

THE CANADIAN-AUSTRIAN SOCIETY OF TORONTO

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PATRON:
The Ambassador of Austria

8 March 2011

Dear Members and Friends:

We have received many comments on the Ball Austria 2011, all of which were extremely positive: "Best ever", "Wonderful", "Great Atmosphere" and other compliments! Our thanks go to all of you who attended and made it such a special and successful event. The only drawback on a success of this kind is, that we will have to think long and hard to come up with ideas to make it even better next year!

You have probably all by now heard that one of Austria's most beloved and renowned citizens, Peter Alexander, passed away on February 12, 2011 at the age of 84. Like no other, Peter Alexander put his mark on the German speaking entertainment and television scene as an actor and entertainer. The charming actor/singer kept generations of the TV public entertained as one of its constants on Saturday night shows.

His obituaries are full of superlatives but some of them are just a little more "Peter Alexander" than others. For instance to quote one "To find a photo in which he does not laugh or smile is almost impossible. Even in moments of supposed seriousness flashes of the "Spitzbub" character would shine through." Mainly he was an artist and not a product of a popularity-contest. Even when presenting street-ballads ("Gassenhauer") the aura of an artist surrounded him. Peter Alexander was the epitome of a "Wiener Charmeur" and one of the greatest entertainers Austria has ever produced.

From another viewpoint, the magazine "Bild" says of Alexander's young years: "...it was a time in which family and the safety of the home were the greatest happiness. Virtues like hard work and modesty were the driving forces of the reconstruction period after the terrible war. It is not old-fashioned to nurse old virtues and on the occasion of his death it would behoove us all well to remember the values for which Peter Alexander stood." On the other hand, although he would stand before the public in his expensively tailored night-blue suit, which he wore splendidly, he was never distant toward his audience, a charming scoundrel - a Viennese after all! In all aspects he always remained reachable, likable and engaging to his public.

In our next event we want to take the opportunity to remember Peter Alexander in a sparkling and spirited Operetta that is known to us all and is most enjoyable not only for Peter Alexander's presence, but also for the idyllic background of the Wolfgangsee.

Please turn over ...P2

"IM WEISSEN RÖSSL"

DATE: Thursday, March 24, 2011 - 6:45 p.m.

PLACE: The Musket Dining Lounge
40 Advance Road, Etobicoke - Tel. (416) 231-6488

TICKETS: \$5.00 per person administrative contribution, no booking necessary.
Our host will provide a special for dinner and Austrian wines are available.
If you intend to dine prior to the movie please come early so that we can begin the feature film punctually at 8:00 p.m.

Besides Peter Alexander well remembered actors like Karin Dor, Waltraut Haas, Gunther Philipp and Adrian Hoven will contribute to the hilarious mix-ups of the story.

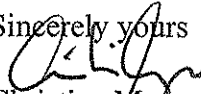
And since we are remembering Peter Alexander, we thought a "Vorspann" of still more Operetta music presented by him and Ingeborg Hallstein would be most appropriate and you will be treated to "Spaziergänge durch das Land der Operette" including some of the best known songs like "Dein ist mein ganzes Herz", "Grüss mir mein Wien", "Komm mit mir ins Chambre Séparée", just to name a few.

OTHER EVENTS

Please note that on Saturday, April 9, 2011 Mr. Manfred Petz will host another **"SINGING TOGETHER"** event with the Edelweiss Choir and the Schola Cantorum, together with six other ethnic choirs. Those of you who have attended one or more of these performances can attest to the enjoyment of such a "Feast of Choral Music from Different Cultures". Please see the enclosed flyer for details and don't miss a beautiful evening.

We have been contacted by Mr. Wolfgang Gappmayer in Austria, who is currently working on completing his late father's comprehensive book project on the history of the Lungau in the Salzburger Land. He would very much welcome any contributions in the form of pictures, photos and/or stories from and about the area which may not be available in the Lungau itself. He is asking whether perhaps one or the other of our members and friends may have something he/she may wish to contribute to his endeavours. If you do, please contact the undersigned and we shall be happy to collect any and all material and forward it to Mr. Gappmayer in due course. If you wish to contact him directly you may do so at his e-mail address wolfgang@gappmayer.at.

See you on the 24th at the "Weisse Rössl"!

Sincerely yours

Christine Meyer
President