



CULTURE

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CARL CZERNY

GEORG TINTNER

CULTURAL EVENTS

BACK TO THE ROOTS

CULTURE ET DROITS DE L'HOMME

AUSTRIAN CENTER OPENS IN EDMONTON

MEETING OF THE AUSTRIAN-CANADIAN COUNCIL

THE VIENNA CHOIR BOYS AND THEIR CANADIAN CONNECTION

Dear reader:

It gives me great pleasure to have been selected as the editor of *Oe-Culture*—the new journal that aims to inform Canadians about the cultural and other accomplishments of their fellow citizens from Austria.

Although there are some 27,000 Canadians of Austrian origin, according to the Canadian census, their presence has not been very visible in our society. More than others, many Austrian immigrants have chosen to join the Canadian mainstream—at least in public, leaving the cultivation of their language, traditions and culture to the private sphere of family and friends.

And yet, there is much of which Austrian-Canadians can in all modesty be justifiably proud. Other Canadians are often surprised to hear that “such and such is originally from Austria!” The conference on Austrian migration held in 1995 at Carleton University and the two resulting books on the history of Austrian migration to Canada have documented the presence and the achievements of the Austrians in Canada in hundreds of areas. Further research on the Austrian-Canadians is being planned or sponsored by the Austrian-Canadian Council, and activities undertaken by the brand-new Center for Austrian and Central European Studies will contribute to raising Austria’s profile in Canadian minds.

Although *Oe-Culture* will be eclectic in its coverage of people and events, there will always be a strong emphasis on the pure and applied arts as well as on culture—not to perpetuate the stereotype of the Austrians as a nation devoted to Mozart, *Marillenknödel* and the *Heurigen*, but to acknowledge and celebrate those who have made our world a better place in which to live.

Manfred Prokop, Editor

A message from the President:

The Austrian-Canadian Council takes special pride that this second issue of *Oe-Culture* is able to report the details of the successful opening of the new Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies at the University of Alberta. In cooperation with the Austrian Embassy, the Council has worked diligently over the past three years to make this dream a reality. All Austrians, Canadians of Austrian descent, and all friends of Austria will be glad that such a splendid Centre has been established in Canada, and that all aspects of Austrian history and culture are now so well-served at one of the leading universities of this country. The festive opening ceremony moved all of us, and I am so pleased that delegates from all across the country, representing virtually every Austrian club or society in Canada, were able to be present. It was especially gratifying that the mayor and the city of Edmonton honoured us by proclaiming September 6-12 “Austria Week” in Edmonton, and I wish to take this opportunity to thank all participants for the magnificent tribute to Austria in which they took part.

Gerhard W. Bonner
President, Austrian-Canadian Council

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Cover: An *ex libris* from a book in the University of Alberta's Salzburg Collection.

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AUSTRIAN CENTRE OPENS IN EDMONTON

The new Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies was formally opened at the University of Alberta in Edmonton on September 8, 1998.

In March of this past year, the University of Alberta had concluded an agreement with the Federal Government of Austria and the Austrian Conference of University Presidents, to establish a new Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies in order to foster and encourage further area study and research on this part of the world. Since then the enterprise also gained the cooperation and support of the governments of the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovenia.

Opening ceremonies

The Centre (which will go under the acronym CCAuCES) was formally opened by the Austrian Federal Minister of the Sciences and Transport (*Bundesministerium für Wissenschaft und Verkehr*), Dr. Caspar Einem, by the Canadian Federal Secretary of State for Science, Research and Development, the Honourable Ronald Duhamel, and by the President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Alberta, Dr. Roderick D. Fraser. Also participating in the opening ceremony were the Minister of Advanced Education of the Province of Alberta, Mr. Clint Dunford, the Dean of the University of Alberta's Faculty of Arts, Dr. Patricia Clements, and the future Director of the Centre, Professor Franz A.J. Szabo. In attendance were also His Excellency, Dr. Walther G. Lichem, Austrian Ambassador to Canada, His Ex-

cellency Bozo Cerar, Slovenian Ambassador to Canada, and Dr. Raoul Kneucker, Austrian Deputy Minister for the Sciences. The ceremony was attended by some 300 guests.

The national association of Austrians in Canada, the Austrian-Canadian Council (ACC), which had been instrumental in initiating the negotiations leading to the creation of the Center, also held its annual meeting in Edmonton to coincide with the opening. The ACC had a large delegation of some 50 delegates repre-

tawa due to an airline strike. Among those who did manage to get through were the Director of the Centre for Canadian Studies at the University of Innsbruck, Dr. Ursula Mathis Berek, the *Rektor* of the University of Innsbruck, Dr. Hans Moser, the Director of the University of Vienna's Centre for Canadian Studies, Dr. Waldemar Zacharasiewicz, and the representative of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Dr. W. U. Dressler.

The dignitaries began the day by touring the facilities of the new Centre



Presentation of the Austrian flag as a symbolic gift to the University of Alberta. From right to left: Dr. Caspar Einem, Austrian Federal Minister for the Sciences (*Wissenschaft und Verkehr*), Dr. Roderick Fraser, President of the University of Alberta, Dr. Patricia Clements, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, and Dr. Franz Szabo, Director of the Canadian Center for Austrian and Central European Studies.

sending Austrian clubs and societies from across Canada in attendance. Members of Alberta's local Austrian community swelled this group to well over 100.

A large delegation of visitors from Austria had also intended to come to the University of Alberta for the occasion, but most were stranded in Ot-

and by viewing an exhibition of some of the Austrian rarities held by the University of Alberta library and the University of Alberta map collection. Ministers Einem and Duhamel and President Fraser then formally opened an exhibition of Austrian graphic works brought to the University for the occasion, which simultaneously marked

the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This was the Austrian fantastic realist painter Arik Brauer's famous "Graphic Cycle Commemorating the Declaration of Human Rights," which will remain on exhibit at the University of Alberta until the end of November.

