

New Fulbright Visiting Professorships Announced

Agreement will bring Austrian scholars to U of M's CLA

by Daniel Pinkerton

On August 10, 2001, the distance between Austria and America got a little bit closer when Steven Rosenstone, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, signed an agreement creating the first Fulbright Visiting Professorships (FVP) at the University of Minnesota.

The FVP, a cooperative venture between the Austrian-American Educational Commission (the Austrian Fulbright Commission) and the University of Minnesota, will bring an Austrian scholar to the university for a semester starting in the 2002-3 academic year. It will rotate between departments. According to Lonnie Johnson, Minnesota-born executive secretary of the Austrian Fulbright Commission, this is perhaps the most unusual and "congenial aspect of the agreement—that it can 'float' from department to department, year to year; from German to history to political science to geography."

The Department of German, Scandinavian, and Dutch will host the first visiting professor in honor, one might say, of the work done by the Center's interim director Gerhard Weiss, professor emeritus of German studies, and James Parente, associate CLA dean and professor of German studies. But the "baby" had many midwives, and they are all quick to credit others.

"The Fulbright Commission started discussing this idea in the fall of 1998," explained Johnson, "and got approval from the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board in Washington, D.C., before approaching Minnesota. Gerhard Weiss picked up on this initiative when he became CAS [interim] director in 1999 and has shepherded it through the insitutional labyrinth in the U.S. with the support of David Good [former CAS director and current chair of history] and Jim Parente." Weiss, while stressing the cooperation of all, emphasized "the active support of Jim Parente in the CLA dean's office" as the key ingredient that led to the actual signing of the agreement.

The initial visitor will offer a course on Austrian literature, theater, or film, but subsequent scholars may come from the social sciences, the humanities, or the arts. As Weiss said, "The emphasis is on Austrian studies in the broadest sense." The initial agreement will run for three years and will be reviewed at that point.

Dean Rosenstone stressed the fact that the FVP would "enrich the intellectual experiences of our students and ensure that the University of Minnesota remains a leading educator of American citizens and future scholars of Austria in the years to come." David Good stressed the fact that this agreement would lead to greater course offerings in his department and others, as well as "exciting opportunities for research collaborations between colleagues here and in Austria." ❖



Present at the birth: Front, l. to r.: Gerhard Weiss, Steven Rosenstone. Back, l. to r.: Gary Cohen, James Parente. (Photo: Tim Rummelhoff.)

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Letter from the Director

This is my first column for the *Austrian Studies Newsletter* as the director of the Center for Austrian Studies. This marks a new beginning for me, and I hope that I can bring some fresh perspectives and new initiatives to the Center. The Center will continue, of course, to fulfill its established mission of serving as a focal point in North America for the multidisciplinary study of Austria and the other Central European lands that share a Habsburg heritage. The Center owes its existence to a generous initial gift of endowment from the Austrian government and people, and it has had a great tradition thanks to the work of Bill Wright and his successors as directors. It also owes much to the late John Rath, the founding editor of the *Austrian History Yearbook*.

The Center propagates scholarship in Austrian and Central European studies to a broad audience and connects scholars, students, and interested community members with scholarly and informational resources in Austria, elsewhere in Central Europe, and Minnesota. Center publications make valuable contributions in this regard. Over the years, the *Austrian History Yearbook* has become an important outlet for new historical research, thanks to the imagination and energy of its recent editors, Solomon Wank of Franklin and Marshall College and, since 1997, Charles Ingrao of Purdue University. Professor Ingrao has had great success in broadening the range of issues treated in the journal and in finding new contributors, and I am pleased that he is continuing his work. He is ably supported by the book review editor, Prof. Catherine Albrecht at the University of Baltimore, as well as an excellent editorial and production team including Kenneth Marks at the Center for Austrian Studies in Minneapolis and the staff of Berghahn Books.

Alongside the *Yearbook*, the *Austrian Studies Newsletter* has come to offer important topical information about research projects, conferences, and new publications in Austrian and Central European studies from around the world as well as reports on the activities of the Center

in Minnesota. I join its indefatigable editor Dan Pinkerton in welcoming reports and contributions from scholars everywhere.

The Center for Austrian Studies has established a strong tradition of sponsoring major international symposia, seminars, and public lectures in Minnesota. It has also assisted scholarly groups such as the Society for Austrian and Habsburg History and other colleges and universities in organizing and sponsoring conferences, symposia, and panels at major scholarly conventions. In past years the conferences and seminars have addressed a range of topics in the humanities and social sciences. I hope to continue and extend the interdisciplinary reach of those programs in order to attract an even broader audience. During the 2001-2 academic year our major symposium, "Nationalist Myth and Pluralist Reality in Central Europe," will take place 25-27 October in Edmonton and will be cosponsored with the Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies at the University of Alberta (see program on p. 7). The topic of our spring miniconference has not yet been determined, but John W. Boyer, professor of history and dean at the University of Chicago, will deliver the Kann Memorial Lecture. We are also assisting Professors Heide Fehrenbach, Dirk Schumann, and James Melton at Emory University in mounting a conference, "Redefining the Nation in Europe: Germany and Austria, 1945-2000," 11-13 April 2002 in Atlanta. In the same week, Frank Trommler and his colleagues in the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Pennsylvania will hold a conference, "Austrian Writers Confront the Past, 1945-2000," in Philadelphia, again with assistance from CAS.

As for future interdisciplinary international symposia at the University of Minnesota, the topics I am proposing for the next few years include "The Environment and Development in the New Central Europe: Austria and Her Neighbors" and "Remaking the City in the Central European Baroque: Comparative Perspectives on Urban Development and Architecture."

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Some of you—actually, I hope all of you—may have noticed something different about the last issue of the *Austrian Studies Newsletter*. If you couldn't quite figure it out, just go place it next to an old issue (if you still have one). Yes, it's bigger—not thicker, *bigger*. The page size has been increased from 8.5 x 11 to 9 x 12.

Why did we create the new "giant economy size" *ASN*? To increase market share? Hardly! It's still the only magazine of its kind, and CAS still gives it away. The decision was made for two reasons: readability and room for content.

To make *ASN* more readable, we've upped the type size from 9 to 10 points, and the increased page size gives us a little more room for white space. Of course, this has to be balanced with the opportunity to print a little more content (which, believe it or not, this seemingly small size increase does afford us). And of course we have the opportunity to print graphics that have that much more impact, since they can be larger.

It costs a little more—costs us, not you!—but we think it's worth a lot more. We hope you enjoy the new, roomier, more powerful *Austrian Studies Newsletter*.

Daniel Pinkerton

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We also have a subscription form at our website.

The Center for Austrian Studies is an independent unit of the College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota.
The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

News from the Center



Austrian Airlines

renews CAS discount program

by Daniel Pinkerton

Heading to Europe to do research? You just may be able to get there a little more cheaply and comfortably. After a hiatus of several years, Austrian Airlines (AUA) has revived their discount program for friends of the Center for Austrian Studies.

There will be one important change. You will not call AUA directly to make reservations. An experienced travel agent, Brian Aho, will be handling the program. As Aho explains it, students, scholars, or any *ASN* readers will have to e-mail him or call his toll-free number and identify themselves as being allied with the Center for Austrian Studies. "They must request the discount in this fashion, or I won't be able to give it to them." He also adds that the discount is off of regular fares, not reduced fares, such as the ones AUA offered during a sale in early 2001.

"This discount is meant to give a break to researchers, conference attendees, and others who can't qualify for some of our special promotions," explained AUA account executive Michael Dodd, who was instrumental in negotiating a new agreement. "For example, educators or graduate students who can only get away during the summer—high season—can take advantage of this program."

According to Dodd, both the lapse and the renewal of interest can be attributed to a change in AUA's business allies. They are currently part of the Star Alliance, which includes United, Lufthansa, SAS, Lauda,

Tyrolean, British Midland, Singapore, Mexicana, Air New Zealand, All Nippon, and Varig. "Our former domestic affiliate was not interested in marketing to the Center. United is, and they have a strong presence in all three cities where AUA has gates."

Travelers who call Aho will be able to book a flight from the nearest airport served by a Star Alliance airline and get a discount for the entire trip, not just the AUA gate to Europe portion. And though Vienna is AUA's hub, they serve cities all over Central and Eastern Europe, so if you're heading for archives and libraries in Budapest or Prague, Austrian Airlines is a great choice. The amenities and service on their transatlantic flights is superb.

As if all this wasn't enough incentive, AUA is also reviving its tradition of in-kind donations to CAS. Every flight taken on the AUA-CAS discount program will earn points toward free fares that we can award to students and scholars. You don't have to be going to the archives—you can qualify for the discount and help the Center even if you're simply going to the Vienna Opera. It really is a program that has enormous potential to benefit Austrian Studies.

Brian Aho can be reached at Travelmore Carlson Wagonlit, 200 NW 6th St., Brainerd MN 56401. His toll-free phone number is 800-417-9138, his fax number is 218-825-9551, and his e-mail is travel@brainerd.net.

AUA and CAS both hope you find this program helpful. *Gute Reise!* ❖

Minnesota Calendar

1 OCTOBER. *Public lecture.* Hans Winkler, head of the Legal Office, Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. "A Search for Justice: Austria, the Holocaust, and the Issues of Assets Recovery and Forced Labor Compensation." 2:00 P.M., Room 15, Law Center.

16 OCTOBER. *Public lecture and discussion.* Peter Moser, Austrian ambassador to the United States. "The EU, Austria, and the Impact of the EU on the United States." 3:30 P.M., Wilkins Room, 215 Humphrey Center.

1 NOVEMBER. *Seminar.* Michael Cherlin, School of Music, University of Minnesota. "Gurrelieder: Arnold Schoenberg's Reluctant Farewell to the Nineteenth Century." 3:30 P.M., Ford Room, 710 Social Sciences.

8 NOVEMBER. *Seminar.* Patrizia McBride, German, University of Minnesota. "Who Needs Politics? Jörg Haider's Freedom Party and the Concept of the Political." 3:30 P.M., Ford Room, 710 Social Sciences.

29 NOVEMBER. *Seminar.* Matt Berg, History, John Carroll University. "Surviving Liberation in Post-Nazi Austria: Patronage and Everyday Life in the Social Democratic Milieu." 3:30 P.M., Ford Room, 710 Social Sciences.

ACF prize deadline: coming right up!

Travel funding for research isn't that easy to come up with. But if you're a North American citizen or permanent resident who published a monograph or defended a dissertation between 1 January 2000 and 31 December 2001, you are eligible for the Austrian Cultural Forum Prizes for best book and dissertation on Austrian Studies. Publishers, colleagues, and the authors themselves may nominate a work. Categories no longer alternate; nominated works may be from any discipline. Send three copies of each nominated dissertation or book to: Chair, ACF Prize Committee, Center for Austrian Studies. (Address on page 2.)

Deadline: 31 January 2002.

Anton Pelinka

and the brave new world of Austrian politics

by Daniel Pinkerton

If you look at Anton Pelinka's amazingly thick curriculum vitae, you immediately notice two things. First, he is amazingly prolific, having published hundreds of articles and a large list of books, several of which have been translated into English and other languages. Second, he is not content to stay in the comfortable groves of academia, but has contributed to public discourse through his journalism, political essays, and television appearances (the latter have drawn the ire of the current governing coalition) and has served on Austrian and EU commissions and bodies, giving generously of his time to serve the public. In the latter role Pelinka was the Austrian representative to the European Monitoring Center on Racism and Xenophobia, located in Vienna, from its founding in 1998 until last year. Before that he represented Austria in the Center's forerunner, the European Commission on Racism and Xenophobia, located in Brussels, from its founding in 1994. His EU work has also caused controversy in Austria. Perhaps one should add: Third, Anton Pelinka is not afraid of conflict.

Pelinka was the first professor of political science at the University of Innsbruck and built Austria's leading department from scratch. He has lectured and taught at Harvard, Stanford, the University of Chicago, and other institutions. This fall he is a visiting professor at the University of Michigan. But last spring he graciously accepted our invitation to deliver the Robert A. Kann Memorial Lecture, "Austrian Exceptionalism," in April 2001. The address was thoughtful, eloquent, and did not shy away from controversy. The following interview, conducted the next day, displays the same qualities.

ASN: *In your talk about Austrian exceptionalism, you mentioned that at this particular time Austria is not an ideal partner in terms of alliances within the European Union (EU). What has happened? Hasn't Austria been an integral player in the EU?*

AP: There was always an expectation that Austria could become an important bridge to East Central Europe. Austria joined the EU in 1995; at that time, I was serving on the commission that eventually became the EU monitoring center. Everybody in Brussels talked to me, saying, "You Austrians will be very helpful and important for bringing in the postcommunist democracies of East Central Europe because you have such a history of central European cooperation." But after Austria got into trouble with its EU partners in 2000, it didn't look like such an attractive ally for a future EU member. Why should Slovenia or Hungary look to Austria as a mentor to help smooth the way into the EU? Austria was isolated from February to September 2000 due to the diplomatic boycott, and Austria still has to face opposition and hostility. This makes our country a risky partner for any possible alliance within the EU or for any future EU members.



ASN: *What's your opinion of the boycott? Do you think it's a good thing that it has been lifted?*

AP: Well, at the last Portuguese summit in June 2000 it became obvious that the fourteen boycotting nations were trying to find a way out. It was inevitable that the three wise men would have to advise the members to lift the boycott.

ASN: *Who are the three wise men?*

AP: The three wise men were appointed by the chief justice of the Appeals Court for Human Rights after the EU fourteen asked him to appoint three men to a commission that would write a report on the human rights situation in Austria and on the nature of the Freedom Party. This report was the basis for the lifting of sanctions in September 2000, and it summarizes what the isolation and boycott were all about. On the one hand, the report says that Austria doesn't have a specifically negative human rights record, that it is within the European

mainstream. In this respect, Austria is no different from the other EU members. On the other hand, the report says that the Freedom Party is a party that should be observed because it uses some right-wing populist rhetoric plus extremist rhetoric and because in many respects the Freedom Party is not comfortable with the rule of law, and they gave examples to back up this assertion. They concluded that the sanctions were productive in the beginning but could become counterproductive because they were provoking anti-European feelings in Austria. For that reason the sanctions should be lifted. It was, of course, a summary that was convenient for everybody. It was a very political summary. It was face saving for everybody, even for Austria.

ASN: *Do you think it was a mistake for the fourteen EU members to impose the sanctions in the first place?*

AP: No, I don't. But I must stress that the EU 14 were fourteen different actors with different motivations. Most of them were thinking of their own domestic politics, but others felt that France and Germany wanted so strongly to take action that they could not abstain. However, they were trying something completely new. The EU 14 had never before acted as members of a federation, saying, "We are a club. And as club members, we need to tell another club member if he has a problem." And because there was no procedure for a case like this, the actions of the EU 14 provoked some controversy. At the Nizza summit in December 2000 the EU decided that a procedure must be formulated for future cases. There is one in place now; this can be called a positive outcome of the sanctions. The Austrian case also led to a rethinking of certain standards within the EU, and that was good, too.

ASN: *You spoke about the long tradition of the Freedom Party (FPÖ), which is many things to many people in Austria, and you talked about the historical antecedents for it, e.g., the Pan-German Party. Let's*

examine it as a phenomenon.

