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people relations

nollendorfstrasse 1
10783 berlin

0049 178 653 35 60

mailme@jozopr.com
www.jozopr.com

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Theater

Samuel Finzi

Actor

While still a student at the State Theater and Film Academy in Sofia, Samuel Finzi performed in his first theater and film roles. This brought him into contact with directors who have made a significant impact on European theater and film. In the theater, he has worked with directors such as Benno Besson, Dimitar Gotscheff, Dušan David Pařízek, Frank Castorf, Jürgen Gosch, Luc Bondy and Robert Wilson. In film, his work with Kamen Kalev, Lola Randl, Marie Noëlle, Michael Glawogger, Oliver Hirschbiegel, Oskar Roehler, Peter Popzlatev, Robert Schwentke, Sönke Wortmann and Til Schweiger as well as the title role in the crime series 'Flemming' have extended his popularity to an even wider audience. Very early on, Samuel Finzi developed an extraordinary talent for being able to alternate naturally and quickly between a variety of genres and media.

He has been honored repeatedly for his multifarious, brilliant performances, including with the Gertrud Eysoldt Ring for Outstanding Acting Achievement, the Golden Chest Award as best male actor at the International Television Festival Plowdiw, and the Berlin Theater Prize. In 2015 he was honored for his outstanding acting performance by the renowned theater magazine Theater Heute as 'Theater Actor 2015' and in 2016 with the German Actor award as 'Best Actor in a Comedy'. Alongside his countless engagements at all of the important German language theaters such as the Burgtheater in Vienna, Deutsches Theater Berlin, Schauspielhaus Hamburg, Schauspielhaus Zurich, Thalia Theater Hamburg and the Volksbühne in Berlin, Samuel Finzi acts in many film and television productions. He has captivated audiences in sophisticated series like 'Allmen', 'Bone Palace', 'Haus der Träume' ('House of Dreams'), 'Helgoland 513' and 'Tatort' as well as in popular successes such as 'Das Wunder von Bern' ('The Miracle of Bern'), 'Klassentreffen' ('Class Reunion'), 'Snake Eyes: G.I. Joe Origins' and the 'Kokowääh'- film series, as well as in independent films such as 'The Captain', 'Die Erfindung der Liebe' ('The Discovery of Love'), 'Fritz Lang', 'Herrliche Zeiten' ('Splendid Times'), 'Marie Curie', 'One Life', 'Seneca' and 'Tod den Hippies!! Es lebe der Punk!' ('Death to Hippies!! Long Live Punk!'). Samuel Finzi has an extraordinary ability to transform. Time and again, the actor shapes his figures as smart, associative character studies, which bear witness to a detailed and intelligent acting intuition. Audiences appreciate his intense images of human motivation that almost crave transformation and his effortless precision when performing.

His dramatic inventiveness and complexity, as well as his resourcefulness are recognized by directors as much as they are celebrated by the press. Samuel Finzi's performances are permeated by a special dramatic intelligence that he uses to bring his figures to life. Time and again, with his detailed illustrations of human behavior, he extends the limits of acting. In so doing, he is driven by the search for the expression of a truthfulness of the human moment.

Samuel Finzi works as an actor in Europe and lives in Berlin.

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Theater

- * - 2026
 - Der Auftrag | 'The Assignment' - Heiner Müller
as Player
Javor Gardev | Staatstheater Cottbus | Germany
 - The Bacchae - Euripides
as Tiresias
Javor Gardev | Athens Epidauros Festival and National Theater
Sofia | Bulgaria and Greece
- * - 2025
 - Play Auerbach! - Avishai Milstein
as Philipp Auerbach
Sandra Strunz | Münchner Kammerspiele | Germany
- * - 2024
 - The Merchant of Venice - William Shakespeare
as Shylock
Javor Gardev | National Theater Sofia | Bulgaria
- * - 2008
 - Diary of a Madman - Nikolai Gogol
as Poprishchin
Hanna Rudolph | Deutsches Theater Berlin | Germany
- 2024
 - Playing with Love - Arthur Schnitzler
as Hans Weiring
Anna Stiepani | Landestheater Linz and Salzkammergut
Festwochen
Gmunden | Austria
- 2024 - 2018
 - A Horse Walks into a Bar - David Grossmann
as Avishai Lazar and Dovele Grinstein
Dušan David Pařízek | Deutsches Theater Berlin, Salzburger
Festspiele and Wiener Burgtheater | Austria and Germany
- 2023 - 2021
 - Zdeněk Adamec - Peter Handke
as Zdeněk Adamec
Dušan David Pařízek | Divadlo Na Zábradlí Prag | Czech Republic
- 2023 - 2016
 - Power and Resistance - Ilija Trojanow
as Konstantin Scheitanow
Dušan David Pařízek | Schauspiel Hannover and Deutsches
Theater Berlin | Germany
- 2020 - 2017
 - The Maids - Jean Genet
as Claire
Ivan Panteleev | Deutsches Theater Berlin | Germany
- 2020 - 2014
 - Waiting for Godot - Samuel Beckett
as Vladimir
Ivan Panteleev | Deutsches Theater Berlin and
Ruhrfestspiele Recklinghausen | Germany
- 2017 - 2015
 - Die Nashörner | 'Rhinoceros' - Eugène Ionesco
as Jean
Frank Hoffmann | Ruhrfestspiele Recklinghausen and
Théâtre National du Luxembourg | Germany and Luxembourg