At the opening ceremony, the speakers welcomed the creation of the Centre as an important moment in Canadian scholarship. The importance of the Central European area, the ancestral home of such a large number of Canadians, was stressed, and the view was expressed that some of the most significant chapters of European history of the next generation will be written, and some of the most fundamental challenges of the modern world will be faced and tested there. It was affirmed that Canada has some unique advantages in understanding these issues, and that the new Centre will be both the resource centre and the focal point of a national expertise network on central Europe, not only for scholars and academics but for business, government, and non-governmental organizations. Interspersing the speakers, students and faculty from the University of Alberta's Department of Music provided brief, musical divertissements selected from the last five centuries of Austrian music. The opening ceremonies concluded with Dr. Einem's formal inaugural lecture, "The New Production of Knowledge and Public Policy," and with his presentation to President Fraser, Dean Clements and Professor Szabo of the Austrian flag as a symbolic gift on behalf of the Republic of Austria.

Activities planned

The Canadian Centre for Austrian

and Central European Studies' task is to coordinate Austrian and central European studies at the University of Alberta. It provides a leadership role for Austrian Studies within Canada and will create a network of cooperation with other Canadian universities. It will sponsor conferences, artistic festivals, symposia and other scholarly events with an Austrian and central European theme. It will work with the University of Alberta libraries and the Embassies of Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia to establish a resource centre for Austrian and Central European Studies for the use of scholars throughout Canada and the United States.

In the upcoming academic year the new Centre has already booked several Austrian guest speakers and a major Austrian film festival. The renowned Austrian-Canadian pianist Anton Kuerti will be giving a special recital under the auspices of the Centre in January 1999. The most ambitious project of the new Centre this year is to organize and cosponsor a major international symposium entitled "The European Union and Central and Eastern Europe: The Implications for the Canadian Economy," in Calgary, Alberta, on 20 November 1998. Speakers at this event will include Dr. Hanna Suchocka, former prime minister and current Minister of Justice of Poland, Dr. Daniel Daianu, Minister of Finance of Romania, and Dr. Erhard Busek, former Vice Chancellor and Minister of the Sciences of Austria. The Centre regards this event as the first of a planned series of annual meetings of prominent individuals from central Europe and Canada, to be called the "Annual Central Europe Review." The other major project currently being planned is a music conference and festival devoted to the

works of the Viennese composer Carl Czerny. The festival is scheduled to take place in the spring of the year 2000.

The University of Alberta will become the most important university in Canada in which Austrian, Habsburg and central European history and cul-

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Canada and EU launch the Edmonton Process in the Sciences and Technology

On the occasion of the inauguration of the Centre, Dr. Duhamel and Dr. Einem took advantage of their joint presence in Edmonton to exchange views and begin a long-range strategic dialogue between Canada and the European Union. This process, while initiated in Edmonton, is intended to be ongoing, and on this occasion took the form of a round-table discussion between the two ministers, their deputies, EU officials, ministers and officials from the Alberta government, the heads of Canadian research agencies, and representatives of the University of Alberta administration.

Dr. Einem's formal inaugural lecture at the opening of the Centre served as the take-off point for these discussions. They were the first of this type ever held at this level between the European Union and Canada and sought to identify points of access for improved co-operation in these fields in the future. The themes addressed include: human and natural sciences advice and decision-making in Canada and Europe, and opportunities and future directions for long-term co-operation between Canada and the EU in the human, social and natural sciences and in technology.

CULTURE ET DROITS DE L'HOMME

La problématique

Qu'est-ce que culture et droits de l'homme¹ ont à voir? Rien, diront certains; d'autres diront au contraire que les deux ont partie liée. Ne parle-t-on pas de plus en plus d'une "culture des droits de l'homme" qui, si elle n'est pas, ou pas suffisamment, une réalité, apparaît néanmoins comme un objectif digne d'être poursuivi? Par ailleurs, la culture et la diversité culturelle sont aujourd'hui considérées comme des biens que les droits de l'homme visent à protéger et à promouvoir. D'autre part, on constate que certains se servent de la culture et des différences culturelles pour remettre en question l'universalité des droits de l'homme. Enfin, le pouvoir est toujours tenté de mettre la culture à son service; le pouvoir totalitaire la mettra carrément au pas et l'écrasera, de même que les droits de l'homme.

Ces quelques observations nous montrent qu'il n'est pas inutile, cinquante ans après la proclamation de la Déclaration Universelle des Droits de l'Homme, de réfléchir aux rapports entre culture et droits de l'homme. Commençons par clarifier ces deux concepts.

Les concepts

Selon le "Groupe de Fribourg"

(en Suisse) au sein duquel d'éminents universitaires se sont efforcés de définir les droits culturels de l'être humain, le terme "culture" recouvre "les valeurs, les croyances, les langues, les savoirs et les arts, les traditions, institutions et modes de vie par lesquels une personne ou un groupe exprime les significations qu'il donne à son existence et à son développement".

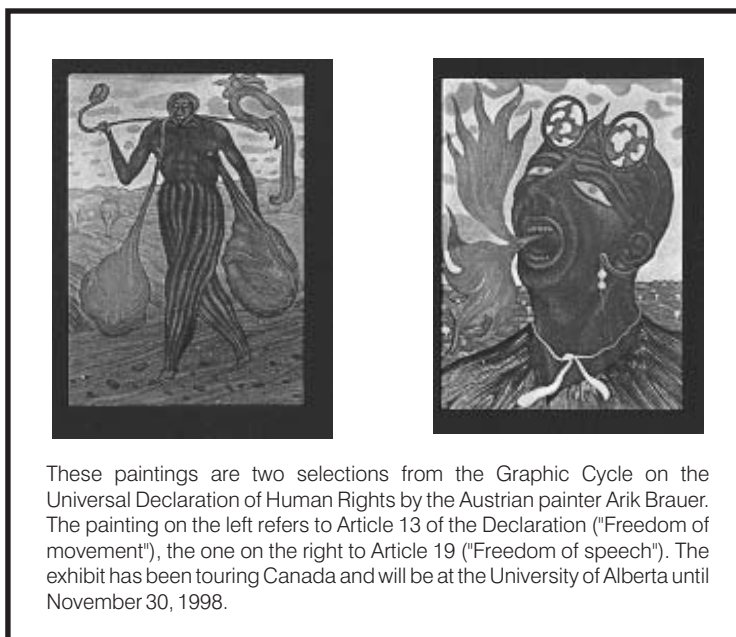
Les droits de l'homme sont des

l'homme et ceux-ci devraient tenir compte de la dimension culturelle de l'être humain et de la diversité de l'humanité.