AP: The Freedom Party in the 1990s is a combination of a modern or even postmodern catchall party—what some have called most Americanized Austrian party—with a very long tradition, which is sometimes overlooked. This tradition goes all the way back to Austrian Pan-Germanism, which also includes the period of the Austrian Nazi Party because the Pan-German camp went over the Nazi party in 1930s. Many people don't realize that the FPÖ was founded at the beginning of 1956 by rather prominent former Nazis. Some of them were not even able to participate at the foundation of the League of Independence in 1949 because there were *Schwerbelastete*, meaning they were so prominent in the hierarchy of the Nazi Party that they didn't have voting rights in 1949, even though most rank and file Nazis did. So the Freedom Party is, at its core, the continuation of the Austrian Nazi Party. In this respect, Austria is unique. There is no significant German party that can be called the continuation of German Nazism.

ASN: *But denazification in the rest of Europe allowed, for example, former members of France's Vichy government to become citizens and even politicians. Didn't this happen in Germany?*

AP: No. There was an extreme right-wing party, the Socialist Reich Party, which was outlawed in 1953. This could be called a continuation of the Nazi party. But in West Germany, the political system was much stricter about fighting such parties. Now in Austria, when the FPÖ was founded in 1956, there were two other traditional parties: the Austrian Socialist Party (SPÖ) and the Austrian People's Party (ÖVP). From the very beginning they tried to compete for the favor of the FPÖ. In 1957 the ÖVP, together with the Freedom Party, whose chairman was Renthaler, a former SS general, nominated a common candidate for the presidency, who lost. But later the SPÖ under Kreisky was very successful at building strategic alliances with the FPÖ, and out of this strategic alliance the FPÖ successfully changed its image to that of a more centrist, mainstream, European liberal party. In 1978 the Freedom Party was accepted as a member of the Liberal International—and here, of course, “liberal” does not mean leftist, it means centrist. To be fair, the FPÖ got this image partly because of a generational change—the post-Nazi generation took over the Freedom Party—but also because its alliance with the SPÖ successfully made people forget its Nazi roots. This changed when Haider, who opposed both the alliance with the SPÖ and the liberal attitude of the Freedom Party, became chairman in 1986. You might say he brought the Freedom Party back to its roots. The FPÖ lost its membership in the Liberal International and became completely isolated in both Europe and Austria for at least a decade. On the federal level, the FPÖ, despite becoming stronger from election to election, was strategically completely isolated in Austria. Its break through came in 1999, when it broke through this new isolation and became a partner in a strategic alliance—this time with the ÖVP—once more.

ASN: *To be successful, the FPÖ had to broaden its appeal beyond old Nazis and Nazi sympathizers, and even fearful xenophobes. How has it tried to win votes?*

AP: The Freedom Party can be called a catchall party. Austrian Pan-Germanism couldn't be the backbone of a party with more than 5% of the vote. Austrian Pan-Germanism, meaning all these traditional organizations—dueling fraternities and so on—could not support a large, powerful party, nor could a party concentrated on Nazi sympathizers win a significant percentage of voters. The FPÖ is a continuation of Nazism and Austrian Pan-Germanism, but it is clearly much more than that. Its success is a combination of different factors. The major factor is not so much the FPÖ itself but the breakdown of the old party loyalties and the breakdown of old political culture in Austria. You could call it a secularization of politics. Most Austrians from birth belonged

to a political and ideological subsystem—either to the Catholic conservative camp or the socialist camp, with a small minority in the Pan-German camp. This traditional camp mentality started to break down in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Among the younger generation, Austrians in the 1980s and 1990s were free of these traditional loyalties. This background also explains the success of the Greens in establishing themselves as the fourth largest party in Austria. Because the FPÖ was much less linked to this tradition of consensus democracy, of political cartel, and of *proporz*, it could, despite being a very traditional party, successfully position itself as an outsider. In addition, the FPÖ drew strength from the new cleavage between modernization winners and modernization losers. The Freedom Party became the party of the young and the modernization losers. In the past it had been a much more bourgeois party, but now it became a blue collar party. Therefore, the Nazi undercurrent is not responsible for Haider's success. It's a protest of the modernization losers, who are afraid of the future. This is where antimigration and xenophobic sentiments come from. The modernization losers are afraid of migration, of foreigners coming to Austria, of Europeanization, of EU enlargement. All of these fears have been successfully exploited by the Freedom Party.

ASN: *To what extent is the FPÖ dependent upon Haider's personal charisma and political savvy? Without him, how would it fare?*

AP: Haider's role is very similar to the role of other leaders of right-wing populist parties. A charismatic leader is important, particularly for holding disparate party members together, making them forget about rhetorical contradictions. For example, on the one hand the FPÖ favors fewer government regulations while, on the other hand, it strongly defends entitlements of the of the so-called “gentleman of the street,” the poorer segments of society. This contradiction is built into Haider's strategy. As long as Haider is fair and as long as he is successful at bridging all his contradictions, the Freedom Party can succeed. Without him, the Freedom Party would probably fall back to 5 or 10% of the vote, the party's size before Haider took over.

ASN: *Does the success of Haider represent the dumbing down of Austrian politics? If you had, say, a socialist with a similar ability to crank out a sound bite, would she or he be as successful?*

AP: Not until 2000, because what the Austrian system really lacked was political change. It's a problem for democracy if a party like the SPÖ is in power for thirty years. It was a time for a change, and ironically, without Haider the change might have come much earlier. Haider was the only alternative to Social Democratic dominance and yet the SPÖ was only able to mobilize enough votes to remain the number one party because of Haider. You might say it was a perverse coalition between the SPÖ and Haider. Someone from the governing party could not have been able to be as successful as Haider was; he was the opposition, against the system, against the old politics.

ASN: *How successful will the SPÖ will be in the outsider's role?*

AP: The first results of regional elections after the new government was established in February 2000 were not so bad for the SPÖ. They did very well in the chamber of labor elections. They didn't do well in Styria, but they did better than expected. Their showing in the Burgenland and especially in Vienna also exceeded expectations. And the results were even better for the Greens. So, the two opposing parties have been more successful than the two governing parties. The ÖVP didn't do badly, either—it didn't slip as much as the FPÖ. So, once again, the opposition has been a little more successful than the party in power, although it's been only one year, and nobody can really say if this will still be true two years from now.

continued on page 9

CALL FOR PAPERS:**THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW CENTRAL EUROPE: AUSTRIA AND ITS NEIGHBORS**

19-21 September 2002, University of Minnesota



Photo: Heinz Slupetzky

The sweeping political, economic, and social changes that have taken place in Central Europe since 1989 have created a host of challenges for societies and governments in Austria and the neighboring countries. Particularly critical are questions of the environment as they relate to the quality and character of everyday life, sustainable economic development, and changes in popular values and mores. The challenges of the environment and sustainable development have exacerbated old problems and created new ones for the governments of the individual countries, for the relations between Austria and its neighbors, and for the region's relations with the rest of Europe and the international community.

The Center for Austrian Studies at the University of Minnesota in cooperation with other colleges, departments, and research centers at the university will sponsor an international, multidisciplinary symposium on the environment and sustainable development in the new Central Europe from 19-21 September 2002 on the Twin Cities campus of the University of Minnesota. Proposals for papers will be welcomed from scholars in the social sciences, humanities, environmental studies, and public policy studies. Papers should address the economic, political, social, and/or historical dimensions of issues facing Austria and her neighbors in the following general areas:

- protection and regulation of air and water quality, waterways, groundwater, wetlands, and forests;
- mineral resource use and sustainable development;
- energy supplies and sustainable development;
- development of transportation and communication infrastructures;
- general policy debates in national, regional, and European governmental bodies regarding the environment and sustainable development in Central Europe;
- continuities and changes in the popular, intellectual, and artistic representations and images of the natural environment, environmental change, and economic development;
- the impact of environmental issues and concerns on business strategies for Central European commerce and industry.

At the end of this symposium the Center for Austrian Studies and other units of the University of Minnesota will offer a half-day program of workshops and presentations for commercial and industrial interests on recent developments concerning the environment and sustainable development in Austria and Central Europe and how they affect the business climate for domestic and foreign firms.

Proposals for papers on other issues relating to the environment and sustainable development in Austria and Central Europe will also be considered. The Center for Austrian Studies hopes to publish selected papers from the conference in revised, expanded form.

Send a title, a one-page précis of the paper, and a curriculum vitae of the presenter to Prof. Gary B. Cohen, Director, Center for Austrian Studies, University of Minnesota, 314 Social Science Building, 267 19th Avenue S., Minneapolis MN 55455. E-mail: gcohen@umn.edu, Tel: 612-624-9811, Fax: 612-626-9004.

Director from page 2

Over the years the Center for Austrian Studies has also played a significant role in the educational mission of the University of Minnesota, and I shall work to strengthen those functions as well. We hope to expand our program of providing travel support to selected undergraduate and graduate students for study and research. The Minnesota Department of History is now positioned to strengthen its program of doctoral training in modern Austrian and Central European history with course offerings by David Good and myself, complemented by teaching on modern Germany by Mary Jo Maynes and Eric Weitz and on Russia and Southeastern Europe by Theo Stavrou and Thomas Wolfe. Course offerings on Austria and Central Europe at Minnesota will be additionally enhanced by a new agreement just signed with the Austrian-American Educational Commission to bring a Fulbright lecturer from Austria to the Twin Cities campus for one semester each year beginning in 2002-3 (see article on page 1). In future years, I hope that we can also bring visiting faculty to the university from other Central European countries. The Center has also contributed over the years to the community outreach functions of the university. With the support of faculty in geography, art history, economics, business administration, and music, as well as history, I believe that the Center can do even more than before to offer the Minnesota public topical presentations dealing with Austrian and Central European politics, business and economic development, and the arts, including visual arts, music, cinema, and literature.

I cannot close without expressing my hearty thanks to Gerhard Weiss for returning from retirement to serve with great dedication as interim director of the Center for Austrian Studies and to David Good for stepping in again as executive editor of the *Austrian History Yearbook* during the last two years. It has always been the aim of the directors and staff of the Center for Austrian Studies to offer a broad academic and general public with a diverse range of activities. We can only succeed with much advice and assistance from many friends. The rest of the Center staff joins me in welcoming your comments, suggestions, and contributions.

Gary B. Cohen, Director

DEADLINE: 1 February 2002.

Nationalist Myths and Pluralistic Reality in Central Europe

University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada
26-27 October 2001

Presented by the Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central
European Studies, University of Alberta, and the Center for
Austrian Studies, University of Minnesota

Friday, October 26

8:30-10:15 A.M. AUSTRIAN MYTHS

Martin Moll, University of Graz, "German Bulwark in the Southeast":
Reactions of Austrian Germans to Slovene National Emancipation in the
Duchy of Styria prior to 1918

Tom Priestly, University of Alberta, The "Myth" of the Pivotal Role
of the "Abwehrkampf" in Carinthia in 1918-1920

Ramona Kirsch, University of Missouri, Tourism and Identity in
Austria from the Dual Monarchy to First Republic

Alison Rose, University of Minnesota, The Transformation of Jewish
Identity in 19th Century Austria

10:15 - 10:30 A.M. Coffee break

10:30 A.M. -12:00 P.M. HUNGARIAN MYTHS

Ildikó Csilla Olasz, Michigan State University, Personal Desire and
the Other: Hungarian Mythic Perception of History in Transylvania

Tamás Stark, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary is the
Bulwark of Europe

12:00 - 1:30 P.M. Lunch 1 (University of Alberta Faculty Club)

1:30 - 3:15 P.M. CZECH MYTHS

Dale Askey, University of Northern Illinois, The German Minority
in Czechoslovakia after the Expulsions

Alfredo Laudiero, University of Naples, "The Victorious Organic
Nature of Czech History" (Kulturni politika – 1946): Civil Pluralism and
Political Unanimity in Czech Political Culture

Madelaine Hron, University of Michigan, Emigrant Returned: An
Exploration of the Role of Myth in Postcommunist Czech Emigrant Texts

Cathleen M. Giustino, Auburn University, The Plaster of Paris
Street and the Cement of Anti-Semitic Myth: Raising Walls of Counter-
Liberalism on the Foundation of Municipal Building Activities in Czech
Prague 1900

3:15 - 3:30 P.M. Coffee break

The registration fee is \$15 for faculty, \$10 for students. Meals are \$17 for lunch, \$35 for banquet (\$CAN). The official conference hotel is the Crowne Plaza Chateau Lacombe, across the river from the University of Alberta. Shuttle service will be available, and the university is only a few minutes by subway from the hotel. A special rate of \$96 (CAN) or \$62 (US) per room (single or double occupancy) is available when booked through the Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies before September 25. To register or to reserve a room, e-mail the Centre at ccauces@ualberta.ca or fax them at (780) 492-4340.

3:30 - 5:00 P.M. ROMANIAN MYTHS

Mihaela Irimia, University of Bucharest, Dimitrie Cantemir and
Romanian vs Turkish Identity in the 18th Century

Constantin Parvulescu, University of Minnesota, The Image
Question in Contemporary Romania

Ruxandra Trandafoiu, University of Westminster, London,
Romanian Pluralist Myths: The Breaking Up of National Identity

7:00 P.M. CONFERENCE BANQUET (University of Alberta Faculty Club)

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: **Gale Stokes, Rice University**, Stability
through Nationalism: The Cartography of Homogenization

Saturday, October 27

8:45-10:15 A.M. YUGOSLAV SUCCESSOR STATES MYTHS

Maja Brkljacic, Central European University, Budapest, Imagining
the Nation on the Croation Way

Oto and Breda Luthar, University of Ljubljana, Old Past and New
Histories: Reconstruction of the Sites of Memory and Sites of Mourning
in Slovenia after 1991

Vjekoslav (Vic) Perica, Brigham Young University, Sainthood and
Nationhood. Religion and Founding Myths of New Croatia and Serbia

10:15 - 10:30 A.M. Coffee break

10:30 A.M. -12:00 P.M. BALKAN MYTHS

Isa Blumi, New York University, Understanding the Margins of
Albanian History: Communities on the Edges of the Ottoman Empire

Srdja Pavlovic, University of Alberta, The Construction of the
"Serbian Sparta": Myth, Historical Continuity, and the Appropriation of
Montenegro

Vladimir Ortakovski, University of Skopje, Macedonia, Greater
Serbian and Greater Albanian Nationalism

12:00 - 1:30 P.M. Lunch 2 (University of Alberta Faculty Club)

1:30 - 3:15 P.M. SLOVAK, POLISH, AND UKRAINIAN MYTHS

Tibor Pichler, University of Presov, Slovakia, The Populist/Plebeian
Myth in Slovak History

Agnieszka B. Nance, University of Texas at Austin, Jan Lam
and Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach: Galicia in the Historical Imagination of
Nineteenth-Century Polish Culture

Andriy Zayarnyuk, University of Alberta, National History in
Construction: Competing Visions of History in the Ruthenian Popular
Publications (Habsburg Galicia, 1870-1900)

