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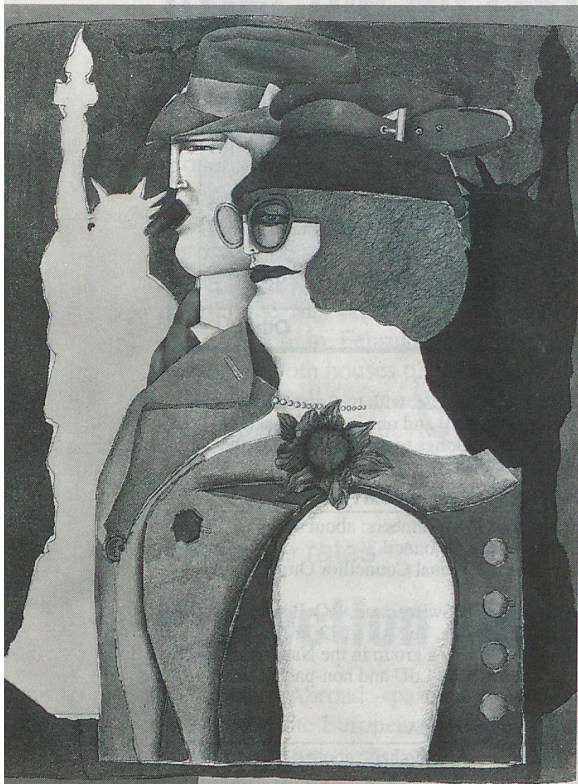
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The Villa Favorita reopens



Richard Lindner, «Out of Towners», 1968. Aquarelle. Thyssen-Bornemisza Foundation. (Photo: Archives)

Thanks to the unflagging energy of Francesca von Habsburg, the only daughter of Baron Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza, her ancestral residence, the Villa Favorita near Lugano, opened as a museum this spring. After the removal of the family property with numerous old masters to the Villahermosa Palace in Madrid the intention was to sell the Villa Favorita, and this is what the Archduchess of Habsburg has now succeeded in preventing. In 1991 she set up the ARCH Foundation to help maintain the artistic heritage of the former east bloc. Shortly after, a first attempt to rescue war-threatened cultural artifacts on the spot led Francesca von Habsburg to visit Croatia.

The new permanent collection (open from April 2 – October 31) is devoted to American painting of the last 150 years, with classical modern west European and Russian art. These mark a return of about 150 Thyssen paintings never before shown which were not included in the Spanish loan, and they show the baron's eclectic taste as a collector. The Villa Favorita will also hold a series of innovative exhibitions and symposia, as well as containing a restoration workshop. ■

Personal

● Federal Councillor Flavio Cotti (CVP) has moved from the Federal Department of Home Affairs to the Department of Foreign Affairs in succession to Federal Councillor René Felber, who retired on March 31. (A portrait of Mr. Cotti will appear in the next Swiss Review).

● Home Affairs has been taken over by Mrs. Ruth Dreifuss (SPS), elected to the Federal Council on March 10 (see Swiss Review 2/93).

● Alfred Defago, head of the Culture Office, is made General Secretary of the Foreign Affairs Department by his party colleague, Flavio Cotti.

● Edouard Brunner, Swiss ambassador in Washington, and Carlo Jagmetti, Swiss ambassador in Paris, have recently changed places.

● The head of Political Affairs Division I, Jenö Staehelin, has been appoint-

ed Swiss ambassador in Japan in the place of Ambassador Roger Bär, who has become Consul-General in New York. ■

Point of View

«I met Jordanians and Nepalese among the UN troops. But no Swiss. Why not?»

Bishop Pierre Mamie, after visiting the Bosnian war zone.

Sport

● Swiss professional cyclist Tony Rominger repeated last year's victory in the Round Spain Vuelta. Fellow-Swiss Alex Zülle came second.

● On Whit Monday FC Lugano won the 68th Cup Final in Berne (for the third time after 1931 and 1968) with a 4:1 victory over Grasshoppers. ■

Diary

Music – Theatre – Films

July 15 – September 10
Sion, Valais: «Tibor Varga» International Music Festival

July 13 – September 18
Gstaad/Saanen, Berne: «Music Summer», Yehudi Menuhin and the «Alpengala» Festivals
August 4–14

Locarno, Ticino: International Film Festival

August 14–September 8

Lucerne: International Music Festival
August 26–29

Willisau, Lucerne: International Jazz Festival

August 28–29

Charmey, Fribourg: International Alphorn Meeting

October 15–17

Interlaken, Berne: International Brass Band Competition

Folklore – Public Festivals

August 7–8

Saignelégier, Jura: National «Marché-Concours», horse fair, horse races and popular festivities

