

*Programme*

# *Officers' Ball*

January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023



[www.ballderoffiziere.at/en](http://www.ballderoffiziere.at/en)



UNSER HEER



Ladies and Gentlemen,  
distinguished guests of the Officers' Ball!

In my function as Chief of Defence Staff of the Austrian Armed Forces and as President of the alumni association *Alt-Neustadt*, I would like to welcome you to the 74<sup>th</sup> Officers' Ball.

*"Herreinspaziert"* is probably one of the most famous waltz compositions by the Austro-Hungarian military bandmaster Carl Michael Ziehrer, and it is also the motto of this ball evening. After a pandemic-related two-year break, we are pleased to open the doors of Hofburg Palace in Vienna again today and invite you, ladies and gentlemen, to the Officers' Ball.

Ziehrer masterfully builds up tension during the first chimes of his waltz to lead into a lively waltz accompanied by a drumbeat. I hope that you are equally excited about what awaits you at this ball evening.

Following the three-quarter time, Ziehrer strings together a colourful array of melodies – from loud and dynamic to sweet and almost melancholy. We, too, have put together a colourful programme for you, ranging from a festive ball opening, dance music of all styles, the obligatory audience quadrille to a formation dance show. At midnight, we will venture on a musical journey across the Alps, connecting us with tonight's partner nation – the Swiss Confederation.

Even if only briefly, there are also musical breaks in Zieher's Waltz. For your breaks this evening, one of the bars or the *Heuriger* in the basement offers good opportunities to meet old acquaintances or new friends.

And just as *"Herreinspaziert"* comes to an end and fades away, the 74<sup>th</sup> Officers' Ball will punctually come to an end at four o'clock in the morning – far too early – with the taps bugle call.

So enjoy every beat of tonight's ball to buoyantly experience a special composition of Viennese ball culture. I wish you a wonderful evening and look forward to enjoying the ball at the Vienna Hofburg together with you, our esteemed guests.

General Rudolf Striedinger



Bundespräsident  
Alexander Van der Bellen

Dear Guests of the Officers' Ball,

The Alumni Society of the Theresian Military Academy and the officers of the Austrian Armed Forces are proud to host the 74<sup>th</sup> Officers' Ball. This year's motto is "Come and Walz in".

As the Federal President and Commander-in-Chief of the Austrian Armed Forces, I gladly accept the honorary patronage of this traditional and popular ball held in Vienna's Hofburg Palace.

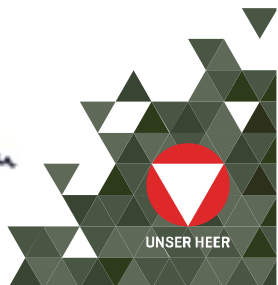
Vienna is famous for its tradition of balls, and the Officers' Ball is one of the season's highlights. It is an ideal venue to meet friends, both Austrian and international, and to enjoy a spectacular evening's entertainment.

Your attendance is evidence of your support and esteem for the Austrian Armed Forces and their Officers.

I would like to thank you for this and would also like to wish all of you an entertaining and unforgettable evening.



*A. Van der Bellen*





# Programm

21:30 hrs

## Opening ceremony

The evening's programme will be presented  
by Mr. Alfons Haider

Opening ceremony in the main ballroom

Opening Fanfare

Entry of the Opening Committee

Entry of the guests of honour

National Anthem, Anthem of Europe

## Show programme "Come and waltz in"

"Sei gepriesen du lauschige Nacht" from the Operetta  
"Die Landstreicher" performed by Mrs. Claire Elizabeth Craig

"The Melodies of C.M. Ziehrer"

presented by the Guards Band Vienna

"Fächerpolonaise" performed by the Opening Committee

"Ninetta Marsch" by Johann Strauss Sohn, op. 447

Dance performance by the Opening Committee

## Welcome address

Welcome address by the Chief of Defence Staff and  
chairman of the "Alt-Neustadt" Alumni Association

