

Exhibitions and Events

Preview 2024



Lobkowitzplatz 2, 1010 Wien
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www.theatermuseum.at

February 2024

Exhibition Highlights 2024

☞ Staging Hofmannsthal

31 January until 19 August 2024

☞ Johann Strauss – The Exhibition

4 December 2024 to 23 June 2025

NOTICE Press event: **Tuesday, 3 December 2024, 10 a.m.**

☞ Showbiz Made in Vienna

The Marischkas

Until 9 September 2024

Continuing Exhibitions 2024

☞ Walk of Fame

The Simultaneity of Success and Persecution

An intervention by students of the

Institute of Theatre, Film and Media Studies, University of Vienna

Until 1 April 2024

Event Series

☞ Lobkowitz Ramasuri, Gulda: Sonntagskünstler and Family Concerts

Until June 2024

SUBJECT TO MODIFICATIONS



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Permanent Presentations

” The Naked Truth

Gustav Klimt and his Vienna around 1900

” Richard Teschner’s Magic Mirror

The Development of a Total Artwork

” Acting Spaces

Stage Models

” From Real Life into the World of Art

Online exhibition

” Palais Lobkowitz-Tour NEW

A Viennese Town Palace Introduces Itself

Audio guide to the architecture and history of the traditional Viennese baroque palace

Temporary Exhibition NEW

» Staging Hofmannsthal

31 January to 19 August 2024

The function and design of rooms is one of the central issues addressed in the works of Austrian writer and playwright Hugo von Hofmannsthal (1874–1929). On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of his birth, a special exhibition is showing a selection of Hofmannsthal rooms that demonstrate the multifaceted approach taken by the co-founder of the Salzburg Festival in his work and thought.

To Hofmannsthal, rooms were never just physical surroundings: they also represented emotional states. The stage as a space where the dramatic action becomes a reality therefore lies at the crux of many of his deliberations. The manuscripts, stage designs, costumes, sketches, and photographs from the richly appointed Theatermuseum collections impressively document his work on staged room as a symbolic space to transport ideas and content. The exhibition focuses on the works *Elektra*, *Der Rosenkavalier* and the film *Der Rosenkavalier*, for which Hofmannsthal collaborated with renowned figures from the world of theatre such as Max Reinhardt and Alfred Roller as well as composer Richard Strauss, creating iconic visual worlds. Even Hofmannsthal's apartment in Vienna's inner city, only a few steps away from the Theatermuseum, is drawn into his appetite for scenic design.

Staging Hofmannsthal provides a new insight into the world of the stage as more than a mere backdrop, but, indeed, a lively protagonist in its own right!

The exhibition is taking place in collaboration with Freies Deutsches Hochstift, Frankfurt am Main, one of Germany's oldest cultural institutes, which keeps the majority of Hugo von Hofmannsthal's estate. Freies Deutsches Hochstift is the governing body of the Deutsches Romantik-Museum, which will show the exhibition *Hofmannsthal. Szenen. Literatur, Identität und Zeitgeschichte 1874–1929* [Hofmannsthal. Scenes. Literature, Identity and Contemporary History 1874–1929] from 3 October 2024 to 5 January 2025.



Exhibition subject based on Alfred Roller
Stage design for *Der Rosenkavalier* (Libretto: Hugo von Hofmannsthal,
Music: Richard Strauss), 2nd act, 1910
© KHM-Museumsverband, Theatermuseum

Temporary Exhibition NEW

🎭 Johann Strauss – The Exhibition

4 December 2024 to 23 June 2025

NOTICE Press event: Tuesday, 3 December 2024, 10 a.m.

On the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Johann Strauss (1825–1899), the Theatermuseum in collaboration with Wienbibliothek in Rathaus will dedicate its major annual exhibition to the eventful life and works of this world-renowned composer. It will be the first time that objects from his written estate, including the original score for the operetta *Die Fledermaus*, will be shown together with original objects associated with the stagings of his works. This provides for a fascinating combination of the artist's musical oeuvre and its translation for the stage. The exhibition will moreover illuminate the context in the history of the theatre and contemporary politics.

Johann Strauss was a superstar of his time. He was the proponent of developing dance music into serious concert music. He drew his audience into enthusiastic adoration as conductor and principal violinist 'Schani Strauss'. Extensive tours saw him travel from Europe to Russia and the USA. He was also a businessman and organizational talent, who knew to involve his brothers Josef and Eduard in the family business, while his wives were in charge of appointments and finances in the background. He employed artists such as singer and first director of the Theater an der Wien Marie Geistinger as well as the star of the stage Alexander Girardi who guaranteed success for his operettas.

