

Program Notes

This evening's concert marks the thirty-eighth presentation of a Viennese New Year concert at the National Gallery. Richard Bales and the National Gallery Orchestra presented the first on 2 January 1966. The inspiration for these gala concerts is the concert that takes place in the famous Musikverein in Vienna, a tradition that began in 1939. All those who make their way to hear the Vienna Philharmonic play in that historic hall on New Year's Day enjoy an illustrious musical legacy, which includes such giants as Brahms, Bruckner, Mahler, and the Strauss family. Through the media of print, recordings, radio, and television, this annual celebration of Viennese music has become a world-famous musical event. The presence of the audience and its reaction to sublime moments, favorite tunes, and musical jokes on stage are as important as the players in this festive drama.

The spirit of this gala, joyful concert is perfect for a celebration of the New Year. The familiar music evokes not only nostalgia for beauty and happiness now past, but also offers energy, liveliness, humor, and hope, as the music carries us, now whirling in a waltz, now pulsating in a march, through the present time and into the future.

As the years have gone by, the Viennese concert at the National Gallery has taken on the significance for Washington that the Musikverein concert has for Vienna. It has proven to be one of the Gallery's most popular concerts, and it is offered as a heartfelt wish, expressed in music, for a happy and prosperous New Year.

The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed. Please be sure that cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices are turned off.

For the convenience of concertgoers the Garden Café remains open until 6:30 p.m.

The Sixty-second Season of

THE WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL and
F. LAMMOT BELIN CONCERTS

National Gallery of Art



2479th Concert

NATIONAL GALLERY ORCHESTRA

PETER WILSON, *guest conductor*

MUSIC OF VIENNA

Sunday Evening, 4 January 2004
Seven O'clock
West Building, West Garden Court

Admission free

Program

Johann Strauss Jr. (1825–1899)	Overture to <i>Die Fledermaus</i> op. 297
Eduard Strauss (1827–1916)	Bahn frei (Clear Track) Polka schnell, op. 45
Josef Strauss (1827–1870)	Annen-Polka, op. 117
	Jokey-Polka (Jockey Polka) Polka schnell, op. 278
Johann Strauss Jr.	Im Krapfenwald (In the Krapf Woods) Polka français, op. 336
	Kaiser-Walzer (Emperor Waltz) op. 437
	Furiosa Polka, op. 260

Intermission

Johann Strauss Jr.	Par Force (By Force) Polka schnell, op. 308
	Rosen aus dem Süden (Roses from the South) Waltz, op. 388
	Unter Donner und Blitz (Under Thunder and Lightning) Polka schnell, op. 324

Johann Strauss Jr. and Josef Strauss	Pizzicato-Polka
Johann Strauss Jr.	Banditengalopp (Bandit's Galop) Polka schnell, op. 378
Emile Waldteufel (1837–1915)	Les Patineurs (Skaters' Waltz) (1882)
Johann Strauss Jr.	Perpetuum mobile (Perpetual Motion) op. 257

The Musicians

First convened in 1942 with members of the National Symphony, the **National Gallery Orchestra** has presented concerts at the National Gallery on a regular basis ever since. In addition to performing a large repertoire of classical and contemporary works, the orchestra has presented world premiere performances of significant works by nationally known composers, among them the *First Symphony* of Charles Ives. From 1943 until 1985 the National Gallery Orchestra was conducted by Richard Bales and from 1985 to 2003 by George Manos.

Peter Wilson appears for the third time as guest conductor of the National Gallery Orchestra. His first guest appearance was at the Gallery's 2002 New Year Concert. A graduate of Northwestern University and The Catholic University of America, Wilson is an experienced conductor, violinist, chamber musician, and clinician. A twelve-year veteran of "The President's Own" United States Marine Band, he has performed often at the White House as violin soloist, chamber musician, and section leader.