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Spomen

("Memory")
Bulgaria : 1973 : dir. : ? min
prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:
[Ivan Arshinkov](#)
Adult cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω 8 € M ☼	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
5820	1.5	1	1	571	3 - - - -	No	Unseen



The exquisite cruelty of piano lessons for small boys Source: The Moving Picture Boy

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Arshinkov:

"The finest movies of the frail, sensitive little Arshinkov were written by those princes of Bulgarian scenarists, the "brothers Mormarev" – not brothers at all, in fact, but old friends and collaborators (Marko Storychev and Moritz Yomkov) whose delectable but different senses of humour have combined to produce some of the world's subtlest and funniest scripts for children. Their tales ("HEDGE-HOGS", "CHILDREN AT THE SEASIDE") are moral in the best sense, with lessons learnt through laughter, not preaching.

In "THE WIND OF TRAVEL" Ivan played a little peasant boy who one day bids farewell to the buffalo he tends, and sets out alone to discover the world and what it means to be a man. "MEMORY" pitted him against a piano and a piano-teacher."

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "Bloomsbury Foreign Film Guide", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. Shades of "THE 5,000 FINGERS OF DR. T". The following year the Marmorevs scripted a portmanteau film for children "[IZPITI PO NIKOE VREME](#)" ("Exams at Any Old Time") which had an episode about a boy who inveigles another one to take his violin lessons for him, and all goes well until his parents – so impressed with the glowing reports from his music tutor – arrange a public performance for him. Oo-er! – as they used to say in children's comics.

Bulgaria produced a string of interesting titles for or about children in the Seventies, none of which were ever seen here outside of film festivals, and children's TV producers have always been too lazy and complacent to find room for foreign language material in their scheduling. The active presumption has been that even older children in Britain will not read subtitles, while dubbing is not cost effective. Since subtitled children's films from the continent have never been shown on British children's television, I don't know quite what evidence they base that conclusion upon. It seems even more specious now that English is a second language to a sizable percentage of the UK population, children included. One might have hoped that the vast video rental market would have provided an alternate outlet for this sort of material, but the buyers for these chains seem to operate on the same presumption, and foreign language titles are confined to the "art cinema" bracket.

Arshinkov was 10. The archive files titles under their original language, so see "VYATURUT NA PUTESHESTVIYATA" ("The Wind of Travel", 72), "[S DECA NA MORE](#)" ("With Children at the Seaside", 71) and "[TARALEZHITE SE RAZHDAT BEZ BODLI](#)" ("Porcupines are Born Without Bristles", 70).

See subject index under **COMEDY**, [EASTERN EUROPE / SOVIET BLOC](#) and **MUSIC / YOUNG MUSICIANS** (including reluctant ones).