

# 1991

## FRANZ GRILLPARZER, JANUARY 15 1991



The bicentenary of the birth of the very famous Austrian dramatist Franz Grillparzer [1791-1872] was commemorated by issuing a 4.50S multicoloured portrait stamp on 15 January 1991. This stamp was designed by Friedl Weyss-Lampel based upon a miniature by Moritz Michael Daffinger, engraved by Rudolf Toth, and printed in both recess [black] and photogravure [dark brown, gold, Turkish blue, yellow, matt purple and cobalt] in an impression of 2.7 million; comb perforated 14¾:13½. Franz Grillparzer first appeared on the 20 groschen grey stamp of the 1931 “Austrian Writers” set, then on the various printings of the 18 groschen brown-purple stamp of the “Famous Austrian” set of 1947, and then on the 2S black, ochre and pale stone value issued in 1972 on the centenary of his death.

Grillparzer was born on 15 January 1791 in Vienna and entered the Civil Service to support his mother and younger brothers. His first play “Die Ahnfrau” was written when he was 25 years old and followed this with “Sappho”. His dramatic works, especially those about the House of Habsburg, came into conflict with the censors and the failure of his comedy “Weh dem, der lügt” [1835] led to his own prohibition of the presentation of his plays. His poems, written between 1812 and 1835, were not published until after his death on 21 January 1872 in Vienna.

## SKIING CHAMPIONSHIP, JANUARY 21 1991

The World Alpine Skiing Championships for 1991 were held at Saalbach-Hinterglemm in the province of Salzburg from 21 January to 3 February 1991. To mark this important sporting event a 5S multi coloured stamp was issued on 21 January 1991. The stamp was designed by Arik Brauz, to depict a symbolic skier on a descending run, engraved by Wolfgang Seidel, and printed in both recess [blue] and photogravure [chamois, sealing wax red, brown ochre and sepia] in an impression of 3.3 million; comb perforated 13¾:13½.



This stamp continues the tradition of the Austrian skiing stamps that started with those of 1936. The programme started with a slalom where over 40 nations took part, the course being the longest continuous one to be set out for this event. The Budget for the meeting was about 148 million Sch, a quarter of this came from the International Ski Federation and 5 million was donated by the Austrian Ski Club. Over 150,000 spectators attended the event while over 500 million persons watched the events on television.

## BRUNO KREISKY, JANUARY 21 1991



The 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the Austrian politician, Bruno Kreisky [1911-1990] was marked by issuing a 5S multicoloured stamp on 21 January 1991. He was also Chancellor from 1970 to 1982. This portrait stamp was designed by Helga Herger and printed in photogravure only [chamois, ultramarine-grey, red, black and gold] in an impression of 2.7 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½.

Bruno Kreisky was born in Vienna on 22 January 1911 and died there on 29 July 1990. Although he came from the wealthy middle class he was easily attracted to socialism and was imprisoned by the Dolfuss regime, spending three months in the Anhaltelager at Wöllersdorf. After the Second World War in July 1946 he was in Sweden. He returned to Vienna in November 1951 as a civil servant and in due course he became an assistant to Dr. Korner and finally served as Federal Chancellor for twelve years.

1991

## FRIEDRICH VON SCHMIDT, JANUARY 21 1991



The centenary of the death of the famous Austrian architect Friedrich Freiherr von Schmidt [1825-1891] was commemorated by issuing a 7S multicoloured stamp on 21 January 1991. This stamp was designed by Marianne Siegl, to depict both a portrait bust and a view of his work “Famous Buildings,” the Vienna Rathaus, and printed in photogravure only [grey-violet, chamois, red, black, dark blue-green and gold] in an impression of 3 million; comb perforated 13¼:13½. He was born on 22 October 1825 in Württemberg, died in Vienna on 23 January 1891, and was buried in the Zentralfriedhof.

## ARTISTS ANNIVERSARIES, FEBRUARY 8 1991

On this date a set of three stamps appeared, to commemorate different artists.



