched storyteller on stage, Mihail Timofti impressed and captivated the audience with his memorable productions. Each of his works was an artistic journey, an exploration of the depths of the human soul, and an illustration of the beauty of music in symbiosis with stage expression." (*The National Theater of the Opera and Ballet "Maria Bieșu", Chișinău 14 November 2023*)
- "...Why do we like Mihai Timofti? His productions are original, they meet the demands of contemporary times, and the resolution of the performance is based on musical dramaturgy and the composer's main idea..." (*FamousWhy Ro, 2013*)
- "...Alfredo and Eisenstein went off to the clink where Mihai Timofti, far more comic and confident than Yuri Stamatii's inaudible lawyer, Dr. Blind, was a joy as the bumbling and drunk jailor who orchestrated the final theatrics under falling stars..." (*Cumberland News Website, 7-th December 2006*)
- "...It is seldom that a nonsinging role steals the limelight, but that was exactly what Mihai Timofti did as the drunken jailor Frosch. His was a demonstration of comic timing at its best..." (*The Courier & Advertiser, 23 November, 2006*)

- "...Mihai Timofti as Frosch, the prison warden, is a good comic turn..." (*Edinburgh Evening News*, 17 November, 2006)
- "...Special mention must also be made of Mihai Timofti as Frosch: to sustain a long solo comic scene such as that in Act III is difficult enough, but to do it in a foreign language and still get the audience laughing is quite a feat..." (*Sunderland*, Peter Lathan, 2006)
- "... – My dear, I should like to tell you about the performance as a whole. The vision of the Director (M.Timofti) is modern, the scenography is up-to-date and generally speaking all the performance is contemporary. The text remained the same, the music is the same, but everything is read in a new fashion. We must strive forward. It is a beautiful performance, I liked it very much, it is staged well. The audience liked it very much, applause proves that..." (*From the interview with the soloist of the N. Leonard Galats Musical Theatre, Margareta Chiss of the first night of the operetta "Mademoiselle Nitouche" by Herve, Romania, "Viata libera", the 13th of January, 1993.*)
- "...The children's performance "The Ugly Duckling" is played for the 32nd time on the stage of the Moldavian Theatre of Opera and Ballet. The house is full. It is the last day of autumn vacation, and kiddies came to celebrate the occasion. And the festival took place...The fairy-tale in a new attire was presented to the children by the actor of most difficult genre - the opera... Wonderful are godsend of the performance Director Mihail Vasilevich Timofti. We hope that in his person we are blessed with an interesting, talented, ingenious professional who will gladden us with new performances..." (*"Independent Moldova"*, the 14th of November, 1991.)
- "...The first night of the performance "Dorothea" is being prepared in the Theatre of Musical Comedy. The production is realized by Director M. Timofti invited from Kishinev...The big full-length canvases with a large-scale dramatic art where the chorus and ballet are involved draw the Director. The comedy of sword and cloak "Dorothea" by T. Hrennikov become such a canvas... And the most important thing that is worth mentioning here is the fact that M. Timofti stages the performance in comedia del arte traditions. The main things here are hyperbole, grotesque. It is a great occasion, a merry carnival, the characters in the play are in masks, before our eyes they work wonders of acting... The complexity of work with "Dorothea" consists in diverging from the traditional style of operetta performing because this style would frustrate the concept of the lyrico-grotesque force conceived by the Director..." (*"The Red Banner"*, the 21st of February, 1990.)
- "...A new performance "Captain Flint's Treasures" by composer B. Saveliev appeared on the stage of the Tomsk Theatre of the Musical Comedy ... The contact with the spectator is complete and unreserved, it is also favoured by the stage effects devised by the performance Director Mihail Timofti... In a word, the performance is impressive ... The debut on the Tomsk stage proved to be successful. (the first night, the 2nd of January, 1990.)..." (*"The Red Banner"*, the 23rd of January, 1990.)
- "... Remarkable is the performance "Donna Lucia" by O. Feltsman . There is an attractive feature in "Donna Lucia" . The performance is dynamic and energetic. One can feel an experienced director hand. (The stage-director is M. Timofti), a vivid manner of performing, the bright sounding of orchestra (the conductor is N.N. Klinov)..." (*"The Velikolukskaya Pravda"*, the 15th of September, 1988.)
- "...The spectators will see and hear the lyric operetta "The King of the Waltz" opening the theatre tour. The Head Director of the theatre M.Timofti staged it... The performance is created in romantic art tradition and it revives the brilliant character of Strauss ... This year the first night of the comic opera "Dorothea" by Hrennikov took place. This optimistic performance, where the vivid, festive music is heard, lit in a new fashion the professional level of the cast. (Director of the performance - M.Timofti, Artist - L.A. Alexeeva, Conductor - N.N. Klinov, Ballet-master - O.P. Egorov)..." (*"The Velikolukskaya Pravda"*, the 1st of September, 1988)
- "...In September 1987 the first night of the lyrico-dramatic operetta "The King of the Waltz" by J.Strauss in the Saransk Theatre of Musical Comedy (Mordovia) staged by the Head Director of the theatre M. Timofti took place. "...the premiere show of "The King of the Waltz" was sold out for every performance both in Sterlitamak (Bashkir ASSR) and in Zlatoust (Cheliabinsk region) ..." (*"The Soviet Mordovia"*, the 27th of September 1987.)