3:15 - 3:30 P.M. Coffee break

3:30 - 5:15 P.M. OLD AND NEW PLURALISMS IN CENTRAL EUROPE: MYTHS AND REALITIES

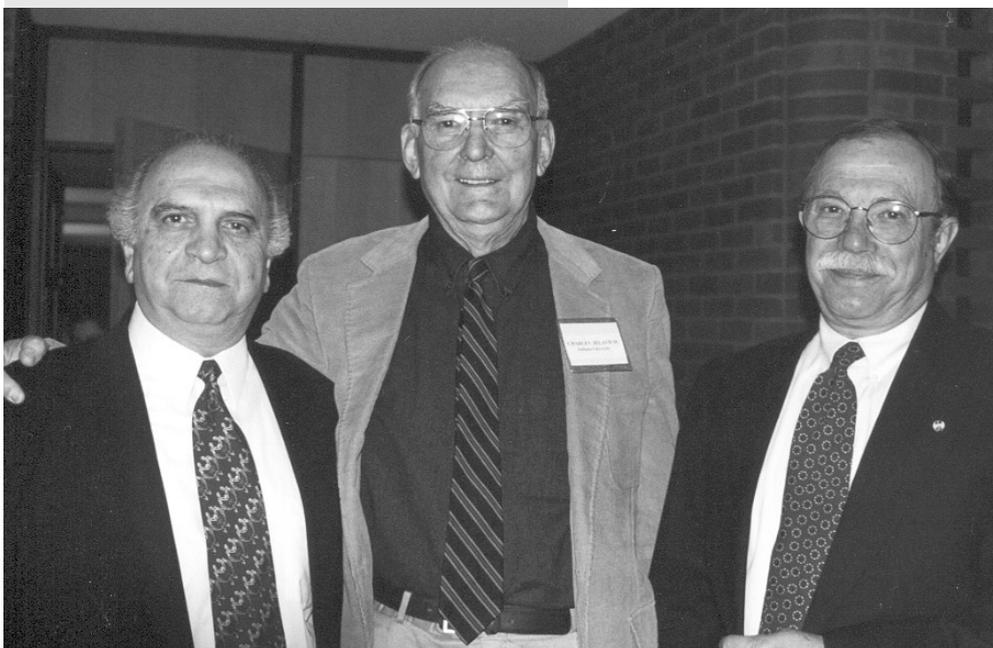
**Peter Urbanitsch, Österreichische Akademie der
Wissenschaften, Vienna**, Pluralist Myth and Nationalist Realities: The
Dynastic Myth of the Habsburg Monarchy in Theory and Practice

Fred Stambrook, University of Manitoba, Pluralism in Action: The
Case of Bukovina in Late Austrian Times

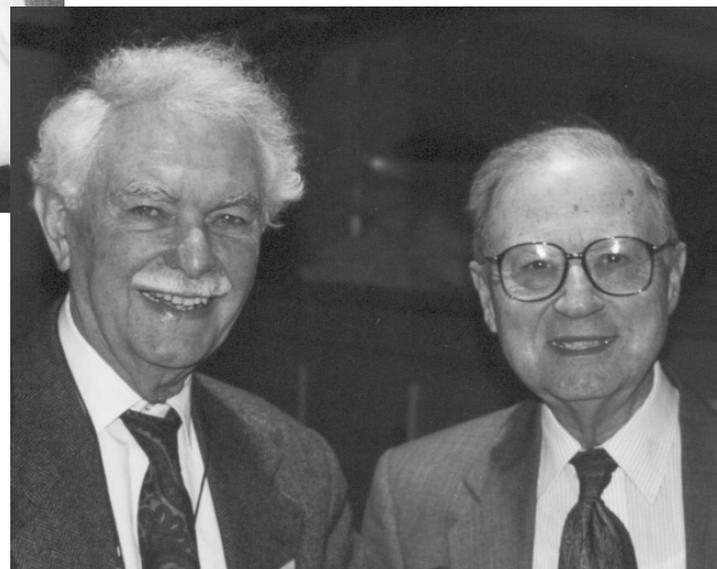
**Karin Liebhart, Austrian Institute for East and Southeast
European Studies**, National Identities and European Identity in the
Process of EU Enlargement

Catherine Portuges, University of Massachusetts, Jewish
Assimilation and Intergenerational Central European Identities: István
Szabó's *Sunshine*

Austria in the Heart of Europe: a pictorial record



LAST SPRING'S MINICONFERENCE, "Austria in the Heart of Europe," held April 5 at the Humphrey Institute, was quite the affair. We got to salute Gerhard Weiss for his service as interim director, introduce director-designate Gary Cohen to the University community, and hear an outstanding quartet of speakers from three different disciplines. *Above left*, left to right, history professor Theofanis Stavrou (director of our neighboring Center for Modern Greek Studies), speaker and professor of history emeritus Charles Jelavich, and history professor Kinley Brauer (former acting director of CAS). *Above right*, Gary Cohen chats with CLA dean Steven Rosenstone.



Ernst Aichinger, deputy director of the Austrian Cultural Forum, New York, flew in to attend talks and present the Austrian Cultural Forum awards for best book and best dissertation. *Above*, he is pictured at the left with Gerhard Weiss, center, and Gary Cohen, right. *To the right*, Egon Schwarz, renowned Germanist, past Kann lecturer, and featured speaker, poses with Gerhard Weiss. Photos of the other speakers, Germanist Jacqueline Vansant and 2001 Kann lecturer Anton Pelinka, can be found with their interviews (Vansant's starts on page 10, Pelinka's on page 4). ❖

Pelinka from page 5

ASN: *What is the role of Schüssel and the ÖVP in Austria's changing political system?*

AP: Schüssel is very successful at maintaining control of the coalition because the FPÖ was convinced that it would never overcome the SPÖ's dominance. Yet thanks to Schüssel, it's a ruling party. Therefore, they will stay with the chancellor who made this possible. In public opinion and in provincial elections the ÖVP—after one year—is in reasonably good shape. But its alliance with the FPÖ is also a problem. Because of the latest development in the FPÖ, Haider's anti-Semitic rhetoric, the ÖVP, a very European-oriented party, has to face many critical questions. "What do you say about your partner Haider? What is your opinion about his rhetoric? Why don't you condemn it?" and so on. And Schüssel is very hesitant. I can understand why he hesitates to criticize Haider openly because Schüssel as a person doesn't have much future beyond this coalition with the FPÖ. But the ÖVP will have a future, and even if it's in good shape in the short run, in the long run the autodestructive side of Haider could also affect the ÖVP.

ASN: *Does Haider still hold a provincial governorship?*

AP: Yes, he is governor of Carinthia, and he is a member of the governing board of his party, but he is not the party chairman.

ASN: *Does that make it easier for Schüssel to distance himself?*

AP: It should, but everybody knows—and Schüssel knows, too—that

though Haider is not the official leader of his party, he is the ex officio leader, and the party chairwoman is completely loyal to him.

ASN: *You were sued by Haider. On what grounds?*

AP: Libel, for two interviews I gave. One was for Italian television and another for CNN. On Italian TV, I said, "Haider is trivializing Nazism," and I gave an example. In this case, on the first level the judge said it was not enough just to give one example, and I was found guilty. I appealed, and on the second level I did win. The upper court said I had given enough explanation. In the second case—the CNN interview—I said, "Haider is using the same stereotypes that the Nazis used," and I gave examples. I said that he was comparing the number of immigrants with the number of unemployed, and I pointed out that over fifty years ago the Nazis compared the number of Jews with the number of unemployed. In that case I was acquitted on the first level, but Haider has appealed, and the appeal is still pending.

ASN: *Do you feel intimidated by this?*

AP: No, no. Austria is not becoming a fascist state; I have nothing to be afraid of. The problem is that I am being made an example for a younger generation that does not have the privileges that I have as a tenured Austrian professor. They start to think, "Can I write this? Can I say this? If I have to fight a lawsuit for five to seven years, who picks up the costs?" This is intimidation. ❖

Working Papers in Austrian Studies

The Center for Austrian Studies serves scholars who study the politics, society, economy, and culture of modern Austria and of Habsburg Central Europe. It encourages comparative studies involving Austria or the Habsburg lands and other European states, stimulates discussion in the field, and provides a vehicle for circulating work in progress. It is open to all papers prior to final publication but gives priority to papers by affiliates of the Center and scholars who have given seminars or attended conferences at the Center. If you would like to have a paper considered for inclusion in the series, please contact Gary Cohen or Daniel Pinkerton at the Center for Austrian Studies.

- 95-1. Edward Larkey, *Das Österreichische im Angebot der heimischen Kulturindustrie*
- 95-2. Franz X. Eder, *Sexualized Subjects: Medical Discourses on Sexuality in German-Speaking Countries in the Late Eighteenth and the Nineteenth Centuries*
- 95-3. Christian Fleck, *The Restoration of Austrian Universities after World War II*
- 95-4. Alois Kernbauer, *The Scientific Community of Chemists and Physicists in the Nineteenth-Century Habsburg Monarchy*
- 95-5. Stella Hryniuk, *To Pray Again as a Catholic: The Renewal of Catholicism in Western Ukraine*
- 95-6. Josef Berghold, *Awakening Affinities between Past Enemies: Reciprocal Perceptions of Italians and Austrians*
- 96-1. Katherine Arens, *Central Europe and the Nationalist Paradigm*
- 96-2. Thomas N. Burg, *Forensic Medicine in the Nineteenth-Century Habsburg Monarchy*
- 96-3. Charles Ingrao, *Ten Untaught Lessons about Central Europe: An Historical Perspective*
- 97-1. Siegfried Beer, *Target Central Europe: American Intelligence Efforts Regarding Nazi and Early Postwar Austria, 1941-1947*
- 98-1. Dina Iordanova, *Balkan Wedding Revisited: Multiple Messages of Filmed Nuptials*
- 98-2. Christopher Long, *The Other Modern Dwelling: Josef Frank and Haus & Garten*
- 99-1. Peter Thaler, *"Germans" and "Austrians" in World War II: Military History and National Identity*
- 99-2. Adi Wimmer, *The "Lesser Traumatized": Exile Narratives of Austrian Jews*
- 00-1. Lonnie Johnson, *On the Inside Looking Out: The ÖVP-FPÖ Government, Jörg Haider, and Europe*
- 00-2. Alan Levy, *An American Jew in Vienna*
- 00-3. Arnold Suppan, *Austria: A Short European History* (forthcoming)
- 00-4. Erika Weinzierl, *The Jewish Middle Class in Vienna in the 19th Century* (forthcoming)

Working papers 92-1 through 94-4 are still available. See previous issues of the *ASN*, the CAS website, or contact the Center for authors and titles. The price per paper is \$3.00 (\$4.00 for foreign addresses). To order, send your name, address, and paper numbers requested along with payment to Center for Austrian Studies, Attention: Working Papers (address on page 2). Checks must be drawn on a U.S. bank in U.S. dollars and should be made out to "Center for Austrian Studies, University of Minnesota." We also accept MasterCard, VISA, and Discover. To pay by credit card, indicate the card used and include your card number, expiration date, and signature on the order. Most working papers are also available on our website and may be downloaded for free. The URL is <http://www.cas.umn.edu>.

Jacqueline Vansant: Reclaiming Heimat

by Daniel Pinkerton

Jacqueline Vansant, a professor of German at University of Michigan-Dearborn, first established herself at CAS as an expert on Hollywood's depiction of Austria, delivering a symposium paper on The Sound of Music and a lecture on Billy Wilder's The Emperor Waltz. This spring she was a featured speaker at our miniconference, presenting a paper on the subject of her recent book, Reclaiming "Heimat": Trauma and Mourning in Memoirs by Jewish Reemigres (Detroit: Wayne State UP). One day later, she had this conversation with ASN.

ASN: Let's start with your past. You're originally from—

JV: The eastern shore of Maryland: Vienna, Maryland.

ASN: How auspicious!

JV: (laughs) I suppose so. Well, from Vienna, I went to Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland, and got a B.A. Then I got an M.A. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and my Ph.D. from the University of Texas, Austin.

ASN: How did you get interested in Austrian literature and culture?

JV: It was a little bit of an accident. I spent my junior year in Salzburg, and I wanted to go back to Europe as a teaching assistant, preferably to Germany to get to know the country, but I couldn't because they didn't take married candidates. So I went to Austria as a teaching assistant. Right before I left, I had taken a literature course at Madison, German literature by women, with Evelyn Beck. We read Ingeborg Bachman but very few other Austrian women. The year that I was in Salzburg I read a lot of Austrian women writers. When I thought about going back to graduate school to work on a Ph.D., two things came together: the course with Evelyn and the teaching assistantship in Salzburg.

ASN: Who did you study with at Texas?

JV: I studied with Barbara Becker-Cantorino, who worked in 18th-century women's literature and culture. She was a natural to work with, even though she didn't do Austrian literature. She and Evelyn Beck were part of the first generation of professors who worked on feminist themes, and I was probably one of the first generation of women doing dissertations on feminist themes.

ASN: And why did you start writing about film?

JV: I think part of it is because I love movies and when I was working in Vienna on my dissertation, I went to see *The Third Man* there. And of course, growing up I saw *The Sound of Music*. So at one point I thought, well, this will be great to work on the two. So, I think it's that I loved going to the movies. And then I had gone to one of these seminars that Anton Kaes and Ric Rentschler do, which helped me understand the language of film.



ASN: Anton Kaes was a big influence on Rick McCormick, too.

JV: Yes, on many of us. I was finally ready to write about film when there was a call for papers for the conference "A Small State in the Shadow of a Superpower" that Ruth Wodak and David Good were organizing. When the paper was accepted, I went to Texas, where the David O. Selznick [a legendary Hollywood producer] collection is. There was a lot of material on *The Third Man*, and there also happened to be material on *The Sound of Music* because Ernest Lehmann's screenplays are all down there. From the material that I found, I was able to come up with the article. And then somebody asked me to do an article on the image of Austria in American film. And one thing led to another and I was able to go to Hollywood and look at some archives there and find some wonderful material. The main archives are located in Hollywood, UCLA, and Austin. It's a topic that I'd like to continue to pursue. It is a sort of "comic relief" to my more serious topic.

ASN: There is a certain wry humor in the serious subject of examining how Hollywood has treated Austria. We all bring a certain amount of nostalgia and affection for movies to the subject. What made you decide to begin reading the memoirs of émigrés?

JV: I actually may have been reading memoirs before I was writing about film. But I know when I was working on my dissertation I was struck by the absence of women writers dealing with the National Socialist period. Of course, Bachman deals with it in ways that may not be as direct as, say, Kirschbaumer. So I began reading and discovered a wonderful source in memoir literature. Women seemed to write in that genre more than in fiction. In 1990-91 I had a Fulbright to work on a project that was originally conceived as looking at victim narratives in Austria. I was going to do a chapter on memoirs, a chapter on monuments, a chapter on literature, and you might say I got stuck on the chapter on the memoir literature. That "chapter" expanded into an article that I published in *German Quarterly* about memoirs and autobiographies of those who were persecuted under National Socialism, either those who had been in concentration camps or those who had been in exile, and returned. I tried to design a larger study using this material, and I really thought the most interesting material was the memoirs by Jewish-Austrian exiles who had later returned.

ASN: You had a very specific set of criteria for those memoirs.

JV: I wanted them to be works that had been published because I wanted to see how they would talk about their experiences to an Austrian audience who may have seen themselves as victims—or to that generation's children or grandchildren. I also wanted the authors to have been adults at the time of the Anschluss so that they would have spent their lives from birth to prewar professional life in Austria. That would make it easier to see textual manifestations of trauma and mourning. In a lot of the studies on trauma and mourning, trauma is

seen as these events that are very difficult to tie into the rest of your life. So, the premise was that they were able to mourn this loss if they were able to tie it into their larger lives. However, I wanted to show the ways in which that wasn't really the case, as well as the difficulty of returning to Austria and Austria's continued ambivalence towards its past, which comes out in their work in different ways.