The first is a 4.50S value to commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Georg Raphael Donner (1693-1741), a famous sculptor. This stamp was designed by Helga Herger to depict the Donner Fountain in the Neue Markt, Vienna; engraved by Kurt Leitgeb; and printed in both recess [black] and photogravure [light cobalt, matte yellow, lilac purple, chamois red-lilac and brown ochre] in an impression of 2.75 million; comb perforated 13¼:13¼.

Donner, a native of Vienna, produced this fountain in 1737-39; along with a statue of “Providentia” it was his most famous work. The original lead statues were removed in 1770 by command of the Empress Maria Theresa, being deemed too risqué; they were reinstated in 1801 and replaced by bronze copies in 1873. The figure of Traun was censored by the addition of a judiciously placed fig leaf on his buttocks. The original statues can now be seen on the ground floor of the Unteres Belvedere Palace.

The second was for the centenary of the birth of the artist and architect Alfons Walde (1891-1958). This 5S multicoloured stamp was designed by Auguste Böcskör to reproduce Walde’s painting “Kitzbühel in Winter”, engraved by Maria Laurent and printed in both recess [black] and photogravure [light cobalt, yellow, lilac-rose, red-lilac and brown-ochre] in an impression of 2.75 million; comb perforated 13¼.

Walde, a native of Obendorf, produced this painting in 1924 for an Innsbruck competition with the general theme “winter picture”. From 1946 he spent most of his energy in designing major architectural projects in civic buildings and hotels. Whilst staying at his sister's house in Kitzbühel he suffered a heart attack and died on 11 December 1958.



The third marked the centenary of the famous architect von Hansen (1813-1891). This 7S multicoloured stamp was designed by Auguste Böcskör to depict the great Viennese Stock Exchange, engraved by Maria Laurent, and printed in both recess [black] and photogravure [blue, yellow, brown-orange, rose and red-lilac] in an impression of 2.75 million; comb perforated 13¼. Theophilus Eduard Hansen, a native of Copenhagen, spent most of his life in Vienna and constructed this Stock Exchange in the Italian Renaissance style during 1877. The Stock Exchange or “Börse” was placed exactly halfway along the Schottenring and built in the Italian Renaissance style, a style which was popularised with the building of the Opera House in the previous decade. The main hall of the Börse was partly destroyed by fire in 1956. In spite of the building’s impressive size the interior is taken up mainly with a large central open courtyard.

1991

### 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIV OF DEATH OF MARIA EBNER-ESCHENBACH, MARCH 12 1991

The 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of the Austrian writer Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach [1830-1916] was commemorated by issuing a 4.50S brown-violet stamp on 12 March 1991. This portrait stamp was designed by Friedl Weyss-Lampel, engraved by Prof. Alfred Nefe and printed in recess only in an impression of 2.7 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½.



### BICENTENARY OF MOZART'S DEATH, MARCH 22 1991



The bicentenary of the death of W.A. Mozart was commemorated by issuing a 2:5S miniature sheet on 22 March 1991. This was designed by Prof. Otto Stefferl to depict a portrait of Mozart and the Magic Flute statue in Vienna, with a central label depicting his birth place; engraved by Wolfgang Seidel and Prof. Otto Stefferl; and printed in both recess [dark red-lilac] and photogravure [lilac-rose, reddish lilac and gold] in an impression of 3.5 million; comb perforated 13½.