Ball opening by the Federal Minister of Defence

## Opening waltz

"Gold and Silver" by Franz Lehár, op. 79  
performed by the Opening Committee and the waltz dance  
chorus of the Dancing School Elmayer



# Programme

24:00 hrs

**Midnight show in the main ballroom**

## Showprogramme

**"From Vienna to Bern",**  
a musical journey

Starring Mrs. Claire E. Craig, Alfons Haider, Else and her  
Strings, the Swiss Sextett "Pfiifestier Appenzell",  
Patrouille Suisse, Ballet "Dance for Dance" and  
the Guards Band Vienna

## Quadrille

Fledermausquadrille op. 363  
by Johann Strauss Sohn op. 363  
Conducted by Dancing School Elmayer

01:30 hrs

## "So tanzt Österreich"

[This is how Austria dances]  
Folk music for dancing  
Zeremoniensaal

02:30 hrs

## Late-Night-Star

Colonel Dietmar Pranter  
Conductor of the Military Band of Carinthia  
Forum

*We broadcast all program items  
from the main ballroom  
to other ballrooms.*





# Music

## **Main ballroom** [after the opening ceremony]

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Guards Ballroom Orchestra and	
Swiss Army Big Band	21:30 – 24:00
[alternating]	00:30 – 04:00

## **Zeremoniensaal** [after the opening ceremony]

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Wiener Walzertraum	22:30 – 04:00
So tanzt Österreich	01:30 – 02:15

## **2. Radetzky-Appartement**

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Jazzduo «Silvana Mock»	22:30 – 24:00
	00:45 – 04:00

## **Metternichsaal** [after the opening ceremony]

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Guards Ballroom Band	bis 24:00 und
	00:45 – 04:00

## **Rittersaal**

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Trio „Primavera“	22:00 – 00:30
	01:30 – 03:45

## **Schatzkammersaal**

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„16er Buam“	23:00 – 04:00
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## **Forum**

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„Made Mixx“	22:00 – 24:00
	01:00 – 04:00
Show HSV Tanzen im Forum	01:00 – 01:15
Late Night Show	02:30



# *Come and waltz in!*

This invitation is not only the name of a well-known waltz composed by the former Military Band Leader C.M.Ziehrer but is also our appeal to all ardent ball visitors!

It is a pleasure to be able to reopen the doors to the Viennese Imperial Palace after the shutdown of our social lives due to Covid-19 and to invite you into our wonderfully elegant historical rooms for a spectacular ball night!

Our hunger for social events, for happy times spent with dear friends, for music and dancing has naturally inspired us ball organizers to offer you a very special evening.

The essence of the ball though remains our classy and with military pomp and gloria polished opening ceremony and the midnight show, characteristic of the traditions of the Viennese Ball culture. We are proud to announce that a Swiss delegation, led by Switzerland's Chief of the Armed Forces, has accepted our invitation to be our guests of honor for this memorable night. The performance during our midnight show involving music and dancing will give you an understanding of the special ties between our countries Switzerland and Austria.





## Wiener Walzertraum [Dance Music in the Zeremoniensaal]



The Ladies have set their goal at holding aloft the Viennese Waltz and Johann Strauss' traditions that go with it. Accordingly, the musical leader, Frau Dorer, is both the conductor and first violin.

The special aura of the Ladies Band "Wiener Walzertraum" comes from specialised training, international concert experience coupled with love of the Viennese music.

## Carl Michael Ziehrer – the keeper of the Viennese Waltz

This year we have chosen the former Military Band Leader, C. M. Ziehrer, as our musical focal point - his heart beat for the Viennese waltz. It wasn't easy, being in the shadow of the great Strauss dynasty but thanks to a successful concert tour during the Boston World Exhibition of 1893 his music found the popularity it deserved.

