

From the Archive of Konstantin Iliev: Unpublished Transcripts of Discussions 1951 – 1954. Aspects of Disputation

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The article examines two unpublished documents, key to the construction of the totalitarian canon of socialist realism: the transcript of the review meeting on the First Symphony by Konstantin Iliev in 1951 and the minutes of the meeting of the State Symphony Orchestra of the city of Stalin (present day Varna), dedicated to the first performance of the Concerto for String Orchestra by Lazar Nikolov and the Second Symphony by Konstantin Iliev in 1954. The transcript of the Meeting and discussion between members of the Union of Composers and Aram Khachaturian and Arkady Filippenko, held in 1952, is also examined. Seventy years later, these documents reveal the complex dissonances that accompanied, and perhaps isolated, the path of Bulgarian twelve-tone modernism. The transcribed thoughts raise questions and identify symptoms. In all their authenticity, the testimonies of the heated discussions demonstrate the determination and the difficult path of the founders of Bulgarian New Music.

Keywords: *formalism, socialist realism, Bulgarian twelve-tone music, ideological canon, parallax*

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