### NATURAL BEAUTY SPOTS, MARCH 26 1991



Yet another splendid addition to the series “Natural Beauty Spots in Austria” was issued on 26 March 1991. This 5S multicoloured stamp was designed by Helga Herger, to depict the ‘Chapel of Iron’ in the Obir stalactite caves in Carinthia, near the market town of Eisenkappel-Vellach. It is engraved by Anne-Maria Kalina, and printed in both recess [black] and photogravure [blue, yellow, red and grey-violet] in an impression of 4.7 million; comb perforated 13¾. The existence of these caverns has been known since Celtic-Roman times and lead and zinc were mined in this ‘chapel’ [Capella] from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### SPITTAL AN DER DRAU, APRIL 11 1991

The 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the town of Spittal an der Drau in upper Carinthia was commemorated by issuing a 4.50S multi coloured stamp on 11 April 1991. This stamp was designed by Maria Siegl, and is based upon an engraving of the then town by Matthäus Merian, engraved by Gerhard Schmid and printed in both recess [black] and photogravure [yellow-orange, ultramarine-grey, orange-brown and red] in an impression of 4.5 million; comb perforated 13<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.



On 11<sup>th</sup> April 1191 Archbishop Adalbert of Salzburg removed the hospital chapel founded by the local courts from the jurisdiction of its mother parish [St. Peter in Hulz] and encouraged the development of a market there, which is first recorded in 1242; the chapel became the parish church of Our Lady. The town then grew in the conventional manner. In 1789 whilst the town was occupied by the French the town suffered a fire which left the castle, the parish church and market in ashes.

### EUROPA-CEPT, MAY 3 1991



The annual Europa-CEPT issue appeared as a 7S multicoloured value on 3 May 1991. Using the theme, “Europe in Space”, this stamp was designed by Johannes Kral, to depict the ‘ERS 1 : European Remote Sensing Satellite’, and was printed in photogravure only [yellow-orange, ultramarine, rose-carmine, silver and black] in an impression of 3 million; comb perforated 13<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>:14. In April 1991 the ERS 1 was launched with an Ariane 4 rocket from Kouron in French Guyana. It was placed at a height of 785km to observe changes in the ocean and polar regions.

### VORARLBERG EXHIBITION, MAY 10 1991

The Vorarlberg “Clothing and People” Exhibition was held at Hohenems from 11 May to 27 October 1991 in the Renaissance Palace there. To mark this exhibition a 5S multicoloured stamp was issued on 10 May 1991. This stamp was designed by Auguste Böcskő, to show part of a 1578 painting by Anton Boys “Gartengastmahl” (aka Banquet of the Hohenems family or the Hohenemser Festtafel). The stamp was printed in photogravure only [blue, yellow, red, gold and black] in an impression of 4.85 million; comb perforated 13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>x13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.

The family portraits of the former Courts of Hohenems have been used to document the changes in styles of clothing shown at this exhibition and the costumes shown in the stamp are a part of the sequence. The design in clothing served more than one purpose; practical so that the wearer could carry out his occupation without clothing getting in the way, and also protecting the body when necessary; distinctive to show status, badge of office or authority; and decorative embellished with jewellery to attract attention and show their worth. The choice of clothing worn could also indicate to others the disposition of the wearer; for example, Baptism, Communion, Confirmation and Wedding in church, youth, maturity and age, and death, funeral and family mourning.



## GREIN TOWN CHARTER, MAY 24 1991



The 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the granting of a town charter, by the Emperor Friedrich III, to Grein an der Donau in Upper Austria was commemorated by issuing a 4.50S multicoloured stamp on 24 May 1991. This stamp was designed by Ferdinand Dorner, to depict a view of the town together with its coat-of-arms, and printed in photogravure only [grey-ultramarine, blue-black, matt yellow, salmon, yellowish-green, silver and black] in an impression of 2.7 million; comb perforated 14.

Grein, at the foot of the Greinberg, was first mentioned in 1147, received its market in 1215 and was raised to the rank of a town in 1491. For services in the war against the Turks Emperor Friedrich III granted two brothers, Heinrich and Siegmund Prüschenk the market rights in 1489 and on 21<sup>st</sup> May 1491 the foundation stone was laid of Schloß Greinburg.