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2016 - 2015	Peer Gynt - Henrik Ibsen as Peer Gynt Ivan Panteleev Deutsches Theater Berlin Germany
2016 - 2010	Krankenzimmer Nr. 6 'The Hospital Room Ward No. 6' - Anton Chekhov as Andrej Efimyc Dimitër Gotscheff Deutsches Theater Berlin Germany
2016 - 2006	The Persians - Aeschylus as Xerxes and Messenger Dimitër Gotscheff Deutsches Theater Berlin Germany
2016 - 2013	Dali vs Picasso - Fernando Arrabal Terán as Picasso Frank Hoffmann Théâtre National du Luxembourg Luxembourg
2015 - 2013	Don Juan Comes Back from the War - Ödön von Horváth as Don Juan Luc Bondy Berliner Ensemble Germany
2015 - 2008	A Night at the Movies Evening of Song with Samuel Finzi and Band Deutsches Theater Berlin Germany
2015 - 2005	Ivanov - Anton Chekhov as Ivanov Dimitër Gotscheff Volksbühne Berlin Germany
2014 - 2012	Der Trinker 'The Drinker' - Hans Fallada as Erin Sommer Sebastian Hartmann Maxim Gorki Theater Berlin and Schauspielhaus Leipzig Germany
2013 - 2005	Philoktet - Heiner Müller as Neoptolemos Dimitër Gotscheff Volksbühne Berlin Germany
2012	Infinite Jest - David Foster Wallace in Various Roles Matthias Lielienthal Hebbel Theater Berlin Germany
2012	Shakespeare. Spiele für Mörder, Opfer und Sonstige Shakespeare. Plays for Murderers, Victims and Others' - Frank Günther, Heiner Müller, Manfred Wekwerth and Thomas Brasch in Various Roles Dimitër Gotscheff Deutsches Theater Berlin Germany
2011 - 2010	Consider the Lobster - David Foster Wallace Solo Evening Ivan Panteleev Volksbühne Berlin Germany
2011 - 2010	The Man Without a Past Aki Kaurismäki in Various Roles Dimitër Gotscheff Deutsches Theater Berlin Germany

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2009 - 2008	King Ubu - Alfred Jarry as Ubu Dimitër Gotscheff Volksbühne Berlin Germany
2009 - 2007	Anatomie Titus Fall of Rome - Ein Shakespeare Kommentar 'Anatomy Titus Fall of Rome - A Shakespeare Commentary' according to William Shakespeare by Heiner Müller Dimitër Gotscheff Deutsches Theater, Berlin Germany
2008 - 2006	Drei Sterne suchen einen Koch 'Three Stars in Search of a Cook' Ivan Panteleev in Various Roles Ivan Panteleev Deutsches Theater, Berlin Germany
2008	Das Pulverfass 'The Powder Keg' - Dejan Dukovski in Various Roles Dimitër Gotscheff Deutsches Theater Berlin Germany
2007	The Bat - Johann Strauss as Alfred Michael Thalheimer Deutsches Theater Berlin Germany
2007	Selbstmörder 'Suicides' - Nikolaj Erdmans as Podsekjalnikov Dimitër Gotscheff Volksbühne Berlin Germany
2006	The Grande Bouffe - Marco Ferreri as Philippe Dimitër Gotscheff Volksbühne Berlin Germany Volpone - Ben Johnson as Volpone Dimitër Gotscheff Deutsches Theater Berlin Germany
2006 - 2005	Amphitryon - Heinrich von Kleist as Amphitryon Stefan Bachmann Deutsches Theater Berlin Germany
2005 - 2002	The Lieutenant from Inishmore - Martin McDonagh as Padraic Dimitër Gotscheff Burgtheater Vienna Austria
2004	McTeague - Frank Norris as Zerkov Frank Castorf Volksbühne Berlin Germany Zocker 'Gambler' - Fyodor Dostoyevsky in Various Roles Johan Simons Volksbühne Berlin Germany