La diversité culturelle - un bien à défendre

Quant à ce dernier point, il faut reconnaître que le grand mouvement vers la reconnaissance internationale des droits de l'homme a non seulement été un facteur puissant de démantèlement des empires coloniaux; il marque aussi une rupture radicale avec les idéologies et les pratiques du colonialisme et du nationalisme ethnocentrique qui avaient comme objectif et résultat l'assimilation, voire la destruction des cultures des peuples assujettis. Désormais, la communauté internationale considère la diversité culturelle et linguistique comme un

bien à défendre et à promouvoir. Une sorte de droit de l'homme à la survie et à l'épanouissement culturels a fait son apparition en droit international. C'est ainsi que selon la Convention contre le génocide de 1948 relèvent de ce crime des actes commis dans le but de détruire un groupe national, racial ou religieux. De plus en plus, les droits des minorités sont reconnus en tant que partie intégrante des droits de l'homme, notamment par des instruments juridiques européens,



These paintings are two selections from the Graphic Cycle on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the Austrian painter Arik Brauer. The painting on the left refers to Article 13 of the Declaration ("Freedom of movement"), the one on the right to Article 19 ("Freedom of speech"). The exhibit has been touring Canada and will be at the University of Alberta until November 30, 1998.

droits qui appartiennent à tout être humain parce qu'il ou elle est un être humain; des droits dont chacune et chacun a besoin pour pouvoir mener une vie digne d'un être humain, une vie dans la dignité. L'idée de dignité humaine, de l'égalité de tous les êtres humains, est le fondement de tout l'édifice des droits de l'homme.

Entre les deux concepts ainsi définis et compris, il y a incontestablement un lien profond qui mérite d'être développé: la culture devrait englober le respect des droits de

même s'il faut avouer que souvent les réalités sont encore loin de tenir les promesses contenues dans les textes juridiques.

Par ailleurs, la communauté internationale a commencé à reconnaître, à côté des droits civils, politiques, économiques et sociaux, des droits culturels de l'être humain (par exemple le droit à l'éducation). Il reste cependant beaucoup de chemin à faire dans cette voie; car, malheureusement, les droits culturels restent encore une catégorie sous-développée des droits de l'homme.

Culture contre droits de l'homme?

Si la reconnaissance croissante de la diversité culturelle de l'humanité et des droits culturels de l'être humain en tant que biens dignes d'être défendus et promus constitue une avancée remarquable, on ne saurait porter le même jugement sur une autre tendance qui s'est accentuée au cours des dernières années: certains pouvoirs s'attaquent aux droits de l'homme et surtout à leur universalité au nom de la culture. Selon eux, différents contextes culturels, religieux, économiques ou sociaux donneraient lieu à différentes conceptions des droits de l'homme, qui seraient cependant également valables. C'est ainsi que d'aucuns contestent l'universalité des droits de l'homme au nom des "valeurs asiatiques".

Voyons, tout d'abord, d'où viennent ces arguments. Ils sont véhiculés principalement par des régimes totalitaires ou autoritaires qui sont loin d'être des modèles en matière de respect des droits de

l'homme. Kofi Annan, le Secrétaire Général des Nations Unies, a fait observer fort pertinemment que ce ne sont pas les peuples qui s'attaquent à l'universalité des droits de l'homme, mais certains dirigeants. Les organisations non-gouvernementales qui, en Asie comme ailleurs, militent courageusement pour la réalisation des droits de l'homme, parlent un tout autre langage. Enfin, il faut noter que les régimes et dirigeants qui invoquent des "valeurs asiatiques" contre l'universalité des droits de l'homme ne se donnent jamais la peine de spécifier quelles sont ces valeurs et en quoi elles entreraient en collision avec les droits universels de la personne humaine. Un grande autorité religieuse et morale originaire de l'Asie, le Dalaï Lama, a dit qu'il est inhérent à la nature de tous les êtres humains d'aspirer à la liberté, à l'égalité et à la dignité. Selon lui, la riche diversité des cultures et religions devrait aider à renforcer les droits fondamentaux de l'homme dans toutes les communautés parce qu'à la racine de cette diversité il y a des principes fondamentaux qui nous lient tous et toutes en tant que membres de la même famille humaine; la diversité et les traditions ne peuvent jamais justifier les violations des droits de l'homme; les traditions culturelles doivent être rapprochées de la pratique des droits de l'homme et non le contraire. Je partage entièrement l'avis du Dalaï Lama.

Beaucoup de ceux qui contestent l'universalité des droits de l'homme prétendent que ceux-ci sont une invention occidentale, la dernière des trouvailles de l'impérialisme occidental. Malheureusement certains occidentaux apportent de l'eau

au moulin de ceux-là en s'appropriant l'invention des droits de l'homme et en désignant fièrement leur pays comme la patrie des droits de l'homme. Or, s'il est vrai que les Etats-Unis d'Amérique et l'Europe ont au cours des deux derniers siècles apporté une contribution essentielle à la formulation contemporaine et juridique des droits de l'homme, il est terriblement simpliste de faire comme si ceux-ci étaient subitement sortis du néant à la fin du 18ème siècle. En réalité, les idées fondamentales et fondatrices des droits de l'homme, à savoir celles de la dignité humaine et du respect dû à l'être humain parce qu'il ou elle est un être humain, ont des racines multiples et anciennes dans de nombreuses cultures et religions, même si leur formulation en termes de droits subjectifs est d'une date relativement récente et doit effectivement beaucoup à l'Europe et à l'Amérique du Nord. C'est ainsi que les écrits de grands penseurs de la Chine ancienne comme Confucius ou Menxius témoignent d'un profond souci de l'homme et d'un insigne respect de sa dignité, allant de pair avec une distance critique par rapport au pouvoir. Voilà de vraies valeurs asiatiques. En empruntant à Hegel, on pourrait lire l'histoire comme une lente progression de l'idée des droits de l'homme. Évidemment, elle ne s'est pas faite sans heurts; il y eu des avancées et des reculs - de terribles reculs surtout au courant de ce siècle finissant. En tant qu'occidentaux et surtout en tant qu'europeens, nous devrions avoir l'honnêteté d'admettre que, s'il est incontestable que notre partie du monde a joué un rôle important dans la propagation de l'idée des droits de l'homme, elle a aussi été le berceau

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BACK TO THE ROOTS: A COURAGEOUS TORONTONIAN TAKES THE INITIATIVE

The Austrian Nationality Act is a highly sensitive legal instrument. Determining the citizenship of Austrians, its acquisition, extension or loss, it has frequently been the focus of public discussion. One of the pillars of the Act is the view that citizenship is an expression of a profound link between the state and the individual. Hence, usually only one citizenship can be held by an individual, dual citizenship being allowed for children born of parents with different citizenships. Accordingly, individuals who acquire foreign citizenship by applying for it will automatically lose their Austrian citizenship, unless they have previously obtained a waiver from the Austrian Citizenship Office.