ASN: *In some kinds of autobiographical literature, authors order the material, consciously or unconsciously, to fit a certain genre. Did you find a pattern in this material?*

JV: With Stella Klein-Löw's memoirs, which are called *Erinnerungen*, I thought it was pretty much directed towards a socialist audience. She set up her life story as a person who was integrated into the socialist community, even though she came from a well-to-do Jewish background and her father was a liberal, not a Social Democrat. In some ways it followed a familiar pattern, although I haven't read that many other memoirs by socialists to see how closely it fits. Minna Lachs's book seemed to follow traditional autobiography in the beginning, which was a more introspective looking at the development of the self. Then it changed later when she was looking at the events following the Anschluss and her life in exile, becoming less of a traditional autobiography and more of a memoir. Of course an autobiography or memoir is more than a life story, it's a literary form and some of these authors harken back to Goethe, writing about the day they were born. One pattern that I was talking about yesterday was autobiographers looking back before their birth, legitimizing their position as an Austrian. This comes up in Kreisky's memoirs, which are based on extensive interviews. It seems to be very important to him. He even includes this *Zeugnis* from one of his relatives going back two hundred years, showing how long the family had lived in Austria.

ASN: *You didn't use Kreisky's memoirs, did you?*

JV: No. The primary reason I excluded his memoirs was that they were based on interviews. He didn't really sit and write his memoirs. Another less important reason was the degree to which he was integrated into Austrian society.

ASN: *Given the trauma of having to flee the country and how awful the Anschluss was if one was Jewish, why on earth would anybody would want to go back?*

JV: That's an interesting question. Somebody whose work that I drew on, comparing the people she studied to my people, was Helga Embacher, with her concept of *Rückkehr ohne Illusion*, as she calls it. The people that I worked with fit Helga's theoretical construct very well because they were going back as socialists, believing that a small group of Austrians socialists would accept them. Klein-Löw actually compares herself to nonpolitical Jewish Austrians and says that she was able to go back because the socialists were another *Heimat* for her. That would explain why Klein-Löw and Lachs, whose husband was a socialist and went back to work in municipal government, were able to return. For Ernst Lothar it was very much an identification with Austrian culture. When he went back, he became very active once again in the theater and performances of Grillparzer. He actually had American citizenship when he decided to get his Austrian citizenship back, and either right before or right after he got his Austrian passport, he went to the Grillparzer memorial in the Volksgarten. And it's an identification with that Austrian high culture—he mentions Schubert, too—that drives him. Elisabeth Freundlich talks about her life as having been dedicated to political action. So for her, a return held the promise of getting involved politically, although she also writes about her disappointment and how she had a very difficult time getting her work published until much later. Hans Thalberg had been in Switzerland and had been involved in an underground organization with Austrians and

became involved in the foreign service, which I think is very interesting. In many ways, he talks about an ideal Austria that doesn't exist anymore. He likens it to a burnt out star—the light is still there, but the star itself doesn't exist—and yet he still somehow believes in and identifies with it. This, I think, is typical of many of these people.

ASN: *Is another reason the fact that many didn't feel comfortable in the new place they emigrated to?*

JV: With Lothar, that is definitely the case. In his memoirs he's always comparing the United States with Austria. Even when he was in Colorado in a beautiful park, it didn't match up to the Gaisberg. One wonders if this is a retrospective view of his life, shaped by the fact that he *did* return—if he has to justify that decision, even to himself, despite disappointment. Now Lachs could have gone either way. She could have become very active teaching in the United States. She taught in a summer camp near where I lived, on the eastern shore of Maryland, in St. Michaels. She writes about the racism there and criticizes that. She was aware of social injustice here and certainly didn't see the U.S. as a land of equal opportunity. Yet I think she did feel attached to both Austrian and American culture.

ASN: *How difficult was it for these people to achieve success after returning to Austria?*

JV: The writers that I talk about all became well integrated into Austrian culture and society after their return, though not always immediately. And that was even more of a reason that I wanted to see whether or not there was any evidence of the inability to overcome this traumatic experience or to see their return as traumatic. Hans Thalberg, when he went back to Vienna, always talked about it as almost a cemetery for him because cities are made up of people and his entire family was murdered. And he did marry a gentile Austrian. But even though her family was there, he still talked about his two families and how he was the bridge between them. Therefore, to return to and live in Vienna was a double edged sword: On one hand, it was associated with happy memories, but there was always this memory of the loss. Lachs became a very successful pedagogue and was very active in the United Nations; of all the seven that I talked to, she is the only one who is a practicing Jew. Elisabeth Freundlich, although she had difficulty at the beginning, was published more and more in the 80s and early 90s. She actually died recently, in January 2001. Franzisa Tausig was the only one who didn't work, and for her, her *Heimat* was her son. She would have gone anywhere where he went. She talked about coming back to Vienna, saying that when he comes and greets her at the Westbahnhof, she knows she is home. I think she measures feeling at home by the degree to which the man with whom she identifies feels at home, and her son, Otto Tausig, was a very successful actor who was also very active in the Communist Party.

ASN: *I have noticed that the first book was published in 1960, but most of them appeared in the middle of the Waldheim affair.*

JV: This was no accident, though the Waldheim affair was not the only impetus. The authors were getting older and they realized that if they didn't tell their stories soon, those stories would be lost. Still, in the face of the public debate during the Waldheim era, they felt the necessity to write about it. In many cases, somebody from the younger generation was encouraging them to write their memoirs and perhaps even helping them. There was a cross generational connection, and a group of younger Austrians was very eager to hear and honor these stories. In a perverse way, the Waldheim era benefited Austria because people began discussing the past in ways they hadn't before. And the discussion was not just limited to nonfiction and autobiographies; fiction and films from the mid-1980s to the present have also shown a willingness to question previously agreed upon versions of Austria's past. ❖

Publications: News and Reviews

The Sound of Music *zwischen Mythos und Marketing*.

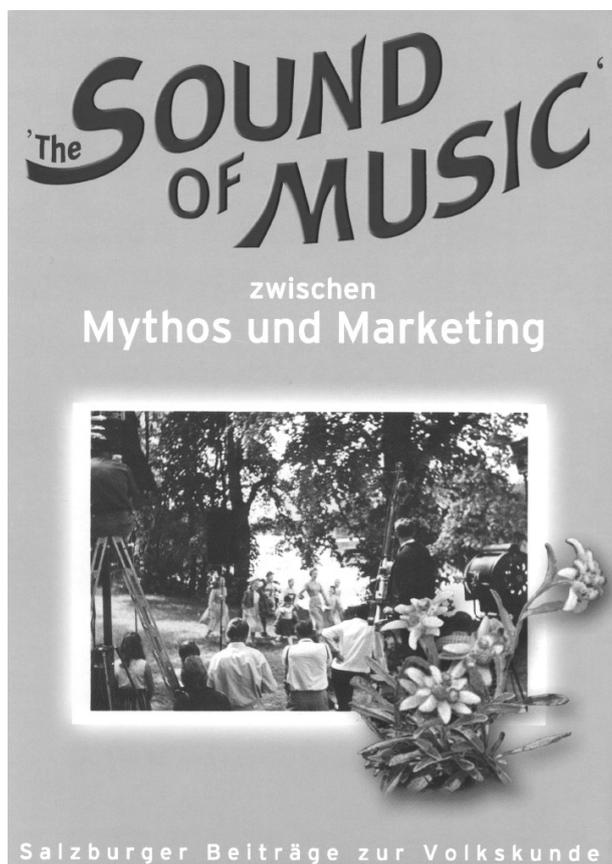
Edited by Ulrike Kammerhofer-Aggermann and Alexander G. Keul.
Salzburg: Salzburger Landesinstitut für Volkskunde, 2000. 500 pp., illus. Paper: ATS 350, EUR 25.44.

The film *The Sound of Music* (1965) was not only a worldwide hit in the 1960s, it is still an evergreen. Although the film is supposed to show the quintessence of Austrian atmosphere, one must realize that while Americans and Japanese virtually grew up with the film, hardly any Austrian has ever seen it. What makes this rather simplistic Alpine fairy-tale work, which even at the time of its production was a very conventional Hollywood film, so timeless? The book attempts to answer this question while simultaneously being a scholarly compendium.

The book answers all the questions about the real Trapp family, especially about the matron who conceived the idea of the choir, the driving force behind it all, Maria Augusta von Trapp. She came from a Salzburg convent as a governess to educate the seven motherless children at the Trapp castle in Salzburg-Aigen and ended up marrying their father, Baron Georg von Trapp, the former U-boat captain. When the Baron's family fortune was considerably diminished by the bankruptcy of their bank in Zell am See in 1934, Maria and Fr. Franz Wasner, a friend of the family, organized the choir and made the step from "Hausmusik" to commercial concerts. When Hitler came to power in Austria in 1938, the family emigrated to America. After a failed concert tour, they remodeled themselves, changing their program from mostly religious songs to more lively folk songs and their attire from dark clothes to Salzburg dirndls for the girls and Loden outfits for the boys. They were not only successful in the U.S., but their concert tours even brought them as far as South America and the South Seas, always with Fr. Wasner as the conductor and musical adviser. The book deals in detail with all the stations in their lives, including what became of the "children" after the dissolution of the choir in 1956.

The book is a rich resource, answering all the questions that could ever come to one's mind. Authors from a variety of professions—academics, the Salzburg tourist manager, and even the Sound of Music tour entrepreneur—provide coverage from all angles. With such a complex topic that spans the time from the 1930s in Austria to the present Trapp Family Lodge in Vermont, it proves to have been the best possible approach. The book also has another virtue, one rare among academic books: it is exciting to read. One devours the 500 pages like a thriller. Surely a translation would be advisable with such a large number of English-speaking *Sound of Music* lovers.

The film is the end product in a series of previous "Trapp successes." First, the magna mater of the family, Baroness Maria Augusta von Trapp, wrote her memoirs two years after the death of her husband, *The Story of the Trapp Family Singers* (New York, Philadelphia,



1949), which turned out to be a bestseller and created the family myth. Everybody assumes that a worldwide success like *The Sound of Music* must have earned a fortune for the Trapp family. But it was somebody else who became rich from the story: Wolfgang Reinhardt, son of theater magician Max Reinhardt. Wolfgang Reinhardt (whose biography is not mentioned in the book) was for most of his life a fairly unsuccessful figure on the fringes of the film business in Hollywood, working on and off for Jack Warner. With the Trapp story he struck gold relatively late in his life. He offered Maria von Trapp \$10,000 for the rights to the story. When she asked for a percentage of future profits, he informed her that this was illegal in Germany, which was not true, as she found out later. Generously, he offered to pay her immediately rather than in installments, a kindness for which he had to deduct \$1,000. So all Maria von Trapp ever received for both the German and American film rights was \$9,000.

Reinhardt produced the German film *Die Trapp-Familie* (1956) with the Austrian charmer Hans Holt and the German

"lady" Ruth Leuwerik in the main roles. The film tried to be relatively true to the book, but compared with the light-hearted *The Sound of Music*, it appears rather clumsy. When *Die Trapp-Familie* proved successful, Rogers and Hammerstein created the Broadway musical *The Sound of Music* (1959). The experienced screenwriter Ernest Lehmann adapted *The Sound of Music* for the screen, and Hollywood veteran Robert Wise directed. It was released in 1965. In transferring the story from one media to the other, Lehman had to make significant changes. With each new version the distance from Maria Augusta von Trapp's book and from reality increased.

Although a hit everywhere else, in Germany and Austria the German version of the film, *Meine Lieder meine Träume*, was never a success. Although few people in Austria have seen *The Sound of Music* (it has also never been shown on TV), the film is regarded as a synonym for the worst kitsch. Many Austrians do not want to be identified with this never-never-land version of their country, which is not considered authentic. It is, for example, ridiculous that when the family escapes over the Untersberg mountain in Salzburg directly to Switzerland. If they had actually chosen that route, they would have gone straight to Germany, exactly to the place where Hitler held court at his Berghof. Actually, the family never really fled under dramatic circumstances. They simply went on an official concert tour and never came back. On the other hand, the film, as superficial as it appears, does also involve a political aspect: the Catholic resistance to Hitler. Kapitän von Trapp could have played the Nazis' game, but he preferred to have nothing to do with them.

The book tries to explain the success of the film as a unique mixture of American and European ingredients. Baron von Trapp as an aristocrat fueled the romantic fantasy, living with his family in a castle in Salzburg, surrounded by one of the loveliest landscapes in the world

continued on page 24

History and Myth in Romanian Consciousness

by Lucian Boia. Translated by James Christian Brown. Budapest: Central European University Press, 2001. 285 pp. Cloth, \$49.95; paper, \$21.95.

Lucian Boia is probably the most cited historian of the day in Romania. His work has transcended the academic audience and entered the public sphere. He writes articles in newspapers and magazines, participates in radio and television talk shows. His writings are discussed both with admiration and with anger. They have produced extensive public debates in which everybody has had something to say, and they have brought him both national and international recognition. The recently translated *History and Myth in Romanian Consciousness* (published in Romania in 1997) is his most popular project until now.

History and Myth in Romanian Consciousness is a detailed, scrupulous analysis of the ideological networks shaping the Romanian consciousness in the past 150 years. Boia's book puts the most widely disseminated myths of the Romanian nation-state under scrutiny, placing them in a historical and ideological perspective. Some of these are the myth of the Romanian people's eternal will for national unity, the myth of the glorious Middle Ages, the myth of Romanians as defenders of Christianity, the myth of the "Romanian continuity" (the uninterrupted habitation of Transylvania by Romanians since Roman times), the myth of the national poet Eminescu, and the myth of democracy and Europeanism during the interwar period. All these myths were produced by Romanian historians starting in the 1840s, and they continued to be burnished up to and including the communist years (when perhaps the most shameless glorification of the past occurred).

Boia's thesis is that it is men and women who invent these nationalist myths and put them into circulation. They then promote these narratives until the narratives seem to be eternal. Finally, these men and women forget that they are the authors of their cultural products and values and relate to their self-created myths as if they had been part of the national culture from the beginning of time.

Besides having the merit of relativizing these so-called eternal values, Boia's demythologizing effort also constitutes a critical inquiry into Romanian historiography of the last fifty years—that of the communist period. It is a guide to the era's reading and understanding and of course, to its rewriting. It is in this context of rethinking and rewriting that Boia's work plays an essential role, and its importance becomes clearly apparent. The Romanian postcommunist era has witnessed the birth of a host of reparative and critical projects. One can go as far as to say that almost every post-1989 cultural statement has been understood as such a project. However, few of these inquiries have had the balance, the extensive research, and the academic sophistication of Boia's work. Those involved in rethinking and rewriting in Romania are still passionate, vindictive, and too interested in immediate responses.

However, not even Boia's work is entirely immune to this *mal de siècle*. Although one of the most coherent and cerebral analyses of recent Romanian historiography, this book still speaks the idiom of its times. This idiom is characterized by a total and unrestrained rejection of the ideological clusters active in Romania in the last fifty years, lumped together under the catchall label of communism. This tendency certainly does not disqualify Boia's thesis, but only indicates the places where his arguments need to be refined. He views communism as a scapegoat, a "source of all evils," and an object of absolute contempt. This attitude blocks a clear understanding of the complex

ideological networks that function behind this too general term (a vestige of the Cold War), and consequently does not identify all the ideological and counterfeiting forces that have biased the writing of history—several of which are not really communist.

Boia's work, nevertheless, has had a huge impact on Romanian public opinion, and has triggered a serious rethinking of the links between the nation, the nation-state, national identity, history, and politics. On a more theoretical level, his work is pioneering the integration of contemporary Western scholarship on nationalism, deconstructivism, and postmodern history into the Romanian historiographic discourse. On the one hand, he has several supporters, especially among the pro-European intellectuals and the younger generation of Romanian historians. On the other hand, his critical approach on the totems and taboos of the nation has produced vehement negative reactions. Not all of these have come from the right, or from those too profoundly linked to the communist period.