The exhibition illuminates the exhausting lifestyle led by Johann Strauss, his relationship to his parents and brothers, the so-called 'firm', to his three wives and his lovers in Russia. Beyond his dance and marching music, the show furthermore focuses on *An der schönen blauen Donau*, his 'waltz for the world', as well as his works for the stage, in particular *Die Fledermaus*.

The composer wrote more than 500 works of dance and concert music as well as sixteen works for the stage. We continue to encounter these works in concert halls and beyond: at the Vienna New Years Concert in the Golden Hall of Musikverein, in films and in advertising, and when it welcomes passengers upon landing in Vienna. Johann Strauss is still a man of the moment.



Johann Strauss with facsimile signature of his name and music
Anonymous, undated
Printed by: Jos. Eberle & Co., Vienna
© KHM-Museumsverband, Theatermuseum

Temporary Exhibition **NEW**

👉 Showbiz Made in Vienna **The Marischkas**

Until 9 September 2024

Our major 2023/24 exhibition showcases one of Vienna's most amazing dynasties of theatre greats who dominated the stage and films for almost a century: the Marischkas. Beginning with brothers Hubert (1882-1959) and Ernst (1893-1963), we examine their works for the theatre, operetta and cabaret revues, as well as their pioneer contributions to filmmaking in Austria. In addition, we explore the life and work of an extended panorama of family members active in the arts such as Lilian Marischka, and creative collaborators including composers as well as costume designers like Gerdago or Stella Junker-Weißenberg.

Thanks to his trilogy of 'Sissi' films, the director Ernst Marischka has remained a household name, but the illustrious oeuvre of his brother Hubert – theatre impresario, operetta singer and bon vivant – is waiting to be rediscovered. The same is true of the latter's stagings of spectacular cabaret revues during the 1920s that do not have to shun any comparison with contemporary productions in Paris or New York.

The exhibition coincides with the digitalisation of 20.000 papers and documents making up one part of Hubert Marischka's legacy. This archive material will be made accessible online together with the entire rest of his estate. Selected contemporary positions will also help to comment on and contextualize the Marischka family's oeuvre.

www.theatermuseum.at/showbizmadeinvienna



Sissi: The Fateful Years Of An Empress (AT 1957)
Director: Ernst Marischka, 19 December 1957
© dpa Picture Alliance / picturedesk.com © Beta Film GmbH

Intervention

» Walk of Fame The Simultaneity of Success and Persecution

Until 1 April 2024

The intervention *Walk of Fame* sheds light on little-known or completely forgotten actors of Viennese theatre life between 1900 and 1938. 14 selected personalities represent a cosmopolitan Jewish (theatre)modernity that, from today's perspective, paints a fascinating picture of Vienna as a cosmopolitan city with a cross-border understanding of culture.

The range of 'theatre multi-talents' presented spans from Else Feldmann (playwright), Henny Pia Herzer (student director), Camilla Frydan (composer), Maria Gutmann (director/actress/dramaturge), Lia Rosen (actress) and Helene Richter (theatre historian/critic/Anglist) to Heinrich Glücksmann (dramaturge), Oscar Friedmann (librettist/journalist), Armin Friedmann (playwright/journalist), Josef Rehberger (actor), Siegfried Geyer (theatre critic/stage manager), Siegfried Löwy (theatre critic), Hans Liebstöckl (journalist) and theatre-goer Bernhard Krakauer.

The cultural heritage of this era of cosmopolitanism is hardly present in Vienna today. *Walk of Fame* goes looking for clues, brings the lives and work of these inspiring personalities back to light and tells the story of forgetting as a story of the Holocaust and expulsion.

A cooperation of the Theatermuseum with students and the archive of the Institute of Theatre, Film and Media Studies at the University of Vienna.

www.theatermuseum.at/walkoffame



Else Feldmann, 1938
Fotografie von Franz Xaver Setzer
© Archiv Setzer-Tschiedel / brandstaetter images / picturedesk.com

Events

Palais Lobkowitz as Stage for Cabaret, Literature and Music

Until June 2024

In 2023, the Theatermuseum has established itself as a new venue for a wide range of concerts, readings and cabaret for all age groups and different communities.

Familienkonzerte

The children's music festival St Gilgen, which Marie-Theres Arnbom founded in 2004, stops by at Theatermuseum. Versatile sounds and exciting stories are aimed at tomorrow's audiences: children.