"This does not satisfy us," said Austrian citizen Oskar Tankovitz, an executive with a health products company in Toronto. He pointed out that for Austrians living in Canada who want to get ahead in their careers, there comes the time sooner or later when they are advised, or even compelled, to acquire Canadian citizenship. Thus, the switch-over to Canadian citizenship for some is a practical necessity which may conflict with the individual's desire to maintain his or her relationship to Austria.

Since complaining is neither satisfying nor helpful, Mr. Tankovitz decided on a bottom-up approach to the problem. He gathered signatures from like-minded individuals for a petition, asking for a provision in the Act which would allow a person to keep or regain Austrian citizenship when cir-

cumstantial reasons have caused its loss. The magnitude of the response to the petition has surpassed Mr. Tankovitz's highest expectations: A total of 1,450 Canadians of Austrian origin or landed immigrants have signed the petition so far.

The meticulously compiled list of petitioners was then brought to the attention of high-ranking politicians, including the Austrian Federal Minister and the nine *Landeshauptleute* (provincial premiers). Not only were the reactions received by Mr. Tankovitz from Foreign Minister Wolfgang Schüssel und Waltraud Klasnic, the Premier of the Federal Province of Styria, encouraging and sympathetic, but the Austrian federal legislators have indeed acted on the input received from Austrians abroad and have passed an amended Nationality Act in July 1998 which will enter into force on 1 January 1999.

Amendments to the Nationality Act 1998

The major change concerns the reasons acceptable for obtaining a waiver when becoming an alien, in this case a Canadian, in order to be permitted to keep one's Austrian citizenship. While the old Act required that there had to be a benefit for Austria if an individual was to be entitled to keep his or her citizenship, the new provision stipulates that anyone wishing to remain an Austrian for private or family reasons must be granted the waiver and can therefore legally hold

two citizenships. This new procedure is not retroactive, but it appears that the last word in this matter has not been spoken.

Another example illustrating the impact which individuals' initiatives have had on the Nationality Act and the government's willingness to improve existing legislation, is an amendment broadening once again the opportunities for victims of National Socialism to have their citizenship re-established.

By virtue of the 1993 reform of the Nationality Act, NS-victims who wished to have their Austrian citizenship reinstated needed to prove Austrian citizenship at the time of emigration, and the grounds for which they had been persecuted. All handling, processing, and certification fees in these cases were abolished. The 1998 amendments recognize that many individuals in that category had never become Austrian nationals after World War I in spite of perceiving themselves to be Austrians. The reason for this is the fact that according to the Peace Treaty of St. Germain they remained citizens of the respective successor state to the Austro-Hungarian Empire, such as Poland or Romania. Beginning in 1999, these individuals will be eligible to acquire Austrian citizenship, provided that they were resident in Austria for some time before their emigration.

*Dr. Wolfgang Spadinger
Minister-Counselor
Austrian Embassy*

THE VIENNA CHOIR BOYS AND THEIR CANADIAN CONNECTION

One of the world's best-known and best-loved musical organizations, the *Wiener Sängerknaben*, is celebrating its 500th anniversary in 1998, and the choir's new artistic director, Agnes Grossmann, who can look back on a distinguished professional career in Canada, is given much of the credit for their immense success.

The choir was established in 1498 by Emperor Maximilian I. to sing sacred music for the monarchy in the

Director of the Chamber Players of Toronto, and from 1986 to 1995 Ms. Grossmann was Conductor and Artistic Director of the Orchestre Metropolitain de Montréal. In 1990, she became Music Director of Canada's Orford Arts Center as well. She has been guest conductor with orchestras and choirs across North America, Europe, and Japan. Her work has been universally hailed as "ani-mated by energy and powerful



Imperial Chapel in Vienna, and since that time the choir's history has been intertwined with that of Vienna itself and its rich musical and cultural heritage.

Canadian music lovers are well-acquainted with Agnes Grossmann's achievements. After having studied piano at the *Hochschule für Musik* in Vienna and the *Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique* in Paris and after a distinguished career in Europe and several tours of the United States and Canada, Ms. Grossmann studied both orchestral and choral conducting. In 1981, she came to Canada and became a visiting professor at the University of Ottawa where she stayed for two years. Subsequently she was Music

inspiration" and her "profound, in-born musicianship and irresistible temperament."

"A brilliant comeback"

When Ms. Grossmann was appointed as Artistic Director of the Vienna Choir Boys, she was the first woman to lead the choir in its 500 years of existence—a tribute to her exceptional musical and leadership abilities. Success was to follow: As the Choir Boys celebrated their "half millennium" with an exemplary performance of Haydn's "The Seasons" in the *Musikvereinssaal* in Vienna, Ms. Grossman was credited for the Choir's "brilliant comeback" for the celebration.

As always, the Choir has a full artistic calendar with concerts and tours all over the world; it gave a concert in Canada on October 12, 1998 in Montreal. The Choir's website is at <http://www.wsk.at>.

AN EXHIBITION BY ERNESTINE TAHEDL

Noted Austrian-Canadian artist Ernestine Tahedl opened an exhibition of fourteen of her paintings at the Bugera-Kmet Galleries in Edmonton on September 19, 1998. More than a hundred guests attended the opening reception of "Vertical Waters", and several hundreds more visited the gallery over the two-week display period.

Ernestine Tahedl was born and educated in Austria and received a Master's Degree in graphic art from the Vienna Academy of Applied Arts. She emigrated to Canada in 1963. Ms. Tahedl has received many awards and prizes, among them the Allied Arts Medal of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (1966) and the Governor General's Canada 125th Anniversary Medal (1993).