Time, however, doesn't stand still and the new modern dances that the turn of the century brought in, with their unknown rhythms, hit C. M. Ziehrer hard. Wherever he could he prompted the ballgoers to still include the Viennese waltz, the polka and french polka in their dance programme and not to forget them. This rather conservative approach appealed to Emperor Franz Josef I, and as the Hofkapellmeister [Court Bandleader] was involved in a scandal it fell to C. M. Ziehrer to become the prestigious new Court Director of Music, whose job it was to arrange the music for the famous Court Ball.







### Claire Elizabeth Craig



Show at the Opening Ceremony [21:30 hrs] and at the Midnight Show [24:00 hrs] in the Festsaal

Claire Elizabeth Craig is a young soprano with both Scottish and German roots who also feels very closely connected with the home of her choice – Austria.

As a scholarship student at the Mozarteum University in Salzburg she was a prizewinner on many occasions, including the International Brahms Competition and the International Anton Rubinstein Competition.

She has performed at the Salzburger Festspiele, the Mozartwoche Salzburg, Jeunesse Wien and the Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

In addition to international opera and concert performances, she dedicates her time to chamber music and the interpretation of art songs.

Musically, she feels most at home in Mozart's enormous vocal oeuvre for the soprano voice.

### Else and her Strings



[Midnight show in the Festsaal and at 01:30 in the Zeremonien-saal]

The lovers of original austrian folk music and specifically traditional folk dances can enjoy some of the very best when Mag. Else Schmidt and her ensemble of players and dancers invite you not only to listen but to join in!



### **Band "Pfiffestier"**

Midnight show in the Festsaal

Let yourselves be transcended to the swiss mountains by the Appenzeller Sextett going by the interesting name of the "Pfiffestier". Their specialised yodeling technique will give our ball guests a special greeting. The unconventional name refers to the fact that the singers usually carry a "pipe cleaner" in their trouser pockets when they perform.



### **Swiss Army Big Band**

The Swiss Army Big Band is a high-quality music ensemble that feels at home both with jazz & swing and pop & rock. Eighteen enthusiastic young musicians do their military service in the Big Band, which gives them a fantastic opportunity to demonstrate their extraordinary prowess to a large audience. The band enjoys huge success when it performs both at home and abroad, and is well renowned. Since January 2015 the band has been conducted by band leader Edgar Schmid.





## Lost and Found

Dear ball guests,

if you have lost any items during the ball, be advised that you can pick them up until 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023, 05:00 a.m. in the office of the ball committee in the hall near the main staircase. Items which haven't been picked up by then will be brought to the Central Lost and Found Service of the City of Vienna.

## No-smoking-rule

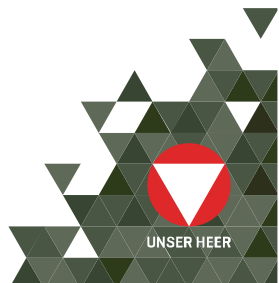
In accordance with § 13 of the Austrian Tobacco Act, Federal Law Gazette No. 431/1995, with the latest amendments, we would like to inform you that smoking is forbidden on the premises of the Hofburg Palace.

The smoking ban applies to all premises of the Hofburg Palace.

We ask for your understanding and thank you for support.

 **SOG | SSO | SSU**

Schweizerische Offiziersgesellschaft  
Société Suisse des Officiers  
Società Svizzera degli Ufficiali





*Officers' Ball 2023*



# *Officers' Ball*

January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Save  
the date!

## **Ball Committee**

Colonel FRISCHEIS Georg

Colonel [ret] LANG Franz

Colonel [ret] EBENBERGER Rudolf

Colonel RAKOWSKY Stefan

Lieutenant Colonel HAID Klaus

Lieutenant Colonel MATZHOLD Markus

Major ABELE Alexander

Captain BROSCH-FOHRAHEIM Gregor

Captain FAUSTIK Christina

Captain KAISER Anna

Captain STRANZ Markus

Lieutenant HELBIG Patrick