Boia's writing, I would argue, cannot enjoy a detached and nonpartisan reception in a country like Romania, which is undergoing a deep and prolonged crisis at all levels of society and which fears social uprisings and political disintegration. This is why several of his critics have dubbed his writing "dangerous." Having no values of the welfare state to offer, a great part of the Romanian cultural and political elite still relies on the internalized and romanticized mythology that this book undermines as the main recipe for keeping the nation state together.

Constantin Parvulescu
Department of German, Scandinavian, and Dutch
University of Minnesota

CAS COSPONSORS SPRING CONFERENCE

"Redefining the Nation in Europe: Germany and Austria, 1945-2000," will be held at Emory University, 11-13 April 2002. Sponsored by the DAAD, the Center for Austrian Studies, and Emory University, the conference focuses on issues of German and Austrian identities after 1945. Panels will specifically address 1) how the two Germanies and Austria defined themselves by looking back on their histories, the Nazi past included; 2) ways in which the nation was represented in film, architecture, international fairs, and other forms of material and visual culture; 3) perceptions of nation that emerged from how the three countries treated culturally and ethnically defined minorities, including Jews, Blacks, foreign "guest workers," asylum seekers, and immigrant ethnic Germans; 4) how changing notions of gender roles and the relationship between generations affected debates about national identities; and 5) how neighboring countries viewed German and Austrian attempts to redefine their identities in the decades after 1945.

Co-organizers of the conference are Heide Fehrenbach (Northern Illinois University), James Melton (Emory University), and Dirk Schumann (Emory University). Panelists have already been selected, but those interested in attending the conference may contact Professor Dirk Schumann, Department of History, Emory University, Atlanta GA 30322. E-mail: dhschum@emory.edu.

GUILTY VICTIM: Austria from the Holocaust to Haider

by Hella Pick. New York: I.B. Tauris,
2000. 246 pp., photos. Cloth, \$35.
(Dist. Palgrave)

It seems as if the discussion of Austria's role during World War II will never end. A few months ago, Chancellor Wolfgang Schüssel caused a slight uproar in Israel by emphasizing the occupation of Austria during the Nazi period in an interview in the Jerusalem Post. When Vice Chancellor Susanne Riess-Passer (FPÖ) recently visited Washington, she stressed the fact that Austria had chosen an easy way to deal with its past by declaring itself the first victim of Nazi Germany. In her words, Austrians were victims but they were perpetrators, too. At the same time, FPÖ General Secretary Peter Sischrovsky made Germany responsible for all crimes and repeatedly emphasized Austria's role as a victim of Nazi Germany. While Riess-Passer tried to whitewash Austria's image in the US, Sischrovsky recalled Germany's role as the successor state of the Third Reich to criticize Chancellor Gerhard Schröder's visit to Austria during which Schröder refused to meet representatives of the FPÖ. The so-called victim theory (*Opferthese*) has been instrumentalized since the end of World War II.

In her book, Hella Pick is searching for an answer to the difficult question of whether Austria is a victim, a perpetrator, or both. She starts with the Silver Jubilee of the Austrian State Treaty in 1980, designed to be a proud look back at the country's accomplishments over the past 25 years. At this time "Austria had blossomed to prosperity, and independence was taken for granted. Committed to neutrality since the achievement of the State Treaty, Austrians were proud of their country's success in navigating around the Cold War protagonists, and of its growing international standing." (2) But Pick also mentions the invitation of Austrian emigrés back to Austria for the Jubilee, which she says had a "twin purpose": Chancellor Bruno Kreisky "wanted to convince them that Austria of 1980 had changed its colours, and must no longer be confused with the country that embraced Hitler with open arms in 1938, welcomed its annexation to the greater Germany, forced many of them to emigrate, and shared responsibility for the Holocaust. Within the domestic political context, Kreisky had insisted on drawing a line under the past; now he shrewdly hoped that Austrian emigrés could be persuaded to adopt the same attitude and associate themselves more closely with their country of origin." (9) While quite a number of invitations were turned down, those who accepted obviously had made a secret compact not to ruffle their hosts' feathers during the State Treaty anniversary. In 1980 there was no demand for Austrians to acknowledge responsibility



ity for their actions under the Nazis, nor was there organized pressure to return seized Jewish assets or make compensation payments to Holocaust survivors. But only six years later with the beginning of the Waldheim affair, Austria could no longer defend its role as a victim against the criticism from abroad.

In the following chapters, Pick discusses the impact of the Moscow Declaration signed in 1943 by the Allies, which enabled postwar Austria to create the myth of being the first victim of Nazi Germany. She mentions Austria's role as a strategic pawn of great power diplomacy and its role as a bulwark against Soviet expansionistic aims in Europe. As she points out, the four occupying powers cynically exploited Austria in their cold war strategies. (40) Pick also discusses the Kreisky era, a symbol of the "golden age of economic prosperity." But she also mentions Bruno Kreisky's policies toward former National Socialists like Friedrich Peter, the leader of the Freedom Party and former member of the Waffen-SS, as well as the Kreisky-Wiesenthal controversy. From the golden '70s, she moves on to the Waldheim period, with its anti-Semitic undertones. In one of her last chapters she gives an overview

of the restitution negotiations during the last fifty years. Finally, Pick concludes that the "big lie," the central theme running through Austria's postwar history, "discredited Austria abroad, led to adverse comparisons with Germany's way of coming to terms with the past, and diminished the image of an otherwise successful democracy that had clawed its way back from the detritus of World War II." (224)

Since there has already been research done on the Austrian *Opferthese*, as well as on the Kreisky and Waldheim periods, and since a veritable horde of historians have been working in recent years on various projects concerning forced labor and the expropriation of Jewish and non-Jewish property, Hella Pick's most important contribution to historical research is putting together all these puzzles and providing an overview of Austria's history and its many discontinuities over the last fifty years.

But what I find most fascinating is her personal approach, which she makes clear from the start. Born in Austria and sent to England in 1939, her own memories of Austria during the occupation are sketchy. In 1949 she made her first brief return to Vienna, where she felt "awkward and detached, a stranger without family or possessions in a place that had apparently once been my home, and where I supposedly had my roots." (44) Unlike many other expelled Austrians, she felt none of the compunctions about visiting Austria that so many other exiles experienced—but, as she makes clear, she had always felt uneasy in

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HOT OFF THE PRESSES

- Marsha L. Rozenblit. *Reconstructing National Identity: The Jews of Habsburg Austria during World War I*. New York: Oxford, 2001. 304 pp., maps, illus. Cloth, \$55.
- Heiko Haumann. *A History of East European Jews*. Budapest: CEU Press, 2001. 250 pp. Paper, \$24.95.
- Janine R. Wedel. *Collision and Collusion: The Strange Case of Western Aid to Eastern Europe*. New York: Palgrave, 2001. 304 pp., illus. Paper, \$18.95.
- Michaela Feurstein and Gerhard Michram. *Jüdisches Wien. Stadtspaziergänge*. Vienna: Böhlau, 2001. 240 pp., illus. Paper, ATS 298, DM 39,80.
- István György Tóth. *Literacy and Written Culture in Early Modern Central Europe*. Budapest: CEU Press, 2001. 266 pp., illus. Cloth, \$41.95; paper, \$21.95.
- Hans Veigl. *Morbides Wien. Die dunklen Bezirke der Stadt und ihre Bewohner*. Vienna: Böhlau, 2000. 303 pp., illus. Cloth, ATS 398, DM 58.
- Leo Cooper. *In the Shadow of the Polish Eagle: The Poles, the Holocaust, and Beyond*. New York: Palgrave, 2000. 280 pp. Cloth, \$65.
- Florin Curta. *The Making of the Slavs: History and Archaeology of the Lower Danube Region, c. 500-700*. New York: Cambridge, 2001. 500 pp., fig., tables. Cloth, \$90.00.
- Eugen Maria Schulak. *Daimon. Über die Motive philosophischen Denkens*. Vienna: WUV Verlag, 2001. 150 pp. Paper, ATS 220; DM 31.
- Martyn Rady. *Nobility, Land, and Service in Medieval Hungary*. New York: Palgrave, 2000. 256 pp. Cloth, \$65.
- Antje Senarcleus de Grancy. "Moderner Stil" und "Heimisches Bauen." *Architekturreform in Graz um 1900*. Vienna: Böhlau, 2001. 480 pp., illus. Paper, ATS 980, DM 140.
- Gábor Gyáni. *Parlour and Kitchen: Housing and Domestic Culture in Budapest, 1870-1940*. CEU Press, 2001. 220 pp., illus. Cloth, \$45.95.
- Claire Wallace and Dariusz Stola, eds. *Patterns of Migration in Central Europe*. New York: Palgrave, 2001. 288 pp. Cloth, \$68.
- Zoltan Barany. *The East European Gypsies: Regime Change, Marginality, and Ethnopolitics*. New York: Cambridge, 2001. 384 pp., tables. Cloth, \$69.95, paper, \$24.95.
- Anna Veronika Wendland. *Die Russophilen in Galizien. Ukrainische Konservative zwischen Österreich und Rußland, 1848-1915*. Vienna: Austrian Academy of Sciences, 2001. 624 pp. Paper, ATS 993, DM 136.
- Ruth Wodak and Anton Pelinka, eds. *The Haider Phenomenon*. Piscataway NJ: Transaction, 2001. 280 pp. Cloth, \$69.95, paper, \$40.
- Ivan Lovrenovic. *The Cultural History of Bosnia*. New York: Saqi Books, 2001. 250 pp., illus. Cloth, \$35. Dist. Palgrave.
- Graeme Murdock. *Calvinism on the Frontier, 1600-1660: International Calvinism and the Reformed Church in Hungary and Transylvania*. New York: Oxford. 376 pp. Cloth, \$80.00.
- Daniel Z. Stone. *The Polish-Lithuanian State, 1386-1795*. Vol. 4, A History of East Central Europe. Seattle: Univ. of Washington, 2001. 392 pp., maps. Cloth, \$50.
- Paul Roazen. *The Trauma of Freud: Controversies in Psychoanalysis*. Piscataway NJ: Transaction, 2001. 332 pp. Cloth, \$44.95.
- Anton Schweighofer, ed. *Adolf Loos—Entwürfe für den öffentlichen Bau. II Rekonstruktionen*. Vienna: Böhlau, 2001. 136 pp., illus. Paper, ATS 498, DM 69,80.
- Pierre Martin and Mark R. Brawley, eds. *Alliance Politics, Kosovo, and NATO's War: Allied Force or Forced Allies?* New York: Palgrave, 2001. 284 pp. Cloth, \$49.95.
- Günther Bischof, Anton Pelinka, and Michael Gehler, eds. *Austria in the European Union*. Contemporary Austrian Studies, vol. 10. Piscataway NJ: Transaction, 2001. 250 pp. Paper, \$40.
- Janos Kornai and Karen Eggleston. *Welfare, Choice, and Solidarity in Transition: Reforming the Health Sector in Eastern Europe*. New York: Cambridge, 2001. 250 pp. Cloth, \$64.95.
- Christopher Clay. *Gold for the Sultan: Western Bankers and Ottoman Finance, 1856-1881*. New York: I. B. Tauris, 2001. 448 pp. Cloth, \$65. Dist. Palgrave.
- Brian Porter. *When Nationalism Began to Hate: Imagining Modern Politics in Nineteenth-Century Poland*. New York: Oxford, 2000. 320 pp. Cloth, \$45.
- Raul Hilberg. *Sources of Holocaust Research: An Analysis*. Chicago: Ivan R. Dee, 2001. 224 pp., illus. Cloth, \$26.
- Horia-Roman Patapievic. *Flying against the Arrow: An Intellectual in Ceausescu's Romania*. CEU Press, 2001. 280 pp. Cloth, \$49.95.
- Anders Aslund. *Building Capitalism: The Transformation of the Former Soviet Bloc*. New York: Cambridge, 2001. 550 pp., diagrams, tables. Cloth, \$64.95, paper \$22.95.
- Hartmut Gagelmann. *Nicolae Bretan: His Life—His Music*. Stuyvesant NY: Pendragon, 2000. 521 pp., CD. Cloth, \$46.
- Anton Pelinka and Manfred Welan. *Austria Revisited. Demokratie und Verfassung in Österreich*. Vienna: WUV, 2001. 132 pp. Paper, ATM 198, DM 28.

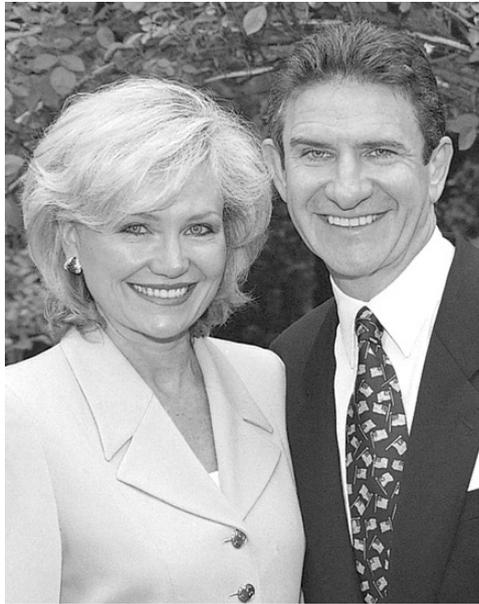
News from the Field

Former ambassador, spouse create new chair

The Austrian-American Educational Commission (AAEC) is pleased to announce that Mr. Craig Hall—chairman of the Hall Financial Group (Dallas, TX), an AAEC board member for the past two years, and husband of the Kathryn Walt Hall, the former U.S. Ambassador to Austria, who departed from Austria with her family on Tuesday—has reached an agreement with the AAEC to fund the Fulbright-Kathryn and Craig Hall Distinguished Chair for Entrepreneurship in Central Europe.

The letter of understanding with Mr. Hall provides donations of 50,000 euro per annum for a five year period. This total donation of 250,000 euro corresponds to approximately \$225,000 at current exchange rates.

The Fulbright-Hall Distinguished Chair has been conceived as a regional grant that will entail the cooperation of the AAEC with binational Fulbright Commissions from Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and the Slovak Republic. Ideally, the Fulbright-Hall Distinguished Chair will “float” in the region, and the executive directors of the seven binational commissions from the



Kathryn and Craig Hall

region are in the process of negotiating the management of this award. Given the lead time necessary to advertise this distinguished chair within the normal grant cycle, the inaugural year of this grant will be 2003-2004 with a corresponding grant announcement in the 2002 catalogue. In order to facilitate a “regional presence” for the recipients of this grant, provisions have been made of a discrete travel budget that is earmarked for lecturing in the region.

The Fulbright-Hall Distinguished Chair for Entrepreneurship in Central Europe is to focus on the following issues: the relationships between public, private, and NGO sectors in economies and societies; the role of the state in promoting (or obstructing) private initiative; entrepreneurial strategies; the importance of “social entrepreneurship”; the theory of free market economies; and the problems specifically related to the states of East Central Europe, whose economies are in a state of transition to

mature market economies. Host commissions of this chair will be able to articulate which aspects of entrepreneurship are especially relevant

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Kommission für neuere Geschichte Österreichs: triumphing over twentieth-century odds

by Nicole Slupetsky

The publication of historian Fritz Fellner’s latest book, “... ein wahrhaft patriotisches Werk”. *Die Kommission für Neuere Geschichte Österreichs, 1897-2000*, is an occasion to reflect on the history of Austria’s celebrated independent body of scholars. That the Commission for Modern Austrian History has survived the challenges and threats that the twentieth century hurled at it—let alone produced a remarkable body of historical research—is a testament to the work of a dedicated and persistent group of historians.