## TULLN ANNIVERSARY, MAY 24 1991

The 1200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the town of Tulln in Lower Austria was commemorated by issuing a 5S multicoloured stamp on 24 May 1991. This stamp was designed by Maria Schulz, to depict the town coat-of-arms laid out in bedding plants, and was printed in photogravure only [straw-yellow, purple-lilac, dark blue-grey, Turkish blue, olive, gold and black] in an impression of 2.7 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½.



This town is so old that there was a Roman castellum in the first century A.D. with the name of "Comagna" and the Danube flotilla was based there. After the Germanic invasions it was mentioned as a civitas in 1014 and as a town in 1159. However, it was Charlemagne who, in 791, mentioned it as "in monte Cumeoberg iuxta Comagenos civitatem". In the Nibelungenleid it has its present name of Tulln and in the 11<sup>th</sup> century it was the seat of the Babenbergs. Tulln suffered considerable damage towards the end of the Second World War from bombing and the German army demolished the bridge over the Danube. It took over ten years of the postwar rebuilding programme to restore the damage.

## VIENNA MUSEUMS CENTENARIES, MAY 24 1991

The centenary of two famous Viennese museums was celebrated by issuing two multicoloured stamps; the 5S value for the Military History Museum and the 7S value for the Art History Museum, on 24 May 1991. Both



stamps were designed and engraved by Werner Pfeiler to depict interiors of both museums, and printed in both recess [red-lilac and black] and photogravure [blue, yellow, red, yellow-brown and gold] in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforated 13¾.



The Military History Museum was designed by the Danish architect Theophilus Hansen in 1856 adjacent to the Arsenal. Franz Joseph opened the museum on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 1891. The design shows the magnificent entrance hall -The Hall of Generals - with life size marble statues of pre-1848 Austrian military leaders.

Hans Makart was commissioned to build the Art History Museum but died before he had completed it. The spandrel and inter-columnar murals were completed in Makart's classical style by a trio of young artists, Franz Matsch, Ernst Klimt and Gustav Klimt. Franz Joseph opened it on 17 October 1891.

38<sup>th</sup> DAY OF THE STAMP, MAY 29 1991

The annual 7s. + 3s. stamp day issue, depicting the letters 'B' and 'P' for 'Briefmarke' and 'Philatelie', was issued on 29 May 1991. It was designed by Prof. Otto Stefferl, engraved by Wolfgang Seidel, and printed in both recess [brownish-carmine] and photogravure [grey-brown, light grey and black] in an impression of 12.8 million; comb perforated 13½:13½. This stamp was the first in the projected series using a letter from each word. This design uses the beautiful script of the Middle Ages.

## KARAWANKEN TUNNEL, MAY 31 1991

The opening of the Karawanken road tunnel between Carinthia and Slovenia was celebrated by issuing a 7S multicoloured stamp on 31 May 1991. This stamp was designed by Valentin Wurnitsch, to depict the Austrian tunnel entrance, and printed in photogravure only [dark blue-green, Turkish blue, yellow and black] in an impression of 2.85 million, comb perforated 14¼:13½.

The decision to construct such a tunnel between the Austrian town of Winkl in Rosental and Hrušica in Slovenia was taken on 15 September 1977. The treaty came into force in 1978, and after alterations came into operation in 1983. The distance from Winkl to the tunnel entrance was 9.8 km. and this cost 3 milliard Sch [March 1987 values] whilst 1.1 milliard Sch was spent on the tunnel bore. Another 2.4 milliard Sch was the Austrian contribution for the tunnel to Hrugica.



The two halves met on 16 June 1989 with a length of 7,864 m. with a cross section of 90m<sup>2</sup>. The maximum height above sea level is 673.6m. Each carriage way is 3.75m wide and it was anticipated that about 1500 vehicles would use the tunnel per hour. This autobahn tunnel is the third route between North and South and is a welcome replacement for the Loiblpass especially for transit of goods and those motorists who need to save time. Kaiser Karl VI personally opened a 150m tunnel through the summit of the Pass on 25 August 1728.

