



*The first European women's orchestra - note the boys on the wind instruments!  
Founded and conducted by Josephine Amann-Weinlich.*

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## **Johann Strauss and (his) contemporaries**

### **A program by Irene Suchy and Ursula Erhart-Schwertmann**

Vienna is also a city of female composers!  
The Johann Strauss Year 2025 causes excitement.

For the first time, female composers are at the heart of the entertainments music program. The female composers around the famous Strauss family wrote for the arrival of the future Empress Elisabeth in Nussdorf, they composed for the anniversaries of the imperial family, they played at the Vienna World Exhibition and in the beer gardens of Vienna, they traveled halfway around the world with their orchestras and bands!

For example, Constanze Geiger, discovered by us and taken up by the Vienna Philharmonic in the New Year's Concert 2025! Johann Strauss (father) dedicated the "Flora Quadrille" to her, the enchanting child prodigy and future prince's wife, and Johann Strauss (son) wrote a "Cricket Banner Walzer" - which was intended to chase away the worries, the crickets, of the young family. The son was born a few weeks before the wedding to Leopold von Coburg. That is just one of the stories of this concert.

It also tells the story of Josefine Weinlich-Amann, the founder of the first European ladies' band and internationally renowned conductor, or of Leopoldine Blahetka, the pianist and composer, supported by Beethoven, of the waltz composer Gisela Frankl, whose life story is still largely shrouded in mystery, and of one of the many female ragtime composers in Europe.

How wonderful: in the 19th century, a window of equality opens up. Women were allowed to attend secondary schools, even if not the highest ones, they were allowed to study

composition at the conservatory of the Society of Friends of Music in Vienna and acquire a teaching qualification, they founded piano schools - publishers and event organizers were fighting over them.

The evening program also offers works by living female composers, inspired by their successful ancestors: a ragtime by Violeta Dinescu, dance music by Johanna Doderer and Viola Falb, a tango by Melissa Coleman and a world premiere by Ursula Erhart-Schwertmann, whose arrangements make this program possible in the first place!

The works will be performed by **Ensemble F**: Ursula Erhart-Schwertmann (cello, composition and arrangement), Anaïs Tamisier and Marianna Oczkowska (violins), Goran Kostić (double bass) and Jan Satler (piano).

An audio and video projection **MusicaFemina App** offers a virtual tour of Vienna along the places where the female composers lived and worked: <https://l4ndl0s1.github.io/>  
A completely new look at the Vienna of the Strauss family.

**Curator and presenter: Irene Suchy**

**Costs: 5.000 Euro – negotiable**

**Requirements: 5 desks, technology / microphone for moderation, piano - grand piano**

**Duration: approx. 100 minutes including break and moderation**

**Video-Link:**

<https://www.okto.tv/de/oktothek/episode/677cf22808eff>

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### **Program - for selection, in constant expansion**

Hedwig Malfatti von Montereio	Fest-Marsch
Anna Gräfin von Stubenberg	Am Isonzo, Polka Mazurka
Mathilde Kralik	2 Wienerlieder: „Wien“, „Im Herzen von Wien“
Barbara Rektenwald:	Cotswolds
Constanze Geiger	Frühlings-Träume, Walzer op.8
	Franz Joseph Marsch
Mathilde Ringelsberg	Faschings-Funken: 2 Polkas und ein Galopp: (Milanollo-Polka, Schneeglöckchen-Galopp, Emelinen-Polka)
Dora Pejačević	Menuett
Ursula Erhart-Schwertmann:	Dancing Raccoon and Flying Fish
Camilla Frydan	Die Frauen von Wien sind so zauberhaft schön
Gypsy Countess Verona:	Gipsy rag
Violeta Dinescu	Dreamtime Ragtime
Josefine Weinlich-Amman:	Die Frivole, Polka française
	Sirenen-Lieder, Polka Mazurka
Henriette Fahrbach	Neu Wien, Walzer
Johann Strauss Vater	Flora Quadrille
Johann Strauss Sohn	Grillenbanner Walzer
Teresa Careno	Kleiner Walzer
Anna Gräfin von Stubenberg	Tratsch Polka
Gisela Frankl	Frisch voran