The commission was founded in 1897 by Austrian historian Hans von Zwiadeneck-Südenhorst, who originally named it the Kommission für die Herausgabe von Acten und Correspondenzen zur neueren Geschichte Österreichs. The commission’s name was changed to Kommission für Neuere Geschichte in 1903. This commission concentrated on editing diplomatic correspondences and papers, Austrian state treaties, and the history of internal administration.

With the political changes and the beginning of World War I, the commission found it difficult to pursue new projects. Because of the difficulties—political, not financial—it encountered with continuing existing projects, it was virtually impossible to consider new research areas. For example, during the time when Germany controlled Belgium during World War I, the commission needed documents from the Archives Générales in Brussels to continue editing the family correspondence of Ferdinand I. Wilhelm Bauer suggested intervention, believing scholars from the Central powers would not be welcome in Belgium after the war. In January 1917 he spent three weeks in Brus-

sels. Bauer was optimistic about completing the volume by the end of the year; it was not published until 1937-38.

After World War I and the fall of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the situation of the commission was most difficult. Many asked whether or not the Commission should continue its work, but in 1920 Emil von Ottenthal explained the importance of the Commission: The end of the monarchy did not mean the end of Austria’s history; on the contrary, it would be important to research the history of old Austria and its people to develop and strengthen the feeling of belonging together and sympathy for the new state and republic. Ottenthal recommended that the ministry finance projects started before or during the war, postpone the editing of state treaties, and reduce the size of the commission. He hoped these measures would convince the ministry to continue to fund the commission. Nevertheless, the ministry did not extend official support of the commission and it was close to dissolution. However, the commission found unofficial supporters and managed to continue its research projects.

An important turning point for the commission came on 26 October 1929, when Heinrich Srbik, professor at the University of Vienna and former secretary of the commission, became the new minister of education. He was still in favor of the commission and officially reactivated it. Unfortunately, instead of taking the opportunity to develop new ideas and restructure it, the Ministry retained the commission’s status of 1900 with respect to editing documents and correspondence.

The excitement over the renewal of the Kommission was short-lived. The Great Depression affected its work. The new volume on the

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Kommission *from previous page*

family correspondence of Ferdinand I was ready for print but could not be financed. After long negotiations with Verlag Holzhaue, the publisher declared it would print the next two volumes and accept installment payments. The persevering commission moved forward with this and ended 1937 with a surplus of 2,067 Schillings.

A few months later the political situation of Austria changed tremendously. Austria was integrated into the Third Reich and the commission's name was transformed to Kommission für Neuere Geschichte des ehemaligen Österreich (former Austria) in 1940.

At the end of World War II the commission had to start all over. During the earlier years only three new works were published. Due to denazification laws many Kommission members were not allowed to serve in an official capacity. Only Leo Santifaller and Alfred Mell had the right to represent the commission. On 11 June 1947 the Department of Education declared that the Kommission für Neuere Geschichte Österreichs would be re-formed and that new members would be appointed for the following five years. It was reorganized along with universities, seminars, and other educational institutions. The Kommission began a new era under the chairmanship of Hugo Hantsch, professor of modern history at the University of Vienna. The highly motivated Hantsch succeeded in receiving more financial support from the government and other political and private institutions.

In 1967 Erich Zöllner, professor of Austrian history, succeeded

Hantsch as chair. Zöllner interpreted the commission's tasks differently. He reduced them simply to publishing and excluded planning, supporting, and financing research projects. More than twenty historical works were published up to his resignation in 1984.

His successor, Gerald Stourzh, endeavoured to clarify the commission's legal status and to explain to the ministry of education what financial difficulties the commission faced. In hopes of encouraging more private supporters, the commission discussed the idea of becoming an independent society. All members strongly supported the idea, and it was presented to and accepted by the ministry of education. Fritz Fellner, professor of history at the University of Salzburg, became chair of the newly founded society, which concentrated not only on supporting research projects but also on setting new international goals. Fellner initiated the ongoing cooperation with the CAS, which started in 1995.

Since its establishment, the history and structure of the Kommission für Neuere Geschichte Österreichs has evolved based on the political changes of Austria; in a way, the history of the Kommission is a reflection of the country's political history. Despite setbacks, it has published over 90 important historical works. Those who want to learn more about the commission and its work should read Fellner's "... *ein wahrhaft patriotisches Werk*". *Die Kommission für Neuere Geschichte Österreichs, 1897-2000* (Vienna: Böhlau, 2000). ❖

SAHH NEWS

The executive committee of the Society for Austrian and Habsburg History will sponsor panels again during this next academic year at the German Studies Association annual meeting and at the American Historical Association annual meeting. The SAHH panel at the GSA conference in Washington, D.C., 4-7 October, will be "Changing Historical Narratives on the Habsburg monarchy in the Successor States and Germany." The papers for this panel will analyze just how scholars' perspectives on the monarchy, research topics, interpretive themes, and methodologies have changed in the German, Hungarian, Polish, Serbian, Croatian, and Bosnian historical communities since the second half of the nineteenth century. Papers will include Paul Hanebrink (Rutgers) on Hungarian historiography and intellectual life, Keely Stauter-Halsted (Michigan State) on Polish historians, and Robert J. Donia (California, San Diego) on Serbian, Croatian, and Bosniak historiography. Charles Ingrao (Purdue) will chair; Catherine Albrecht (Univ. of Baltimore) will comment.

Also of interest to scholars in all areas of Austrian studies will be another panel at the German Studies Association conference in October 2001, entitled "Austrian Studies in North America: The Research Centers as Facilitators." The directors of the centers for Austrian studies at the University of Alberta, the University of Minnesota, and the University of New Orleans will discuss the services and programs offered by each center and their plans for future development and cooperation.

The annual meeting of the American Historical Association in San Francisco, January 4-6, 2002, will focus on the general theme of frontiers as factors in political, social, cultural, and intellectual life. The SAHH and the Conference Group for Central European History will cosponsor a session on "Real and Imagined Frontiers in Habsburg Central Europe." Peter Haslinger (Collegium Carolinum) will give a paper, "Imagined Territory' and Its Bound-

aries: Discourses on Borders and National Space in Czechoslovakia, 1918-38." Pieter M. Judson (Swarthmore College) will present "Europe's First Theme Park? Making the 'Language Frontier' Visible in Imperial Austria, 1880-1914." Caitlin Murdock (Stanford) will contribute the third paper, "Negotiating the Frontier: The Changing Meaning of the German-Czechoslovak Borderlands after World War I." Scott Spector (Michigan) will chair; Andrea Komlosy (Univ. of Vienna) will comment.

The executive committee of the SAHH will meet during the AHA meeting. At that time it will receive reports from its ex officio members and elect a new member to succeed Franz Szabo and choose its executive and recording secretaries. The Executive Committee currently includes:

Elected Members: Franz Szabo (Univ. of Alberta), Jan. 1997-Jan. 2002; Gary B. Cohen (Minnesota), Jan. 1998-2003 (executive secretary, Jan. 2000-Jan. 2002); Pieter Judson (Swarthmore College), Jan. 1999-Jan. 2004; Lois Dubin (Smith College), Jan. 2000-Jan. 2005; Howard Louthan (Notre Dame), Jan. 2001-Jan. 2006.

Ex officio members: Gary B. Cohen, director, Center for Austrian Studies, University of Minnesota; Franz Szabo, director, Canadian Centre for Austrian Studies, University of Alberta; Charles Ingrao (Purdue University), editor, *Austrian History Yearbook*. (I apologize for the inadvertent omission of Charles Ingrao from the listing of ex officio executive committee members in my last column.)

The executive committee will welcome nominations for the elected position to succeed Franz Szabo. Members of the Society who wish to nominate themselves or others may contact the executive secretary, Gary Cohen, at the mailing address on page 2 or at gcohen@umn.edu.

Gary B. Cohen
Executive Secretary, SAHH
gcohen@umn.edu

multidisciplinary research project explores parallel between modernity and postmodernity

By Moritz Csáky, Johannes Feichtinger, Peter Karoshi

The long-term research project “Modernity: Vienna and Central Europe around 1900” (at Karl Franzens Universität, Graz) has paved the way for new perspectives in not only Austrian but also international modernity discourse for half a decade. These perspectives are based on the idea that research in the field of modernity provides new insights for the understanding of current cultural issues (globalization, migration, crises of identity). The project’s relevance is enhanced by its specific concept of modernity. Though the scholars focus on the turn of the last century, they view modernity not just as a restricted historical period (premodernity, modernity, postmodernity) but also as an aesthetic concept and an all-embracing, dynamic cultural phenomenon. This concept stems from a view of the process of modernization (industrialization) as a “reflection on changing social, economic and political circumstances.” As a result, both fin-de-siècle “Viennese modernity” and modernity in general are marked by an increasing complexity of life.

The poststructuralist philosopher Jean Françoise Lyotard has come to similar conclusions in his work *The Postmodern Condition* (1985): A greater complexity and plurality in everyday life can be considered as performative criteria of the postmodern individual and collective consciousness also. Greater plurality has its roots in accelerating mobility (migrations) and newly interlinked forms of communication, which in itself dissolves traditional values. Consequently, today’s individual has a plurality of means of identification. Thus, two consequences can be found for a postmodern condition, where the individual is confronted by a variety of forms of legitimation and disidentification: on the one hand, an accelerating flexibility (Richard Sennett, *The Corrosion of Character*, 1998) and, on the other hand, a continual feeling of uncertainty.

However, one can also say that this condition is both a significant experience of present-day life and highly characteristic of Central European modernity in 1900. In this context Georg Lukács paraphrased such feelings of insecurity in 1910, saying that when facts became uncertain, values soon lose their stability and eventually the stability of the individual self (consciousness) becomes more and more fragile. What is left is “a variety of moods.”

The long-term research project “Modernity” puts more emphasis on continuities (*longues durées*) rather than on differences between modernity and postmodernity. The latter thus should not be understood as a process of overcoming modernity but rather as a supermodernity (Marc Auge, *Non Places: Introduction to an Anthropology of Supermodernity*, 1995). Therefore the special research program uses certain aspects and phenomena of modernity as means for the interpretation of current cultural processes.

In the course of the 19th century modernization led to standardization and, paradoxically, to greater social differentiation. This was caused by the transformation of formerly static social groupings into class system, accelerating migrations, and the resulting individual cri-

ses of identity. These characteristic features of modernity were found throughout Europe; however, in Central Europe they were characterised by a complexity of experiences, especially in urban centers, that was increased by the individual ethnic, cultural, and linguistic heterogeneities of the region. The Habsburg Empire had become a multinational entity in itself throughout the centuries. In the context of increased migrations in the 19th century, this multinationality became a characteristic feature not only of the urban centres (Vienna, Budapest, Prague) but also of the regional urban communities (Czernowitz, Cracow, Brno) of the empire. Inhabitants of these urban milieus reacted sensitively to what they perceived as “otherness.” This consequently led to increased symptoms of crisis. Thus, studies of the modernity in Vienna and Central Europe cannot be reduced to research in the fields of cultural creativity only but need to be expanded into individual and collective crises and conflicts: crises of identities, nationalisms, anti-Semitism and xenophobias. This is the general perspective of “Modernity,” which is primarily financed by the Austrian Science Fund and combines projects from seven disciplines with about 40 collaborators.

On the basis of what has been said already, the issues and contents of our research are split into interdisciplinary studies on criteria of the Central European and Viennese modernity, linking the findings of this research project to an international discourse of modernity (the project is connected with the Kommission für Kulturwissenschaften und Theatergeschichte; the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna; the International Research Centre for Cultural Studies (IFK); and the research project Kakanien Revisited), and studies on specific issues.

The project is organized into four inter-linked levels. On the first level, the projects and their principal investigators are:

Philosophy: Rudolf Haller, “Crises and Changes: Philosophy in the Struggle between Metaphysics and Anti-Metaphysics.” Contemporary History: Helmut Konrad, “Culture, Politics, and Technology in Urban Milieus, 1889-1930s.” Austrian History: Moritz Csáky, “Reflecting Pluralities in Central Europe” and “The Hermann Bahr Diary Edition.” Austrian Literary Studies: Dietmar Goltschnigg, “Austrian Modernity: Aesthetic Developments and Styles” and “Jewry and Modernity.” Musicology: Rudolf Flotzinger, “Modernity and Music.” History of Art: Götz Pochat, “Tradition and Innovation: Occultism in the Viennese Modernity.” Sociology: Karl Acham, “A Sociological View of Certain Aspects of Austrian Modernity (Economics, Art History, Ethnology).”

On the second level of research there are four interdisciplinary working groups: Isms and Ideologies, Aesthetics, Culture and Society and Studies in Culture. On the third level a *Jour fix* has been installed regularly to discuss the predominant guidelines of research with international experts. On the fourth level a semiannual workshop is held to discuss interim results and general perspectives. Finally, an international conference is held once a year in Graz.

The Special Research Program publishes mainly via *Studien zur Moderne* (vols. 1-15, Vienna: Passagen), the *Hermann-Bahr-Diary-Edition* (5 vols., Vienna: Böhlau), and the *Newsletter: Moderne* (available for free on request).

For more information about the projects and funding agencies, visit the following websites: “Modernity: Vienna and Central Europe around 1900”: <http://gewi.kfunigraz.ac.at/moderne/index.html>. University of Graz: <http://www.kfunigraz.ac.at/homepage.html>. Austrian Science Fund: <http://www.fwf.ac.at>. Kommission für Kulturwissenschaften und Theatergeschichte: <http://www.oeaw.ac.at/kkt/>. Kakanien revisited: <http://www.kakanien.ac.at>. IFK International Research Centre for Cultural Studies: <http://www.ifk.ac.at/>. Spezialforschungsbereich Moderne sfb.moderne@kfunigraz.ac.at Tel.: 00-43-(0)316-380/5740 Fax.: 00-43-(0)316-380/9798. Mail: Glacisstraße 23 / Rittegasse, A-8010 Graz, Österreich. ❖

habsburg happenings

H-Net's new publishing initiatives and HABSBERG



Membership in HABSBERG's online community, as measured by subscribers to the mailing list, now exceeds 900. Members receive all messages directly into their mailboxes and can easily participate in ongoing discussions. They are also added to our members directory (available on a confidential basis to members only) and become eligible to review books if invited to do so

by our editors. The forwarding and free web availability of our messages and reviews extend our impact beyond members to participants in other networks and to nonmembers.

HABSBERGers may only barely be aware of our membership in the broader H-Net community, perhaps in part because we have emphasized our origin in 1991, predating H-Net, by *not* adding an "H-" before our name. H-Net's mission statement (available at <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/about/mission.html>) emphasizes that although it is an electronic publisher, it is preeminently an organization of its members, dedicated to the advancement of scholarship through its individual communities of interest, the 100+ mailing lists or networks. It is a reflection of this order of priorities that H-Net's use of new technology has been cautious. Its web templates avoid Java and fancy graphics that would increase load time for scholars with slow internet connections, and it recommends networks avoid the distribution of mailing list messages with nonstandard character sets or file attachments in order to equalize access among all subscribers. HABSBERG editors recently published a revised welcome message and style guide at <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/~habsweb/welcome.html> that implements these principles. Within the past year the functionality of the H-Net search machine for web logs has dramatically improved through the customization of commercially available software so that it can search for keywords within the discussion logs of individual networks and present them in a user-friendly fashion. The search engine for HABSBERG logs is linked on the left side of the HABSBERG Home Page at <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/~habsweb/>.