Programme and dates: www.theatermuseum.at/familienkonzerte

👉 Lobkowitz Ramasuri

Actor, singer, and master of ceremonies Georg Wacks is summoning masters of historical entertainment culture and literature to Theatermuseum in the spirit of Jewish humour and the Viennese soul.

Programme and dates: www.theatermuseum.at/lobkowitzerramasuri

👉 Gulda: Sonntagskünstler

Pianist Paul Gulda is the artistic director of this series, in which he invites his illustrious guests into the Eroica hall for an exchange of thoughts and musical trifles.

Programme and dates: www.theatermuseum.at/gulda

👉 Marischka

The special exhibition Showbiz Made in Vienna is accompanied by a series of events that are also dedicated to this exceptional dynasty of Viennese artists, the Marischkas, who continue to be a presence to this day.

Programme and dates: www.theatermuseum.at/marischka

👉 Hofmannsthal

2024 marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of Hugo von Hofmannsthal. An occasion like no other to dedicate an exquisite programme of events to the poet.

Programme and dates: www.theatermuseum.at/hofmannsthal

Solo Evenings

Singer and actor Lena Rothstein presents her moving autobiography, while the 'uncrowned queen' of Wienerlied and Wiener Dudler, Agnes Palmisano, slips into the role of Johann Nestroy's long-term life and stage partner Marie Weiler.

Programm und Termine:

www.theatermuseum.at/Angekommen

www.theatermuseum.at/DieFrauWEILER

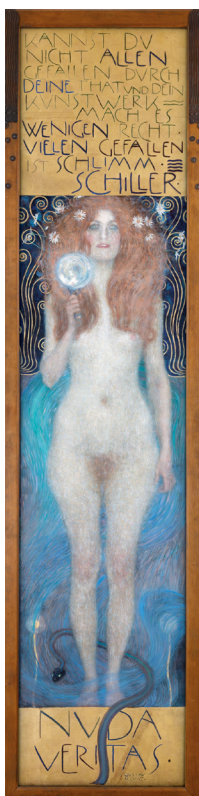
Permanent Presentation

” The Naked Truth

Gustav Klimt and his Vienna around 1900

Gustav Klimt's celebrated painting *Nuda Veritas* (1899) was bequeathed by critic and playwright Hermann Bahr (1863–1934) to the Theatermuseum. On the occasion of the 160th anniversary of the birth of Gustav Klimt (1862–1918) in July 2022, the Theatermuseum is showcasing one of this great painter and graphic artist's most important paintings, his *Nuda Veritas* (1899), against the backdrop of radical artistic reform movements in Vienna around 1900.

Vienna around 1900 was shaped by a mood of departure in the artistic, intellectual, and academic fields. The city saw a unique concentration of cultural achievements that formed the ground of the Viennese Modernism. When Gustav Klimt first exhibited his painting *Nuda Veritas* in 1899, he was the first president of the Vienna Secession since its foundation in 1897 and one of the movement's figureheads. The painting was a bid for veracity in art, pleading for uncompromising artistic representation. With this work, Klimt reacted to the lack of understanding he encountered from the public. The proverbial 'naked truth' steps forward as a life-size nude holding up a mirror to her beholders. 'Know thyself', she seems to be demanding, and Klimt crowns her with a quote from Friedrich Schiller: 'IF YOUR DEEDS AND YOUR ART CANNOT PLEASE EVERYONE = PLEASE A FEW. TO PLEASE MANY IS TERRIBLE.'



A radical message! It says it all – and not everyone reacts with enthusiasm.

The new set up of the exhibition room at the Theatermuseum positions important contemporary artists next to this deeply symbolic painting: people who, quite as the work demands, found their affirmation and their guides in their own creations: Hermann Bahr, Anna Bahr-Mildenburg, Joseph Maria Olbrich, Gustav Mahler as well as Alfred and Mileva Roller.

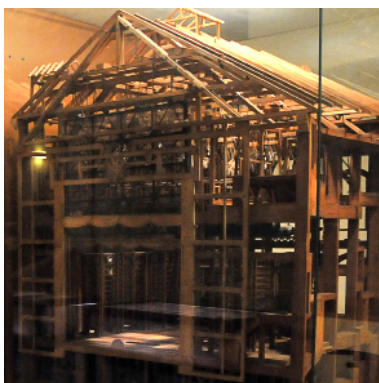
www.theatermuseum.at/nuda-veritas

Permanent Presentations

” Acting Spaces Stage Models

Over the centuries different types of stages and auditoria have been devised. Each period and ideology influenced and affected the role and appearance of theatre spaces. The selected models on show not only serve as examples illustrating some of the formal criteria of theatre spaces, they also document the different possibilities of how the audience can face the stage. This helps to explain how the type of stage selected changes and affects the type of performance the audience witnesses – from acting on simultaneous stages or the forestage to using the whole space of stage.