Ms. Tahedl's paintings have been purchased by public galleries and collections across Canada and in several other countries as well as by a host of corporate offices. She created the stained glass for the Canadian pavilion at Expo '67, and she exhibits frequently throughout Canada and the world. Her recent work shows flows of muted colors, giving them a dream-like quality.

MEETING OF THE AUSTRIAN-CANADIAN COUNCIL

The formal opening of the new Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies at the University of Alberta on September 8, 1998 presented a good opportunity to call a Special General Meeting of the membership of the Austrian-Canadian Council. The Council's President, Mr. Gerhard Bonner, welcomed the delegates in the Stollery Center at the University of Alberta and noted the good turnout.

Ambassador Dr. Lichem addressed the meeting on the subject of the Council's mission and common goals. He encouraged the members to participate in an aggressive manner, to share ideas, and to improve the operation of the ACC as the voice of the Austrians in Canada, with the *Oe-Culture* magazine being the central focus point.

Mr. Bonner stressed in his remarks that the Council will need new funding in order to strengthen communication within the membership and to make itself heard. To date, the Council's funding has been insufficient to support its mission. For example, during the past three years funds were used exclusively for projects and programs, leaving funding

shortfalls in the administration of the program itself.

DECISIONS TAKEN

The membership passed motions addressing funding, participatory membership, dual citizenship,



The Austrian Ambassador to Canada, Dr. Walther Lichem, and the Director of the Canadian Center for Austrian and Central European Studies, Dr. Franz Szabo, surrounded by delegates from Austrian clubs across Canada. Photo: Roland Pirker

and trans-Canada representation, including additional Directors. Among the motions passed by the membership were the following:

- to institute a voluntary member/club donation with a recommended minimum of \$100.00;
- to add the following Directors to the Board: Dr. Joseph R. Kandler (Western B.C.); Trudy Duller, Gus Engelbrecht and Othmar Laehrm (Central B.C.); Frank Meixner, Joe Niederleitner and Frank Friesacher (Alberta), Peter Strausz and Vernan Engelbrecht (Central Canada), Franz Zauscherb (Western Ontario), Josef

Helbich and Helmut Jandrisits (Southwestern Ontario), and John Raschke and Oskar Tankovitz (Eastern Canada). Mrs. Juliane Schaible (Winnipeg) was appointed Assistant to the Executive Director of the Austrian-Canadian Council's Foundation;

- to petition the Austrian government to permit Canadians of Austrian origin to regain their lost citizenship;

- to lobby the Austrian government and private enterprise to help young Austrian-Canadians obtain summer work experience in Austria.

It was decided to hold the Annual General Meeting on 28 November 1998

in Ottawa. This meeting will elect the President and four Directors using proxy ballots. The newly elected Board is empowered by the Council's constitution to appoint all other officers.

President Bonner thanked all delegates for their active participation, their donations and their promise to do their utmost to carry the Council's message to all parts of Canada, and make the Foundation a truly lasting entity. On behalf of all present, he expressed his gratitude to Dr. Lichem for his vision and his initiatives which have led to the founding of the ACC and the new Centre.

CULTURE: *Continued from page 6*

de forces foncièrement hostiles à ces droits: du nationalisme ethnocentrique, du colonialisme, du racisme, du darwinisme social, du nazisme, du fascisme et du communisme. C'est principalement l'Europe qui a été coupable des "actes de barbarie qui révoltent la conscience de l'humanité", auxquels se réfère le Préambule de la Déclaration Universelle des Droits de l'Homme.

Pouvoir - culture - droits de l'homme

Pour ce qui est enfin des relations entre les droits de l'homme et le monde de la culture et des arts, celles-ci seront largement déterminées par la nature du rapport que celui-ci entretient avec le pouvoir. Voilà un problème presque aussi ancien que l'humanité. Depuis au moins l'ancienne Égypte, le pouvoir s'est efforcé de mettre la culture et l'art à son service. Plus un régime politique est totalitaire, plus il mettra l'art et la culture au pas et en fera un instrument de son idéologie et de sa propagande. C'est ce que nous enseigne notamment l'histoire de ce siècle et surtout celle du nazisme, du fascisme et du communisme.

On est tenté de dire que, de même que les droits de l'homme, la culture doit s'affirmer et se défendre face au pouvoir. L'art et la culture perdent le pouvoir qui leur est propre s'ils deviennent des instruments du pouvoir. La culture, l'art et les artistes ne peuvent être des promoteurs de la dignité humaine et des droits de l'homme qu'en gardant une distance critique par rapport au pouvoir. En même temps, la liberté de l'art et de la culture est non seulement un bien

éminemment précieux qu'il s'agit de défendre; elle est aussi indicateur et garant de la liberté et des droits de l'homme en général.

Vers une éthique universelle

En guise de conclusion de cette réflexion, et en empruntant à la définition de la "culture" du "Groupe de Fribourg", on ne peut que souhaiter que les droits de l'homme fassent de plus en plus partie intégrante des valeurs par lesquelles l'humanité donne une signification à son existence et à son développement. En ce qui me concerne, je crois que l'affirmation et la consécration des droits de l'homme au niveau international exprime l'aspiration de l'humanité à une éthique universelle - l'éthique de l'égalité de dignité de tous les êtres humains.

Peter Leuprecht

¹ Si j'emploie, de même que la grande majorité des francophones d'Europe, le terme "droits de l'homme" qui figure d'ailleurs dans la Déclaration Universelle et de nombreux autres traités internationaux, il va de soi que ce terme englobe tous les êtres humains.

Peter Leuprecht a été Directeur des Droits de l'Homme et Secrétaire Général Adjoint du Conseil de l'Europe. Il travaille actuellement comme conseiller au Ministère de la Justice du Canada et comme professeur invité au Département des Sciences Juridiques de l'Université du Québec à Montréal et à la Faculté de Droit de l'Université McGill.

NEW BOOK ON EMIGRATION FROM AUSTRIA

In *Auswanderungen aus Österreich*, the Austrian scholars Traude Horvath and Gerda Neyer have compiled an impressive volume on the history of emigration from Austria. In the first part, the authors profile the emigration from the middle of the 19th century to 1945. This period covers the exodus from the Austro-Hungarian Empire in the late 19th and early 20th century as well as the voluntary or enforced inter-war emigration, and the expulsion of Austrian Jews during the NS-regime.