- "...Mihai Timofti started the career of the musical theatre director in the Orenbourg Theatre of the Musical Comedy being still the student in the 4th year of the N.A. Rimsky-Korsakov Leningrad State Conservatoire. Here "... he was the first in the country ..." to bring about the staging of the children`s musical Cat Leopold`s Birthday by Saveliev. "...the performance turned out to be interesting, resourceful, with many stage director`s godsend..." (*"The South Ural", December 1984.*)

STUDIES

Conservatorul de Stat N. A. Rimski-Korsakov, Leningrad

DIRECTING OF MUSICAL THEATER (*specialization*)

(1985) a absolvit extern

Lucrări de curs

Actorie:

- Spectacol dramatic "Moartea lui Tudor Ioan" — Boierul Cleșnin
- Spectacol dramatic "Suflete moarte" de N. Gogol — Nozdriov
- Vodevil "Pețirea Husarului" — Husar
- Spectacol dramatic "Macbeth" de W. Shakespeare — Macbeth

Regie:

- Opera "Manon Lescaut" de G. Puccini
- Spectacol dramatic "Macbeth" de W. Shakespeare
- Opera "Othello" de G. Verdi

Conservatorul de Stat "Gavril Musicescu", Chișinău

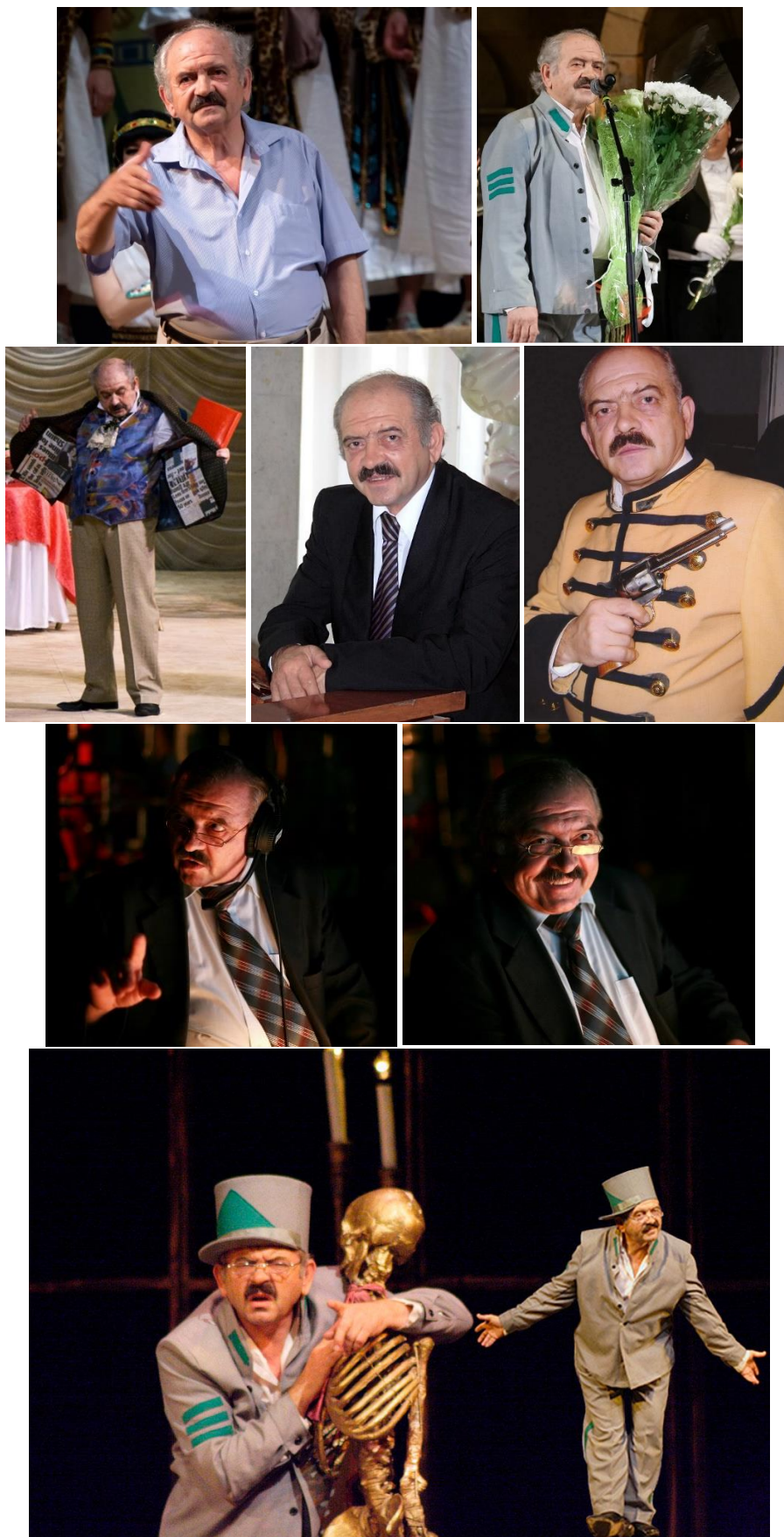
DIRECTING DRAMA (*specialization*)

(1971) a absolvit

PERSONAL LIFE

- **Second wife:** Evghenia (3 April 1986 - 10 November 2023), widow
 - **Children:** son Eugen (1990) and adopted son Vladimir (1984)
- **First wife:** Zinaida (31 August 1967 - 12 August 1983), divorced
 - **Children:** daughter Cezara (1970)

PHOTO GALLERY



The Virtual Museum of Mihai Timofti (*Official Facebook Page*): [Facebook.com/MihaiTimofti](https://www.facebook.com/MihaiTimofti)
 Novellas and the autobiographical book: Book.METimofti.com
 Video – M. Timofti in the role of Frosch, Negush, Doc. Film, song in memory etc.: [YouTube.com/TimoftiArt](https://www.youtube.com/TimoftiArt)