September 4–5

Interlaken, Berne: «Unspunnenfest», Swiss costumes and Alpine herdsmen's festival

October 9–10

Rigi, Schwyz: International Kite Festival

Exhibitions

Until October 3

Berne: «150 Years of Swiss Stamps» (Postal Museum)

August 14 – October 17

Le Locle, Neuchâtel: Unique exhibition of the complete SWATCH collection

Until September 26

Lausanne, Vaud: «Claude Monet and his Friends» (Hermitage Foundation)

June 19– November 21

Martigny, Valais: Gianadda Foundation, Retrospective «Edgar Degas»

August 1 – October 30

Fribourg: Niki de Saint-Phalle, (Art and History Museum)

Sport

August 2–15

Verbier, Valais: Aerosports, Paragliding Competition, «Verbier International Open»

August 4

Zurich: International Athletics Meeting
September 27 – October 3

Basle: Tennis, «Swiss Indoors», International Swiss Championship, Men
October 3

Murten, Fribourg: Athletics, International Commemorative Run Murten – Fribourg
October 4 – 10

Zurich: Tennis, European Ladies' Indoors

Congress

August 23 – 27

Geneva: World Summit for Women

Recession

- In 1992 about 10,000 bankruptcies were declared, which is 30% more than the year before. Losses amounted to Sfr. 1.3 billion.
- Redundancies: Berne telecommunications firm ASCOM shed 40 jobs; machine tool manufacturer TORNOS-BECHLER in Moutier, Berne, 70; building machine company AMMANN ULRICH AG in Langenthal, Berne, 50; and Biberist Paper Manufacturers 60.
- Since 1990 registration of all categories of motor vehicles has been in decline. In 1992 341,900 vehicles were registered in Switzerland, which is 30,000, or 8.2% lower than in 1991. The drop in new utility vehicles was the most marked, at 30.3%. Motorbikes were least affected, with 30,700 new registrations in 1992, just 2.5% less than in the previous year. ■



Motorbikes hardly feel the recession: new registrations only 2.5% down.



Ever more jobless and ever fewer vacancies: looking for a job is so difficult that resignation and depression are rife. (Photos: Keystone)

Media

- The daily «Tages-Anzeiger» – which also has an airmail edition – has recently celebrated its centenary. The first number appeared on March 2, 1893, in the form of an information sheet of a type often found in Germany at the time, i.e. a non-party newspaper for everyman living mainly on advertisements. Today the TA is the second biggest daily in Switzerland, and in the course of time it has given its name to the biggest Swiss media group.
- Ringier, another big Swiss publishing house, has become the market leader in the Czech Republic with more than a dozen titles. The most read paper there is the mass circulation «Blesk» (Lightning), a carbon-copy of Zurich's «Blick». However, there are no plans to extend this throughout central Europe on the model of the economic newspaper, «Cash», the main problem being a lack of serviceable printing shops. ■

Books

Derib, JO, Foundation for Life, Geneva, 1991, 96 p., Sfr. 25.–.

«Every individual must change his behaviour... Respect is what we need... for life, for oneself and for others... In at least one respect that is the decisive point». This is one of the key texts in «JO», an AIDS educational comic strip recently published by the «Foundation for Life» in western Switzerland. This book has gone a long way towards breaking the silence and contributing to constructive dialogue on AIDS prevention. The foundation has also gone to remarkable lengths to make the comic strip available to as many young people as possible between 14 and 20 all over the world and free of charge.

Derib (Claude de Ribapierre), one of the original and best Swiss designers of comic books, tells in simple yet scientific language the story of school girl JO who contracts AIDS and finally dies. Not only is her own suffering described but also the reactions of her family and friends to the tragedy – which could one day come to them, as also to the reader.

Thanks to both public and private support together with sales revenues



and a large-scale information campaign, JO has already been distributed to innumerable young people both in Switzerland and abroad. In pursuing this aim the Foundation for Life needs as many partners as possible. All donations are welcome.

The book is available in German, French, Italian, Romansh, English and Dutch and costs Sfr. 25.– (with a special price of Sfr. 8.– for schools, libraries, etc.) + postage and may be ordered from:

Foundation for Life
Av. Miremont 46, CH-1206 Geneva
Fax: 41 22 789 15 62 ■

Texts: Heidi Willumat

Inheritance

in Switzerland:

Last Will

Inventory

Dissolution of community property
and inheritance partition

Estate Division Contract



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