The remaining chapters deal with Austrian emigration after 1945. Following a discussion of the immigration policies in some of the receiving countries, the authors provide data on the extent and dynamics of emigration to the thirteen most important countries. Individual case studies examine representative types of migration to selected destinations, among them the "classical" destination countries, the United States and Canada.

Since 1945 more than half a million Austrians have emigrated and remained abroad. In 1992 about 6.5% of Austrians resided in other countries, but according to the authors this figure seriously underestimates the actual numbers, especially in view of the fact that an ever-increasing number of Austrians is employed abroad by multinational businesses and governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Continued on page 12

CENTRE: *Continued from page 4*

ture can be studied in depth through explicitly designated undergraduate courses, and broadly flexible graduate programmes. Thanks to its unique arrangement through the Austrian Conference of University Presidents with every post-secondary institution in Austria, the University of Alberta will be in a position to offer unrivalled opportunities for exchanges and credit studies in Austria. Students also have an opportunity to meet and study with numerous prominent Austrian scholars in many disciplines who come to the University of Alberta as part of the programme.

One feature of this arrangement is the subsidization by Austria of an ongoing visiting faculty member under the *Institutslektor*-programme of the Ministry of the Sciences. Visiting *Institutslektoren* will come on three-year terms and will also serve as Associate Directors of the Centre. The first *Institutslektor* selected is Dr. Markus Reisenleitner, an expert on Austrian cultural history, who has been teaching at the University of Vienna.

The Centre's resources

The University of Alberta has the most outstanding resources for Austrian studies in Canada. The famous *Priesterseminar* collection of the archbishopric of Salzburg is just one of several major collections pertaining to imperial Austria and central Europe which the University of Alberta has acquired over the past few decades. Among others the University of Alberta is now also home to the entire library of the Viennese *Politischer Juridischer Leseverein*, giving it the strongest central and eastern European collection in the country. Already the second largest general university li-

TINTNER INVESTED AS MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF CANADA

On October 22, 1998 world-renowned conductor Georg Tintner was given one of the highest honors which Canada can bestow on one of her citizens: He was invested as a Member of the Order of Canada.¹ This wonderful decoration comes just at the time when Georg Tintner is preparing to conduct several performances of Viktor Ullmann's opera "The Emperor of Atlantis" in Halifax,



Fredericton, Charlottetown, and Antigonish (see Calendar of Cultural Events).

Tintner was born in Vienna in 1917. He entered the Vienna State Academy and proved to have outstanding promise. Already at the age of 16 he trained a children's choir for a performance of Gustav Mahler's 8th Symphony under conductor Bruno Walter.

Tintner was well-placed for a stellar conducting career, but Hitler's annexation of Austria forced him to flee the country and the Nazis. Over the next 50 years, the odyssey took him to all five continents, but in 1987 Tintner accepted the challenge of rebuilding Symphony Nova Scotia in Halifax, serving as its music director and resident conductor—a position which he held until 1994 and which gave the orchestra national prominence.

In the 1980s and 90s, Tintner made regular appearances with the Hong Kong Philharmonic and the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, and among many other engagements he conducted the Canadian Opera Company Ensemble's 1989 touring production of "The Marriage of Figaro".

Georg Tintner continues to be known as an interpreter of Austrian classics. Recognizing his insight and skill, the Naxos recording company has engaged him to record all of Bruckner's symphonies.

¹ Another great Austrian-born Canadian was decorated as well: The famous conductor Anton Kuerti was invested as an Officer of the Order of Canada.

brary in Canada, the University of Alberta's Austrian and central European collection ranks among the top five in North America.

With the assistance of the Austrian government and the additional support by the governments of other central European countries, this collection will be enhanced by major an-

nual book purchases which will ensure that the University's collection will remain the premier library for Austrian, Habsburg and other central European subjects in Canada.

Dr. Franz Szabo
Director, Center for Austrian and Central European Studies

A CANADIAN CENTRE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA

A Canadian Centre has been added to the Centre for International and Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Vienna. Dr. Waldemar Zacharasiewicz, Chair of the Department of English and American Studies, has been appointed as its first director. For the October 1998 opening of the Centre a small symposium is planned with the co-operation and participation of the Technical University of Vienna and other Austrian post-secondary institutions.

EMIGRATION: *Continued from page 10*

Anyone interested in the details of Austrian emigration to the corners of the world will find a wealth of data as well as documentation presented in highly readable form. Many Canadian readers may well be familiar with some of the authors' work, namely their chapter on "Austrians Abroad: Austrian Emigration after 1945" in *Austrian Immigration to Canada. Selected Essays*, ed. Franz A.J. Szabo (Ottawa, Carleton University Press, 1996).

Auswanderungen aus Österreich is available from Dr. Christina Lutter, Bundesministerium für Wissenschaft und Verkehr, Abt. III/A/3, Rosengasse 4, A-1014, Vienna. Contact Dr. Lutter at the above address or, alternatively, by e-mail at christina.lutter@bmwf.gv.at.

CARL CZERNY FESTIVAL PLANNED

The 19th-century Austrian composer and teacher, Carl Czerny (1791-1857), has been well known to generations of piano students for his innumerable etudes, studies and technical exercises which have been inflicted on them for almost two centuries. Yet, as the pupil of Beethoven and the teacher of Liszt, he was not only the transmitter of an important pianistic tradition, but an imposing composer in his own right. His pedagogical compositions have so overshadowed his more profound and serious work that much of the latter is only now slowly coming to public attention. These serious compositions emerging from obscurity show that Czerny did not lack for invention, craft or emotion, and that he was a genius of musical and pianistic creativity that should not be despised or forgotten.

The University of Alberta's new Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies therefore

proposes to mount a "Carl Czerny International Symposium and Music Festival" in the spring of the year 2000. The music festival will feature performances of some of the most important Czerny compositions, many as world premieres from unpublished manuscripts. It will initially be held in Edmonton, both at the University of Alberta and in other public concert venues, but individual concerts and recitals from the festival will then be made available to other centres in Canada, the United States and Europe.

The overall artistic director of the events will be the renowned Austrian-Canadian pianist, Anton Kuerti. Fundraising for the Festival will be kicked off on 13 January 1999 when Maestro Kuerti will give a benefit recital in Edmonton. For further information contact CCAuCES at the University of Alberta.