www.theatermuseum.at/actingspaces



Theatermuseum © KHM-Museumsverband

” Richard Teschner’s Magic Mirror The Development of a Total Artwork

Richard Teschner’s (1879–1948) symbolist puppet theatre, which comprised both the enraptured and audacious technical innovations, formed the sublimation of an exceptional artistic career. With his revolutionary theatre of figures, he created an integrated theatrical work of art encompassing everything from puppets to plays, from stagecraft to the accompanying music. Using the Javanese rod-puppets as his model, he developed a new, expressive puppet variety for his pantomimic plays. Overcoming the traditional proscenium stage led to the unique round of the “Magic Mirror”, which gave rise to images of great beauty and suggestive effect.

As one of its most exclusive and seminal collections the Theatermuseum holds Teschner’s estate and dedicates two showrooms to the “magician of Gersthof”.

www.theatermuseum.at/magicmirror



Theatermuseum © KHM-Museumsverband

Online Exhibition

” From Real Life into the World of Art

In the Early Modern period, theatrical and festive occasions played a fundamental role in European artistic activity. They brought together artists from different disciplines and backgrounds, generating processes of hybridization between the visual and the performing arts. Depending on the clients' representation requirements theatre and festive events unfolded strong visual narratives and marked the point of transition »from real life into the world of art« (Jacob Burckhardt, *The Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy*, 1860).

As a result of the international ART-ES research project, originally initiated by the University of Málaga, the virtual exhibition *From real life into the world of art* aims to analyse relationships between visual and performing arts in the European and Hispanic context of the 16th to 18th centuries. It provides an experience midway between a scientific publication and an interactive presentation. Through the innovative combination of audio-visual media, 15 digital rooms relating to historical festivals, parades, operas, ballets and artworks of particular significance within the history of art and the performing arts can be visited online.

Together with twelve researchers from five European countries, the Theatermuseum, the Imperial Carriage Museum at Schönbrunn Castle, Ambras Castle in Innsbruck and the Visual Media Department of the KHM-Museumsverband took a leading role in curating the exhibition and its technical realisation. The contributions of the Theatermuseum deal with the festive culture of the Viennese court at the end of the 17th century. Rudi Risatti reanimates the horse ballet *La contesa dell'aria e dell'acqua* ("The Contest Between Air and Water") and Daniela Franke retells the story of the most famous Viennese baroque opera *Il pomo d'oro* ("The Golden Apple") of 1668. In *Winter Delights* Monica Kurzel-Runtscheiner from the Imperial Carriage Museum revives the fascinating world of courtly entertainment with an animated sleigh ride from 1765. Finally, Veronika Sandbichler from Ambras Castle presents the *Kolowrat-Wedding from 1580*, a festive procession in Innsbruck full of mythological and fantastic figures (available in 2022).



By making the contents accessible online and allowing the users to choose specific routes, the exhibition addresses both the academic community and a wider audience.

www.artes-exhibition.digital

From Real Life into the World of Art
The Contest Between Air and Water
Animation / Filmstill
© KHM-Museumsverband

Palais-Lobkowitz-Tour A Viennese Town Palace Introduces Itself (Audioguide)

The tour of Palais Lobkowitz introduces one of the most important Viennese inner city town palaces. This architectural gem was built between 1689 and 1694 and has been the home of the Theatermuseum since 1991.

Visitors of the museum can follow a route of ten stations to discover the elegant building and learn exciting facts about the history of the house and its inhabitants, who include the Lobkowitz family, nobility from Bohemia. One aspect the tour focuses on is the buildings' close association with important artists: Ludwig van Beethoven, who first performed his third symphony, *Eroica*, and other works in the palace's ballroom; Gustav Klimt, who is represented by way of one of his main works, the highly symbolic *Nuda Veritas* via the estate of Hermann Bahr and Anna Bahr-Mildenburg; and the visionary of puppet theatre Richard Teschner, whose most outstanding rod-puppets and whose legendary *Figurenspiegel* magic mirror are some of the most important objects in the Theatermuseum collections.

The audio guide for the tour of Palais Lobkowitz is available in German and English at the Theatermuseum cash desk. It costs € 14 (reduced rate € 11) and includes entry to all special exhibitions.

www.theatermuseum.at/palaislobkowitztour



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