One of the hallmarks of ongoing changes in electronic publishing is the linking within texts to other texts, or hypertext. Increasingly, scholars use Internet mailers that present URLs as hotlinks that can take the reader directly to another resource. The display of H-Net web logs has been reconfigured to present URLs within messages as hotlinks. H-Net staff has streamlined the management of the Job Guide and Announcements by distributing them henceforth as weekly digests with hotlinks to the full text of notices on the web. Accordingly, HABSBERG editors have decided to distribute relevant digest entries with URLs rather than the full text of such notices. We hope this innovation will not unduly inconvenience

HABSBERGers whose mailers do not present URLs as hotlinks.

H-Net's massive Web presence (discussions, reviews, announcements, syllabi, and other materials) means that it is one of the largest scholarly publishers. A year ago H-Net contracted with EBSCO Publishers to permit the latter to redistribute our reviews on a non-exclusive basis. We insisted on the nonexclusive provision because we want our resources to continue to be freely available. EBSCO is willing to pay for our reviews on this basis, and they will soon be available to institutional subscribers of EBSCO's *Academic Search Premier* along with the full text of many journals.

H-Net Council decided in its meeting at A.H.A. in Boston in January 2001 to embark on an even more ambitious electronic publishing initiative. After extensive internal discussions, H-Net's president recently announced the form this initiative will take: a central H-Net server for the dissemination of prepublished and postpublished works of scholarship in our fields of interest. The H-Net initiative is based on the conviction that we are serving our online communities best if we work to facilitate and maximize access to their research output, in consultation with the scholarly societies with which our networks are already partnering.

The models for this endeavor are the Open Archives Initiative or OAI, <http://www.openarchives.org>; the Physics Archive, <http://www.arxiv.org/>; and Public Library of Science or PLOS, <http://www.publiclibraryofscience.org/>. OAI has established standards for the mounting of such servers. The Physics Archive, founded in 1991, was the first preprint server to make a major impact in its scholarly field; research in physics is very time-sensitive, and physicists are eager to share their research. PLOS is a similar, but even more decentralized, initiative for the life sciences; over 26,000 scientists have signed an open letter urging publishers to allow articles that have appeared in their journals to be included on freely available servers.

The new server will contain sections for both preprints and postprints. Individual networks, like HABSBERG, will have the option of determining to what degree they will exercise editorial control over preprints in their fields. For peer review of postprints we will rely upon the print publication. The resolution calls on H-Net networks "to approach scholarly societies with which they are affiliated to propose that authors retain post-publication electronic redistribution rights, after a mutually agreed period of time, for articles submitted to print journals." H-Net recognizes the value of peer review in scholarship, and believes that affiliated societies will recognize our mutual interest in this compromise solution. The HABSBERG editorial board has begun its discussion of this H-Net initiative.

Jim Niessen

HABSBERG Editor

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Fulbright-Hall Chair *from page 16*

to onsite circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Hall has just completed a book with the title *The Responsible Entrepreneur*, which is due to appear this fall. He outlined his motives for his generous donation in the following manner: "As an author about entrepreneurship and an entrepreneur myself, I believe that responsible entrepreneurs make positive contributions to their respective societies. While my wife was U.S. Ambassador to Austria, I trav-

eled and studied first hand the challenges that the countries of Central and Eastern Europe still face in their transition to free market economies. With this perspective, it is the belief of my wife and myself that having American entrepreneurship professors come to teach in the region can help spark new ideas for youth in Central and Eastern Europe. The reputation and the experience of the Fulbright Program make it an ideal partner for this kind of project." ❖

SALZBURG
FESTIVAL
2001:

One “Lady,”



Anne Tismer and
Andreas Grothgar as those
neighborly Macbeths. (PSF/Sebastian Hopper)

by Barbara Lawatsch-Melton

Even without being particularly provocative this summer Gerard Mortier enjoyed what has been a mark of his tenure: plenty of media attention. During his last season as artistic director of the Salzburg Festival, cultural journalists were already assessing his legacy. Not surprisingly, opinions vary widely. Mortier's own views appear rather conciliatory and have perhaps best been summed up by a journalist in the *Salzburger Nachrichten*, who wrote that Mortier leaves with relief but does not look back in anger. Even so, some major themes of this year's program selections provided subtle hints at Mortier's perception of his Salzburg tenure: the individual crushed by social conventions and callous individuals, the struggle for power, and, of course, the violation of artistic vision by those who lack artistic sensitivity (Strauss's *Ariadne auf Naxos*).

The struggle for power, as well as its accompanying brutality, was best expressed by two contrasting variations on *Macbeth*. The young Catalan director Calixto Bieito staged a drastically shortened and simplified version of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* on the Pernerinsel, in a translation by Frank Günther. Transposed onto a setting somewhere between the 1970s and the present, this *Macbeth à la Sopranos* was over in two hours and 15 minutes, albeit without intermission. Frequent insertions of pop music as well as vigorous acrobatics and plenty of well-sculpted bodies assured that the audience remained visually engaged. The number of speaking characters was considerably reduced: a fortune-telling party girl replaced the witches and apparitions of the original play, for instance. The Macduffs have two girls and a boy, but the children are not allowed any speaking parts. They merely push (last year's) trendy scooters across the stage or play with plastic machine guns and beach toys. They help to create the impression of average families getting together in the spacious living room of the Macbeths, complete with fish tanks and kitschy views of Caribbean beaches. Creating this kind of atmosphere was one of the Bieito's declared goals, and the production succeeded. (His point, of course, is that average people can become murderous monsters.)

But if the production succeeded in portraying the average-Joe side of the Macbeths, one missed a more profound sense of their demonic, perverse side. Andreas Grothgar was at times able to project a sense of

Macbeth's dark side. But although Anne Tismer expended great physical exertion as she danced tirelessly in miniskirts or climbed up and down ladders in dangerously high heels, she remained a rather nice, if somewhat nymphomaniacal, girl. When she finally turned mad, spit up her medicine, and had to roll around in the resulting mess, one felt truly sorry for her, all the more so since the latter activity has become such a pervasive cliché in modern *Regietheater*.

Her youth and good looks, however, as well as that of the other protagonists, appealed to a younger and less experienced audience. To its credit, this production approached Shakespeare without paralyzing awe and presented *Macbeth* as a fast-paced thriller. The downside of this approach is a lack of subtlety and a lower degree of emotional intensity. The murder of Macduff's children, for instance, leaves the audience curiously cold, since we have only experienced the children as a pack of noisy brats (instead of knowing the little boy from a moving dialogue with his mother, which the director excised).

As Macduff, Max Hopp arouses a certain amount of compassion when he learns that his wife and children have been murdered. Michael Tregor, as Lennox and the porter, provides comic relief and ambiguous commentary on the events with the requisite mixture of innocence and cunning. Matthias Bundschuh portrayed Malcolm as a complex character who vacillates between moments of tearful compassion, childish joy, keen insight, and sinister lust for revenge.

The emotional intensity that was lacking in the production of *Macbeth* was fully present in the production of *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, the powerful opera by Dmitri Shostakovich. It tells the story of Katerina Ismailova, a wealthy merchant's wife who kills her father-in-law and aids in the murder of her husband in order to be able to marry her lover. Shostakovich, who cowrote the libretto with the gifted Leningrad dramaturg Alexander Preiss, wanted Katerina to be seen as an highly intelligent, extraordinary woman who is ruined because her longing for love is brutally frustrated by the cruelty and social conditions around her. Remarkably, the opera—and this production in particular—pull off the improbable feat, and the audience sympathizes with this “Lady Macbeth.”

To a considerable extent this is due to the ingenious score, conductor Valery Gergiev's powerful, highly emotional interpretation, and the Vienna Philharmonic's rousing performance. All possibilities of the score were forcefully exploited to emphasize, for instance, the merciless mockery of the bystanders in several scenes. At times conductor and orchestra got a bit carried away, so that the instrumental thunderstorm drowned out the singers, as during the solo of the “Shabby One.” Most of the time, however, gigantic crescendos produced a rousing drama and successfully convey the intended message. This was especially true in those scenes when mockery and verbal altercations, usually generated by boredom, turn into physical violence. Shostakovich's score and libretto suggest that this “boredom” is tinged with a deep melancholy and derives from a lack of love and meaning in life. Individuals and groups attempt to fill the void with violence and excesses of various kinds, such as alcoholism and promiscuity.

Director Peer Mussbach deserves high praise for complementing the music in a way that is both effective and respectful. Rare among contemporary directors, Mussbach realizes that less can sometimes be more. So, for example, the first ferocious sexual encounter between

Larissa Shevchenko starring as Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk.
(Monika Rittershaus/Salzburg Festival)



Two Portraits

Katerina and Sergei was not shown on stage, but the explosive music and projections of furiously working machinery are allowed to convey the content of the scene more effectively. Mussbach also directs his characters in ways that painfully expose their internal sufferings as well as the horrors of their social world.

The singers and the chorus all did their part. Larissa Shevchenko as Katerina stood out, since her powerful voice matched her excellent acting. That Vladimir Vaneev's Boris did not distract the audience with the kind of sonorous Russian bass one might have expected actually helped the drama. He certainly came across as sufficiently mean-spirited and repulsive to inspire murderous thoughts. Similarly, Victor Lutsiuk as Sergei is convincing as the kind of man who would seduce a married woman for sport, convince her of his love to win her hand, position, and fortune, and promptly drop her when their crimes are discovered. Leonid Zachozhaev as Katerina's husband Zinovy wins some sympathy with his beautiful tenor, but the character's violent rages almost justify his murder. Enhancing the performances are Konrad Lichtenberg's sophisticated lighting, costumes by Andrea Schmitt-Futterer, and Klaus Kretschmer's simple and adaptable sets.

After the musical and emotional excesses of the Shostakovich opera, the somewhat restrained yet beautiful interpretation of Beethoven and early Schoenberg by the Camerata Salzburg under Sir Roger Norrington came almost as something of a relief. The first piece was the first "Leonore" Overture, op. 138, originally written for *Fidelio*. Both the lightness and the deeply moving aspects of the overture were equally well conveyed, as Sir Roger's experience, precision, and restraint combined wonderfully with the warmth and freshness that the young musicians of the Camerata brought to the performance.

Although the ensemble's concentration seemed to lapse briefly during the short Notturmo for Strings and Harp by Schoenberg, it was fully restored with the onset of the composer's famous late romantic *Transfigured Night*. The Camerata's performance under Sir Roger admirably rendered Schoenberg's structures transparent and chiseled out the piece's textures. Without neglecting the romantic aspects of the composition, the orchestra never exaggerated them either, while those passages anticipating Schoenberg's later development appeared to grow organically out of the more traditional material.

After the break the Camerata was joined by Joshua Bell for Beethoven's Violin Concerto in D Major, op. 61. One must admire any soloist who masters this complex, challenging piece, but Bell made it seem easy. Beyond his amazing virtuosity, the tension and

excitement of the interplay between the sections of the orchestra and the soloist was maintained throughout this extraordinary piece. Bell also wrote his own cadenzas and played the numerous passages in the upper registers and many trills with bravura and musicality, while the Camerata rose to the occasion.

The Hampson Project, subtitled "I Hear America Singing," set out to explore what America meant to poets and composers during the past 125 years. An important subtheme, the desire for freedom from tyranny, complemented the great Macbeth theme of brutal struggle for domination. The American baritone Thomas Hampson conceived the program, wrote the introduction and interpreted the vocal selections.

The program began with Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man*, which was played with precision and appropriate simplicity by the Radio Symphony Orchestra Vienna under the baton of its musical director, Ohio-born Dennis Russell Davies, former music director of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. Plenty of pathos was expressed in Weill's "Four Songs of Walt Whitman," all of them dealing with war and sacrifice.

Hampson's warm, masculine voice and nuanced interpretation made the songs all the more moving, while the orchestra accompanied him with great sensitivity.

The next piece, Karl Amadeus Hartmann's *Sinfonia tragica*, fit into the program in its musical idiom and shared the preoccupation with freedom and war themes with the American selections: Hartmann never fled Nazi Germany but composed the *Sinfonia tragica* in 1940 as a musical challenge to the regime, especially through numerous quotations from works by composers considered as "degenerate" by the Nazis, including Berg, Mahler, Hindemith, Webern, and Bartok. Conductor and orchestra allowed the slower passages plenty of space to breathe, which made for exciting contrasts with the rousing and indeed tumultuous sections of the second movement. While the chaos of war is brilliantly reflected in this powerful piece, the superb control of Davies ensured that the performance was never chaotic.

The second half of the program was somewhat lighter but equally successful. The performance of the third of Ives's *Three Places in New England*, "The Housatonic at Stockbridge," was especially memorable. Under Davies's guidance, the musical structure emerged like the features of a misty landscape. Finally, Thomas Hampson's performance of several "Old American Songs" set by Aaron Copland brought out the whimsical quality and apparent simplicity of the songs as well as the sophistication of the composer's settings. The evening left the audience with new insights into American poetry and music, which could not have a more charming or accomplished

advocate than Hampson.

In conclusion, while the excellent concert fare was, as always in recent years, the work of Hans Landesmann, the opera productions and plays of this season typified Mortier's impact on the festival. Shostakovich's opera, like the universally acclaimed production of Janacek's *Jenufa*, marked another welcome expansion of the Salzburg repertory initiated by Mortier, even if it did not attain the brilliance of last year's *Les*
continued on page 24



Thomas Hampson
(Simon Fowler/EMI)

Announcements

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES & SYMPOSIA

Austria. *International conference.* Österreichischer Zeitgeschichtetag 2001, "Demokratie - Zivilgesellschaft - Menschenrechte," 5-7 Oktober 2001, Universität Klagenfurt, vom Institut für Geschichte/Abteilung für Zeitgeschichte gemeinsam mit den Universitäten Ljubljana und Triest veranstaltet. Contact: Mag.ra Lisa Rettl, Institut für Geschichte/Abteilung für Zeitgeschichte, Universitätsstrasse 65-67, A-9020 Klagenfurt/Celovec, Austria. Tel: +43 463 2700 2207; fax: +43 463 2700 2297; e-mail: lisa.rettl@uni-klu.ac.at.

Wales. *International conference.* "Anthropology, Archaeology and Heritage in the Balkans and Anatolia," 3-6 November 2001, University of Wales, Gregynog. Sponsored by the University of Wales Centre for the Study of South Eastern Europe and supported also by the British Academy. Plenary speakers: Professor Giovanni Salmeri (University of Pisa, Italy), Professor Irene Melikoff (University of Strasbourg), Professor Michael Meeker (UCSD), and Mr. Keith Hopwood (UW Lampeter). Contact: David Shankland, Anthropology Department, Univ. of Wales, Lampeter, Ceredigion, SA48 7ED, U.K. E-mail: DShankland1@yahoo.co.uk.