CANADIAN DRIVER'S LICENSES VALID IN AUSTRIA

For a long time it has been a nuisance that there was no mutual recognition of driver's licences between Austria and Canada. Canadian drivers who lived in Austria had to take driving lessons again and had to pass a test to get an Austrian driver's licence. With the new legislation on driving licences promulgated on 31 October 1997 the Republic of Austria has compiled a list of countries whose driver's licences for standard passenger cars are considered equivalent to Austrian licences. As Canada is among them, Canadians living in Austria will be entitled to exchange their Canadian driver's licence for an Austrian permit for the duration of their stay in Austria without having to take driving courses or tests. Business people who are sent to Austria by their Canadian employers will appreciate this arrangement, just as students might prefer to commence their studies elsewhere than in a driving school.

These changes do not apply to tourists traveling to Austria. As before, an international driver's licence (available at the Canadian Automobile Association and elsewhere) is mandatory in addition to the Canadian driver's licence.

CULTURAL EVENTS/MANIFESTATIONS CULTURELLES

Continued from page 16

Convocation Hall
University of Alberta

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver

13 November 1998

"Urban Densification: Linking Transportation and Land Use"

Lecture by Prof. Arnold Klotz, Director for City Planning, City of Vienna

Seminar: *"Architecture, Urban Design and Transportation: European Best Practices"*

Organized jointly by the Austrian Trade Delegation and other EU- Consulates

Simon Fraser University
Harbour Centre

18 November 1998 (at UBC) and

20 November 1998

"Jugofilm"

Austrian contribution to the EU-Film Festival Vancouver

Pacific Cinémathèque Vancouver

1 January 1999, 2.30 p.m.

Canada's New Year's Concert: "Salute to Vienna"

Orpheum

22 - 24 January 1999

"A Weekend in Vienna in Vancouver"

Concerts and lectures organized by Music in the Morning

Four Seasons Hotel

Victoria

24 January 1999

Competition for the Johann Strauss Foundation-Fellowships 1999/2000

University of Victoria

NOVA SCOTIA

Antigonish

18 November 1998, 8 p.m.

"The Emperor of Atlantis"

Opera by Viktor Ullmann

Director: Tibor Egervari, conductor: Georg Tintner

Saint-Francois Xavier University Immaculata Hall

Fredericton

16 November 1998, 8 p.m.

"The Emperor of Atlantis"

Opera by Viktor Ullmann

Director: Tibor Egervari, conductor: Georg Tintner

Le Centre Communautaire St. Anne

Halifax

11 November 1998, 8 p.m.

"The Emperor of Atlantis"

Opera by Viktor Ullmann

Director: Tibor Egervari, conductor: Georg Tintner

12 November 1998, 2 p.m.

"The Emperor of Atlantis"

Opera by Viktor Ullmann

Director: Tibor Egervari, conductor: Georg Tintner

Wolfville

13 November 1998, 8 p.m.

"The Emperor of Atlantis"

Opera by Viktor Ullmann

Director: Tibor Egervari, conductor: Georg Tintner

Festival Theatre

ONTARIO

Guelph

29 November 1998

"Advent in der Bauernstub'n"

Concert by the "Alpenchor"

Church of the Immaculate Conception

Ottawa

27 October 1998

"Democratic Transformation in Central and Eastern European Countries"

Lecture by Dr. Otmar Höll, Director of the Austrian Institute of International Affairs

Norman Paterson School

Carleton University

24 September - 22 November 1998

"Close Encounters/Contacts intimes"

Exhibition Maria Lassnig

Ottawa Art Gallery

9 - 17 November 1998

"Kleine Verbündete - Little Allies"

Exhibition on Austrian Children's and Juvenile Literature in Exile

"Building History: Art, Memory and Myth"

International Conference

13 November 1998

"Jugofilm"

European Union Film Festival, Opening Night

Austrian contribution

Canadian Museum of Civilization

14 November 1998, 8 p.m.

"Die Weise vom Leben und Tod des Cornets Christoph Rilke"

Chamber Music Concert on occasion of the 100th Birthday of Viktor Ullmann

ARBOS - Theatre, Music Company

CULTURAL EVENTS/MANIFESTATIONS CULTURELLES

Austria
University of Ottawa, Tabaret Hall

23 November 1998
"A Gala Night in Vienna"
For the Austrian Ambassador
Ottawa Symphony Orchestra
Conductor: David Currie
Benefit concert for the Ottawa Sym-
phony Orchestra and the SOS Chil-
dren's Village
National Arts Centre

2 December 1998
"Jugofilm"
European Union Film Festival, Na-
tional Evening
Canadian Museum of Civilization

1 January 1999, 2 p.m.
Viennese New Year's Celebration
National Arts Centre

Toronto

17 and 18 October 1998
"Song of the Danube"
Jane Mallett Theatre
Toronto Operetta Theatre

18 November 1998
"The European Union and Central and
Eastern Europe. The Implications for
the Canadian Economy"
International Symposium organized
by Metropolitan Toronto Board of
Trade, the Canadian Institute for Inter-
national Affairs and the Austrian Em-
bassy

5 December 1998
"The Mystery of History: Vienna 1888-
1889"
Off Centre Music Series - Arts and Let-
ters Club

6 December 1998
"Advent in der Bauernstub'n"
Concert by "Alpenchor"
Our Lady of Fatima Shrine

24, 26, 28, 30, 31 December 1998
"Die Fledermaus" by J. Strauss Jr.
Toronto Operetta Theatre
Jane Mallett Theatre
St. Laurence Centre for the Arts

1 January 1999, 2.30 p.m.
Canada's New Year's Concert "Salute
to Vienna"
Roy Thomson Hall

11, 12 and 13 January 1999
"An Evening in Old Vienna"
Toronto Symphony Orchestra

24 April 1998
"Opera Magic '99 - Viennese Night"
Centuries Opera Association
The George Weston Recital Hall -
Ford Centre for the Performing Arts

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Charlottetown

17 November 1998, 8 p.m.
"The Emperor of Atlantis"
Opera by Viktor Ullmann
Director: Tibor Egervari, conductor:
Georg Tintner
Confederation Centre

QUEBEC

Laval

16 octobre 1998, 20.00 h
5ième Bal Viennois annuel de
l'Orchestre symphonique de Laval
Château Royal