## ST PÖLTEN, JULY 5 1991



The fifth anniversary of the elevation of the city of St Pölten to the rank of capital of the province of Lower Austria, replacing Vienna, was commemorated by a 5S multicoloured stamp on 5 July 1991. This stamp was designed by Marianne Siegel, to depict the front elevation of the St Pölten Town Hall, and printed in photogravure only (light cobalt, cream, rose-carmine, grey, lilac-brown, black and gold) in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforation 13¾.

St Pölten was already the largest city of Lower Austria, so that it was natural that it should be chosen as the administrative capital of that province in order to relieve pressure on Vienna. Standing upon the Traisen river, with its own statute of 1922, it is a central point for the commerce of the Alpine Foreland. Originally a Roman town of the Aelium Celts, it is first recorded in 799 as "Treisma" and is now named after the patron saint of its cathedral, founded at the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> century as an Augustinian Abbey and given its own bishop in 1785 by the Josephine reforms. It was in the possession of Passau until 1490, and has the oldest market charter (of 1058) of Lower Austria.

## OTTO WAGNER, JULY 12 1991

The 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Otto Wagner was the reason for issuing this stamp on 12 July 1991. It was designed by Auguste Böeskör, to depict the Karlsplatz Station of the Vienna City Railway which Wagner designed. It was engraved by Kurt Leitgeb and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (light cobalt, dark blue grey, orange, yellow green, gold, red lilac, and brown ochre) in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforation 13<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.



## CANOEING AND ROWING, AUGUST 20 1991

Both the Junior World Canoeing Championships and the World Rowing Championships were held in Vienna during August 1991. To mark these events, a single 5S multicoloured stamp was issued on 20 August 1991. This stamp was designed by

Maria Schulz and printed in photogravure only (grey, brown-ochre, sepia, light orange-red, corn flower blue and chrome-yellow) in an impression of 3.3 million; comb perforation 14<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>x13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.

Only the rowing championship is depicted on the stamp, and the blackprint points out that this event was inaugurated in 1962 in Lucerne. Since then it has been held in 1966 (Bled), 1975 (Nottingham), 1976 (Villach), 1979 (Bled), 1981 (Munich), 1982 (Lucerne), 1986 (Nottingham), 1989 (Bled) and 1990 (Tasmania).



## RADIOLOGY CONGRESS, SEPTEMBER 13 1991



The European Radiology Congress was held in Vienna during September 1991. To mark this event a 7S multicoloured stamp was issued on 13 September 1991. This stamp was designed by Stefan Kalmar to depict an X-Ray or Röntgen tube, and printed in photogravure only (yellow, red, blue and black) in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforation 14.

Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen (1845-1923) had on 8 November 1895 described a “new type of ray” (which he called X-Rays) that were capable of penetrating solids and producing shadowgraphs. This technique became widely used in medicine as a diagnostic tool.

## PARACELSUS, SEPTEMBER 27 1991

The 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of the physician and scientist, Theophrastus Bombastus von Hohenheim, known as “Paracelsus” (1493-1541) was commemorated by issuing a 4S multicoloured portrait stamp on 27 September 1991. This stamp was designed by Lucie Buchheim and printed in photogravure only (brown-ochre, brownish-carmine, dark brown-red and black) in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforation 14<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>:13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. This alchemist was born at Maria Einsiedeln and died at Salzburg as personal physician to the Archbishop. His career bridged the transition from doubtful alchemy to scientific medicine.



1991

## EUROPA-CEPT": THE "AUSTRO MIR 91". OCTOBER 2 1991



The "Austro Mir 91" Soviet-Austrian Space Flight, the first Austrian expedition into space, was initiated in June 1987 at a cost of 160 million Sch. To mark the success of this joint venture a 9S multicoloured stamp was issued on 2 October 1991. This stamp was designed by Valentin Wurmitsch to depict the space station with its project logo "Austromir" and printed in photogravure only (blue, blue-green, yellow, red and black) in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforation 13¾.