United States. *AAASS preconference.* "Slavic Internet Resources: Getting up to Speed in Three Short Hours," 15 November, 9 A.M.-12 P.M., Tidewater Room, Hyatt Hotel. The Slavic librarians from the Bibliography and Documentation Committee will hold a preconference designed to acquaint Slavic scholars with a variety of research resources available online. The program and demonstrations will include the basic techniques of preparing your computer to handle special non-Roman character sets; using your browser's features to organize your research; how and where to find information on diverse topics, including language and literature, politics and government; and how to make contact with scholars through various avenues of electronic communication. There will be opportunities for questions and answers during the session. We have available seating for up to 70 attendees, but we request that those planning to attend the presentation contact Allan Urbanic, tel./voicemail: 510-758-9236, e-mail: aurbanic@library.berkeley.edu.

United States. *Annual convention.* The 33rd National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS), 15-17 November 2001, Crystal City (Arlington), Virginia. The preliminary program is now available on the AAASS website: www.fas.harvard.edu/~aaass. The program features 330 panels and roundtables in such varied disciplines as literature, linguistics, history, geography, political science, economics. Please note that there might be minor changes to the program, such as the time and/or room assignment for a panel or meeting, but no new panels or roundtables will be added. The final program will be available in a printed format at the convention and in electronic format at their

website shortly before the convention. For information, see the website or contact the AAASS Convention Coordinator: Wendy Walker. E-mail: walker@fas.harvard.edu, tel.: 617-495-0678, fax: 617-495-0680.

Croatia. *International Conference.* "Historical Research, the Study of History, and Computerization," 10-11 December 2001, Faculty of Philosophy, Univ. of Zagreb, Croatia. Contact: natasa.stefanec@zg.hinet.hr, iduda@inet.hr (students), or Zavod za hrvatsku povijest, Filozofski fakultet, Ivana Lucica 3, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia.

Hungary. *International conference.* Conference of Labour History and Anthropology, 1-3 February 2002, Budapest. Cosponsored by the University of Miskolc, Faculty of Cultural Anthropology; the International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage (TICCIH); and Lorand Eotvos University Faculty of Teacher Training (ELTE). The conference will concentrate on the theme of labor history, anthropology, and the role of new perspectives and methods to explore ways to integrate labor history with other historical and sociological perspectives. Contact: pethol@mail.exnet.hu, tezs75@hotmail.com, or horvathsanyi@hotmail.com.

Canada. *International conference.* "The European Union's Eastern Enlargement: Surveying the Social and Economic Divides," 7-10 February, University of Toronto. Organized and hosted by the Joint Initiative for German and European Studies. The conference will provide a valuable opportunity for young academics from many countries and a variety of disciplines to discuss key issues in the emerging field of European integration studies. For more information, see the conference website, <http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/jiges/euconfer.html>.

United States. *Annual convention.* The Consortium on Revolutionary Europe will hold its annual meeting 21-23 February. The consortium welcomes proposals for papers dealing with European events from 1750 to 1850, including Europe's impact on the rest of the world and the general areas of cultural, economic, gender, scientific, social, political, intellectual, diplomatic, and military history. Contact: Karl Roider, Dept. of History, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. Tel.: 225-578-4498, fax: 225-578-4909, e-mail: kroider@lsu.edu.

United States. *Conference.* Council for European Studies, 13th International Conference of Europeanists. "Europe in the New Millennium: Enlarging, Experimenting, Evolving," 14-16 March 2002, Palmer House, Chicago. For further information, e-mail ces@columbia.edu or visit the conference website at <http://www.europanet.org>.

Switzerland. *International conference.* "Kinship in Europe: The Long Run, 1300-1900," 15-20 September 2002, Monte Verita, Ascona, Switzerland. The purpose of the conference is to establish the dominant developments of kinship practices between 1300 and 1900. A mainstream historical idea assumes that the importance of kinship was

in steady decline from the Middle Ages onwards. Recent research, however, points to different and even opposite trends. The conference will approach the question by bringing together leading scholars of the field. Our aim is to strengthen the dialogue between national research traditions. Younger scholars and Ph.D. students are particularly welcome to participate. The conference takes place in scenic surroundings in southern Switzerland and includes a variety of forms of presentation. Noninvited participants may give a short presentation of their research in an open session. The organizers are David Sabeau (University of California, Los Angeles), Simon Teuscher (University of California, Los Angeles/Swiss National Science Foundation), and Jon Mathieu (Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano). Conference languages: English, French, German and Italian. For detailed information and registration see: <http://www.isalp.unisi.ch/eng/kongresse/kinship.htm> or contact (preferably in German): Istituto di Storia delle Alpi ISAlp, Università della Svizzera italiana, Via Lambertenghi 10, CH-6900 Lugano, Switzerland. Tel: 41-91-912 4705; fax: 41-91-912 4740. E-mail: admin@isalp.unisi.ch.

United States. *Call for papers.* 40th annual meeting, Southern Conference on Slavic Studies, 14-16 March, Daytona Beach FL. Sponsored by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Stetson University. Send paper proposals to David Darrow, Dept. of History, University of Dayton, Dayton OH 45420. E-mail: David.Darrow@notes.udayton.edu. For other information: Dr. Jim Libbey, Humanities/Social Sciences Department, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach FL 32114-3900. E-mail: libbeyj@cts.db.erau.edu. **Deadline: 1 December.**

United Kingdom. *Call for Papers. International conference.* "Neighbors and Strangers: Germany, Austria, and Central Europe: Literary and Cultural Relations since 1989," University of Salford, Salford, UK. The last decade of the twentieth century and the beginning of the new century have been marked by changed relations in the literary and cultural landscape, as well as by a restructuring of the political environment in Central Europe. Nowhere have these changes been felt more keenly than in the German-speaking countries and their neighbors, particularly to the east and south. This conference will reexamine the literary and cultural interfaces between Germany and Austria, their immediate neighbors and other countries of East Central Europe. Suggested themes, not an exhaustive list, might include German/Austrian writers' perceptions of Slavic neighbors (and vice versa), new reflections on the Habsburg myth, changed perceptions of Germans/East Europeans in literature and culture, gendered perceptions, locations/melting pots, e.g., Berlin and Vienna. Send 250 word abstract to: Ian Foster or Juliet Wigmore, School of Languages, University of Salford, Salford M5 4WT, UK. E-mail: j.wigmore@salford.ac.uk, website: <http://www.languages.salford.ac.uk/neighbours&strangers.htm>. **Deadline: 31 January 2002.**

United Kingdom. *Call for Papers. International graduate student conference.* "The Contours of Legitimacy in Central Europe: New Approaches in Graduate Studies," 24-26 May 2002, European Studies Centre, St. Antony's College, University of Oxford. Opening Keynote Panel (tentative): Mr. Timothy Garton Ash (St. Antony's College, Oxford), Dr. Martyn Rady (SSEES, London), and Professor George Schoepflin (SSEES, London). The Conference Committee of Postgraduates in Central European Studies at the University of Oxford invites postdoctoral, graduate, and final-year undergraduate students in the humanities and social sciences to submit original research papers for discussion. The idea of Central Europe rests, paradoxically, upon ambiguous boundaries and essential definitions. This heartland remains a contested area in terms of overlapping and competing conceptions of territorial frontiers, political authority, economic trading blocs, ethnolinguistic communities, and cultural development. Nonetheless, the region retains a genuine and unique character whose expression extends far beyond the terms of nationalist myth making. In an effort to identify the workings of this paradox, and consequently the nature of the region itself, the committee is calling for papers in the field that focus on the concept of legitimacy. The boundaries of "Central Europe" for these purposes remain broad and can include the region as it has been and is defined, in relation to either Western or Eastern Europe. We particularly welcome papers on minority (e.g., Jewish and Roma) communities within the region. A one-page abstract of the paper (including title), along with a c.v. and contact information (e-mail, telephone, postal address) should be submitted to the conference coordinator: Larissa Douglass, St. Antony's College, Oxford, OX2 6JF United Kingdom, ce_conf@yahoo.co.uk. **Deadline: 1 February 2002.**

NEW ON THE NET

New listserv. AWSSGRAD-L is a listserv for graduate students in Slavic, East European, and Central Eurasian studies, sponsored by the Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS). Its primary purpose is to encourage lively and professional discussion of the ins and outs of the graduate experience, which will help to ease the sense of isolation that is often felt by graduate students. Discussions can include a broad range of topics, including gender issues in our research, our departments, and the profession; current research and research interests; methods and tools of analysis; preparing for papers and exams; networking; choosing and getting along with mentors; navigating departmental politics; reviews of primary and secondary sources; balancing one's personal and professional lives; and managing time and financial resources. The list will be moderated by Cheri Wilson, a Ph.D. candidate in Russian history at the University of Minnesota. To subscribe, send the following command: subscribe awssgrad-l <first name> <last name> to listserv@listserv.loyola.edu. Once your subscription request has been received, you will be sent a questionnaire. Upon completion of the questionnaire, you will be subscribed to the listserv. For more info: Cheri Wilson at CWilson3@loyola.edu.

New online catalog. The Leo Baeck Institute is pleased to announce that its Master Catalog, consisting of the records of the Archive, Library, and Periodical Collections, is now online. The Leo Baeck Institute is a research, study, and lecture center whose library and archives offer the most comprehensive documentation for the study of German Jewish history. The 60,000 volume library of the New York Institute is recognized as the foremost reference source in its field. Many of its volumes were salvaged from famous Jewish libraries that were confiscated by the Nazis. The archives consist of family papers, community histories, and business and public records dating back centuries and touching upon virtually every phase of German-Jewish life. The catalog may be accessed through either the LBI's website, <http://www.lbi.org>, or the Center for Jewish History's website, <http://www.cjh.org>.

REESWeb update. The long-awaited revision of REESWeb, the Word-Wide Web Consortium's (3WC) Virtual Library for Russian & East European Studies, is finally here. The site features a new dynamic interface that allows users to build custom lists of annotated links as well as the ability to keyword search the full text of linked websites. In addition, REESWeb now provides a centralized announcement and calendar page to help keep you up to date on what's going on in the discipline. Submissions of websites to the database or announcements or events to the calendar page are encouraged. The new REESWeb, like its predecessor, can be found at <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/reesweb/>.

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Call for papers. Occasional papers. The Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Pittsburgh publishes The Carl Beck Papers in Russian and East European Studies and is inviting you to submit your research papers for publication. This series fills a unique niche in the publishing of research dealing with the area of the former Soviet Union and East Europe. Submissions are anonymously refereed and published as occasional papers. They are devoted to topics ranging across the entire field of Slavic, Russian, Soviet, post-Soviet and East European studies. Each Carl Beck Paper is published on an individual basis, which allows for rapid turnaround, individual advertising and wide and flexible distribution. The series is a particularly useful vehicle for works of intermediate length—i.e., those between a typical journal article and a book. Minimum length (including notes and bibliography) is 40 pp.; maximum length is 100 pp. Acceptance is based on anonymous reviews. Manuscripts should be submitted in triplicate and double spaced throughout, including endnotes, with the author's name and any identifying references deleted from two of the copies. Submissions should be mailed to: Univ. of Pittsburgh, The Carl Beck Papers, Box G, Center for Russian and East European Studies, 4G-17 W. W. Posvar Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15260. Tel.: (412) 648-9881, fax: (412) 648-2199.

Call for Submissions. Electronic journal. A new e-journal, *spacesofidentity*, began publishing in February. It is multidisciplinary, international, and

Spotlight

CALL FOR PAPERS. *International conference.* "Austrian Writers Confront the Past," 12-14 April 2002, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. Cosponsored by the University of Pennsylvania and the Center for Austrian Studies at the University of Minnesota. Current politics in Austria have rekindled worldwide interest in the ways Austrian writers have (or have not) confronted the past, especially the years between 1934 and 1945. This conference will present a forum for assessing the contributions of Austrian writers and intellectuals since 1945 to a critical accounting of past and present extremism. Proposals must be accompanied by a 200-word abstract and a short c.v. with information about the author's present position or affiliation. Proposals for whole panels must include abstracts for each participant. Indicate whether you are interested in being a moderator or commentator in another panel. You may submit proposals electronically at <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/german/austrianconference.htm>, or you may request a proposal form by writing to the following address: Austrian Conference Committee, Dept. of Germanic Languages and Literatures, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA 19104-6305. Tel: 215-898-7332, fax: 215-573-7794. **Deadline: 1 November.**

dedicated to issues of tradition, cultural boundaries, and identity formation in Central and Eastern Europe. It is a peer-reviewed journal that is published quarterly. New articles appear in the February and August issues, while discussions arising out of these articles or concerning recent events and publications are posted in the April/June and October issues. The editors invite you to read and contribute to their e-journal. The URL is <http://www.spacesofidentity.net>. You will find the journal and guidelines for submission on the website.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

IREX is pleased to announce its 2002-3 grant opportunities for U.S. Scholars doing research in Eastern Europe or the CIS (former USSR), including the Individual Advanced Research Opportunities Program (IARO), Regional Scholar Exchange Program, Short-Term Travel Grants Program, and the John J. and Nancy Lee Roberts Fellowship Program. Eligibility requirements vary by program. Deadlines range from 1 November 2001 to 15 April 2002. For applications and information, contact IREX, 1616 H Street NW, 6th Floor, Washington DC 20006. Tel: 202-628-8188, fax: 202-628-8189, e-mail: irex@irex.org, website: <http://www.irex.org>. Applications may be downloaded from the website.

Salzburg *from page 21*

Troyens or Messiaen's *St. François d'Assise* several years ago. The best of these productions featured wonderful interpretations and excellent singers, as well as creative, innovative directors like Peter Sellars and Herbert Wernicke. Yet in other instances, especially in the festival's more traditional offerings (above all Mozart's operas), Mortier seemed to seek provocation for its own sake. This season had its obligatory scandal (a production of Strauss's *Fledermaus* directed by Hans Neuenfels), although Mortier did refrain from his customary verbal attacks on assorted politicians, businessmen, artists, and journalists.

Mortier's undisputable achievement was to attract media attention and to dispel the stodginess that often afflicted the festival. But he relied too heavily on the products of contemporary German *Regietheater*, as was the case with this year's *Macbeth*. Perhaps his successor will be able to avoid this pitfall while continuing the undeniably positive aspects of his tenure. Alas, it may not be possible in this sensationalist age to attract publicity and maintain a reputation for innovative genius without being as confrontational as Mortier. ❖

Sound of Music *from page 12*

and an abundance of culture. The Trapp family had the same values as traditional America: religion, family, and country life. Maria Augusta von Trapp was a European aristocrat, but she also understood the American approach of not bemoaning the past but building a new life for herself and her family. In the 1940s the family was able to purchase a farm in Vermont that reminded them of Salzburg. Today the Trapp Family Lodge is a huge resort style hotel, managed by the youngest son of Maria Augusta, Johannes von Trapp.

With all its inaccuracies and poetic license *The Sound of Music* film is still a goodwill ambassador for Austria. This American *Heimatfilm* with its naïve charm has certainly gained much sympathy for Austria all over the world. Through this book, some of its fans can come to understand that this film image of the country is not complete and that there is much more to Austria than *The Sound of Music* shows. Those who want even more information (or until a translation is published want their information in English) should consult the websites www.trappfamily.com or www.foxhome.com/soundofmusic/som.html.

Gertraud Steiner Daviau
Theaterwissenschaft
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This book can be ordered from: Salzburger Landesinstitut für Volkskunde, Mühlbacherhofweg 6/I, A-5020 Salzburg, Austria. E-Mail: volkskunde.slivk@land-sbg.gv.at. ❖

Guilty Victim *from page 14*

Vienna. For her, writing this book "has been a voyage foremost of rediscovery, but also of discovery, of coming to a closer understanding of my roots and learning aspects of Austria's past and present which I had previously ignored." (222)

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