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- 2003 Black Battles with Dogs - Bernard-Marie Koltès
 as Alboury
 Dimitër Gotscheff | Volksbühne Berlin | Germany
- Platonov - Anton Chekhov
 as Mikhail Vasiljevich Platonov
 Dimitër Gotscheff | Schauspielhaus Frankfurt | Germany
- 2002 Amphitryon - Heinrich von Kleist
 as Sosias
 Jürgen Gosch | Schauspielhaus Hamburg | Germany
- Auf dem Weg zur Hochzeit | 'To the Wedding' - John Berger
 in Various Roles
 Brigitte Landes | Schauspielhaus Hamburg | Germany
- Königsberg - Andrei Nekrasov
 as Vlad
 Andrei Nekrasov | Volksbühne Berlin | Germany
- 2001 Pulverfass | 'Powder Keg' - Dejan Dukovski
 in Various Roles
 Dimitër Gotscheff | Steirischer Herbst and Schauspielhaus Graz | Austria
- 2000 - 1999 Phèdre - Jean Racine
 as Theramenes
 Werner Schroeter | Schauspielhaus Bochum | Germany
- 2000 - 1998 Blue in Blue - George Gershwin
 in Various Roles
 Stefan Moskov | Thalia Theater Hamburg | Germany
- 2000 - 1997 House No. 13 - Anton Chekhov
 in Various Roles
 Stefan Moskov | Thalia Theater Hamburg | Germany
- 2000 - 1997 Germania 3. Gespenster am toten Mann | 'Germania 3. Ghosts
 on Dead Man' - Heiner Müller
 as Stalin
 Dimitër Gotscheff | Schauspielhaus Hamburg | Germany
- 1999 - 1996 Time Rocker - Robert Wilson and Lou Reed
 in Various Roles
 Robert Wilson | Thalia Theater Hamburg | Germany
- 1999 Don Quixote - Miguel de Cervantes
 in Various Roles
 Dimitër Gotscheff | Jahrhunderhalle Bochum | Germany
- St. Joan of the Stockyards - Bertolt Brecht
 as Mauler
 Benno Besson | Schauspielhaus Zurich | Switzerland
- King Lear - William Shakespeare
 as Kent
 Dimitër Gotscheff | Schauspielhaus Hamburg | Germany

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1997 - 1993	The Seagull - Anton Chekhov as Kostja Dimitër Gotscheff Schauspielhaus Köln Germany
1996 - 1994	A Month in Dachau - Vladimir Sorokin in Various Roles Dimitër Gotscheff Schauspielhaus Düsseldorf Germany
1996	On the Big Street - Anton Chekhov as Borzov Dimitër Gotscheff Thalia Theater Hamburg Germany The Glass Slipper - Ferenc Molnár in Various Roles Jürgen Flimm Thalia Theater Hamburg Germany Die Stunde da wir nichts voneinander wussten 'The Hour Since We Didn't Know Anything About Each Other' - Peter Handke in Various Roles Jürgen Gosch Thalia Theater Hamburg Germany The Threepenny Opera - Bertolt Brecht as Smith Katharina Thalbach Thalia Theater Hamburg Germany
1995	Das weite Land 'The Vast Domain' - Arthur Schnitzler as Portier Jürgen Flimm Thalia Theater Hamburg Germany The Cherry Orchard - Anton Chekhov as Carlotta and Firs Dimitër Gotscheff Schauspielhaus Düsseldorf Germany Swan Songs - Anton Chekhov in Various Roles Stefan Moskov Schauspielhaus Düsseldorf Germany
1994	Calligula - Albert Camus as Cherea Werner Schroeter Schauspielhaus Köln Germany Die Straßenecke 'The Street Corner' - Hans Henny Jahn in Various Roles Dimitër Gotscheff Thalia Theater Hamburg Germany Woyzeck - Georg Büchner as The Apprentice Dimitër Gotscheff Schauspielhaus Düsseldorf Germany
1992	Leonce und Lena - Georg Büchner as Büchner Dimitër Gotscheff Schauspielhaus Düsseldorf Germany
1991	Hermaphroditus - Ivan Stanev in Various Roles Ivan Stanev Hebbel Theater and Mickery Theater Amsterdam Germany and Netherlands

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1990

Performance and Punishment - after Fyodor Dostoyevsky
in Various Roles
Ivan Stanev | Hebbel Theater and Eurokaz Festival Zagreb |
Germany and Croatia

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Awards

2016	German Actors Award for Best Actor in a Comedy 'Worst Case Scenario'
2015	Gertrud Eysoldt Ring for Outstanding Acting Achievement Theater Heute Prize as Actor of the Year for 'Waiting for Godot'
2011	Bambi Best Film National for 'Männerherzen und die ganz ganz große Liebe' 'Mens' Hearts and the Very Very Big Love Best Actor at the Skena Up Theater Festival Pristina for 'Tagebuch eines Wahnsinnigen' 'Diary of a Madman' German Comedy Prize in the Category Film Comedy for 'Kokowääh' Theater Prize Berlin 2011, Prussian Maritime Trading Foundation, for his entire work in the theater
2010	Best Actor at the MOT Theater Festival Skopje for 'Tagebuch eines Wahnsinnigen' 'Diary of a Madman'
2009	Best Actor at the Mess Theater Festival Sarajevo for 'Ivanov'
2001	Golden Chest, Best Male Performer, International Television Festival Plovdiv, Bulgaria for 'Devil's Tail'
1996	Advancement Award for Dramatic Arts of the city of Düsseldorf for 'Ein Monat in Dachau' 'A Month in Dachau'
1995	Critics' Prize: Best Actor of the Year in Nordrhein-Westfalen for 'The Cherry Orchard' and 'Swan Songs'
1994	13th Theater Festival NRW: Prize for Best New Actor for 'The Seagull'
1993	Critics' Prize for Best New Actor in Nordrhein-Westfalen for 'The Seagull'