The space station itself was 32.9 metres long and had a maximum width of 29.7 metres. The mass was about 130 tonnes and the crew was 5 to 6 persons, orbiting at 200Km above the earth. The Europa theme for 1991 was "Europe in Space".

## FOLK CUSTOMS AND ART, OCTOBER 4 1991



A set of three stamps was issued on 4 October 1991 as the first series of such stamps dealing with "Austrian Folk Customs and Art". These stamps were designed by Maria Schulz with the following themes:

4S50: Almabtrieb (bringing cattle down from their summer pastures), Zell, Tirol

5S: Winzerkrone (A vintage, ie grapes, crown), Neustift, Vienna

7S: Ernte-Monstranz (Harvest Monstrance), Nestelbach, Styria

They were engraved by Kurt Leitgeb and were printed in both recess (black) and photogravure as follows: 4S50 and 7S ultramarine, yellow, red, dark blue-grey; 5S dark blue-grey, Turkish blue, yellow, matte purple. The impression for each value was 2.95 million (in sheets of 50 pieces); comb perforation 13¾.

On the 4S50 stamp a cowherd is shown driving specially decorated cows back to the valley at the end of pasture (Alm = pasture land) high up in the mountains during the summer. The 5S shows a decorated pole hanging over grapes and a bottle of wine (Winzer = wine grower) when the wine-making is complete. The 7S value depicts elaborate cakes, presumably for the harvest festival. A "Monstrance" (Latin monstrare: to show) is a vessel in which the Host is displayed.

## MODERN ART, OCTOBER 11 1991



The Austrian Modern Art subject selected selected for depicting on a 5S multicoloured stamp issued on 11 October 1991 was "The General" by Professor Rudolf Pointner. This design was engraved by Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (carmine) and photogravure (sulphur yellow, Turkish blue, brown-violet and black) in an impression of 3.1 million; comb perforation 13¾.

Rudolf Pointner was born on 16 March 1907, the son of an official in Zara in Dalmatia. At the age of 10 years he came to live in Styria where he absorbed the myths and legends of that province. He became a member of the Wiener Hagenbund but lived mainly in Graz where he was still active in 1991.

## AUSTRIAN WORLD OF WORK, OCTOBER 11 1991

In this, the fifth series, the theme chosen was a woman weaver at her textile loom. This 4S50 multicoloured stamp was designed by Werner Pfeiler and issued on 11 October 1991. It was printed in photogravure only (ultramarine, yellow, rose-carmine, black-brown, red and dark blue-grey) in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforation 13¾.



## JULIUS RAAB, NOVEMBER 29 1991



The centenary of the birth of the Austrian Chancellor (1953-61) Julius Raab (1891-1964) was celebrated by issuing a portrait stamp on 29 November 1991. This 4S50 multicoloured stamp was designed by Peter Konkolits, engraved by Annemarie Kalina and printed in both recess (black-brown) and photogravure (brown-ochre) in an impression of 2.85 million; comb perforation 14¼:13½. This Austrian politician was born on 29 November 1891 in St Pölten and died in Vienna on 8 January 1964. Originally an architect, he turned to politics in 1927 and apart from the period of the second World War served his country continuously in many offices.

## CHRISTMAS, NOVEMBER 29 1991

The annual Christmas stamp was issued on 29 November 1991 as a 5S multicoloured value. This stamp was designed by Sepp Buchner to depict "Geburt Christi" (ie The Birth of Christ) after a fresco in the Parish Church of Baumgartenberg in Upper Austria. It was engraved by Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (brown-black) and photogravure (Turkish blue, yellow, matte purple and gold) in an impression of 8 million; comb perforation 14:13¾.

The fresco has the Holy Family in the centre of a wooden stall while two bending angels are placed on the right of the design. This fresco is dated as having been painted between 1696 and 1699 and was possibly the work of the young Johann Bernhard Corlone.