Lorraine

7 novembre 1998, 19h30
Grand Concert Viennois (Vienne
chante et danse)
Centre culturel Ouis-Saint-Laurent

Montreal

27 août - 18 octobre 1998
Biennale de Montréal
Konrad Becker: "Arts Electroniques"
Musée Juste Pour Rire (St. Laurent
Blvd)
Martin Walde: "The Dream Catchers"
Marché Bonsecours (Vieux Montreal)
Erwin Wurm: "C'est la Vie"
Musée Juste Pour Rire (St. Laurent
Blvd)
Centre International d'Art Con-
temporain

12 October 1998
Vienna Choir Boys (Wiener Sängerknaben) with the Chorus Viennensis and the Vienna Chamber Orchestra
Agnes Grossmann, Conductor
Eglise Notre Dame

26 October 1998
"The Austrian Presidency of the Euro-
pean Union"
Lecture by Otmar Höll
Director of Austrian Institute of Inter-
national Affairs
McGill University

1 - 8 novembre 1998
Journées du cinéma autrichien (films
de 1981 à 1997)
Cinémathèque québécoise
335 de Maisonneuve est

8 novembre 1998, 15h30
Récital par David Frühwirth (violon)
accompagné par le pianiste
canadien Jean Marchand
Chapelle historique du Bon Pasteur

CULTURAL EVENTS/MANIFESTATIONS CULTURELLES

9 novembre 1998, 20 h

"*Vienna Virtuosi*" (musiciens de la Philharmonie Viennoise)

Série Pro Musica

Théâtre Maisonneuve (Place des Arts)

16 novembre 1998, 20.00 h

"*Die Weise vom Leben und Tod des Cornets Christoph Rilke*"

Soirée Viktor Ullmann

Chapelle historique du Bon Pasteur

17 novembre 1998

"*L'Union Européenne et l'Europe Centrale et Orientale: L'intérêt pour l'économie canadienne*"

Symposium international de la Chaire Jean Monnet

Université de Montréal, organisé en collaboration avec l'Ambassade d'Autriche

Hôtel Ritz-Carleton

29 novembre 1998, 14h30

Ensemble Johann Schrammel

Ecole de Musique Vincent-D'Indy

1 January 1999

Canada's New Year's Concert "Salute to Vienna"

Salle Wilfried Pelletier, Place des Arts

17 January 1999

New Year's concert

Festival de Musique Viennoise de Laurentides

Ecole de Musique Vincent-D'Indy

Mont Tremblant

5 et 7 November 1998

"*Bâtir la pluralité: la culture dans un monde en pleine évolution*"

Conférence Canada - Union européenne

Hotel Château Mont Tremblant

Sainte Thérèse

9 octobre 1998, 20h00

Ensemble Johann Schrammel -
Monika et Peter Hana

Centre culturel et communautaire

Sainte-Agathe des Monts

18 octobre 1998, 14h30

Stuben Musi / Alpen Trio

Eglise de Ste.-Agathe

24 octobre 1998

Trio Kaffeehaus

Restaurant Le Châtel Vienna

1 novembre 1998, 15.00 h

Trio Kaffeehaus / Ensemble vocal
Laferrière-Doane

Eglise de St.-Augustin

Ile Perrot

11 octobre 1998, 18h30

Ensemble Johann Schrammel -
Monika et Peter Hana

Restaurant Vieux Kitzbühel

17 octobre 1998, 18.00 h

Ensemble Strauss-Lanner

Château Montcalm à St. Donat

SASKATCHEWAN

Regina

31 December 98

New Year's Eve Dance (Silvesterball)

Austrian Canadian Edelweiss Club of
Regina Inc.

1 January 1999

Canada's New Year's Concert "Salute to Vienna"

Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts

Saskatoon

1 January 1999

Canada's New Year's Concert "Salute to Vienna"

Saskatoon Centennial Auditorium

Second call for participation

A DICTIONARY OF AUSTRIAN-CANADIANS

Thanks to the success of our "Austrian Immigration to Canada" project, the Austrian-Canadian Council has now undertaken to co-sponsor a whole series of "Austrian Migration Studies." The first volume will be a *Biographical Dictionary of Austrian-Canadians*. It will have room for about 3,000 biographical sketches, and all Austrians in Canada and Canadians of Austrian descent are urged to participate. Children or grandchildren of deceased Austrian immigrants are also urged to submit information about them.

Dr. Prokop is currently collecting data for this major new project. He is not only looking for Austrians in Canada who have had interesting *public* lives, but for the life stories of *all* immigrants and their descendants. For more information or the questionnaire, please contact him at the following address:

422 - 52313 Range Road 232

Sherwood Park, Alberta T8B 1B7

Phone/Fax: (403) 467-6273

E-Mail: Manfred.Prokop@Ualberta.ca

CULTURAL EVENTS/MANIFESTATIONS CULTURELLES

ALBERTA

Calgary

20 November 1998

"The European Union's Enlargement to Central Europe: New Opportunities for the Canadian Economy"

Organized by the Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies, the Calgary Economic Development Authority, the European Commission, and the Austrian Embassy

1 January 1999, 2.30 p.m.

Canada's New Year's Concert: "Salute to Vienna"

The Arts Centre's Jack Singer Concert Hall
Calgary

Edmonton

8 September - 30 November 1998

Arik Brauer's Graphic Cycle on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
Dean's Circle, Humanities Centre
University of Alberta

7 October 1998

"Developments in German Language Theater in the 20th Century"; "Thomas Bernhard"

Lectures by Professor Hilde Haider-Pregler (University of Vienna)
Faculty of Arts
University of Alberta

29 October 1998

Seminar on Globalization
Dr. Otmar Höll, Director of the Austrian Institute of International Affairs, Dr. Walther Lichem, Austrian Ambassa-

dor, Dr. Andrew Knight, Department of Political Science

Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies, University of Alberta

12 November 1998

The Canadian Ambassador to Austria, His Excellency Mr. Paul Dubois, will speak on Austrian-Canadian bilateral issues

Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies
University of Alberta

1 January 1999, 2.30 p.m.

Canada's New Year's Concert "Salute to Vienna"


Winspear Centre

13 January 1999, 7.30 p.m.

"Carl Czerny Recital" by Anton Kuerti
Fundraising for Carl Czerny Festival


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CULTURE

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