

A word from the President

In this issue I invite you to look back at our varied and interesting events held in 2013 by browsing through pages 4 to 8. As for 2015, we have great plans that should cater for a wider audience. You will be informed as details become available. In the meantime, keep in touch by visiting our website and our page on Facebook.

At the New Helvetic Society, we invite well-qualified lecturers and highly recognised musicians and artists to talk and perform at our events. Nicolas Meier, to name just one, who has played on many occasions for us, regularly performs in Switzerland, the USA as well as Japan and other countries. We give our members and friends the unique opportunity to meet and chat to them while partaking in a glass of Swiss wine and tasty nibbles at a reception following each event. Where else can you do that for such a small fee?

If you like what we do, why don't you bring along your friends and families at the next opportunity? If you just discovered our Society by reading this newsletter, why don't you join us for one of our events to see for yourself? It is open to all and it is very affordable. You don't need to be Swiss or a member of the Society to attend.

I would like to thank you all for the support you have afforded us in the past year and look forward to seeing you on many occasions in the coming months.

Daniel



Daniel Pedroletti

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Address:
c/o Embassy of
Switzerland
New Helvetic Society
16 –18 Montagu Place
London W1H 2BQ

Future Events

Next Event

■ 24 March 2015 Rising Stars of Orion



NEW HELVETIC SOCIETY

Tuesday 24 March 2015 at 7 pm

Concert
Rising Stars of Orion
An evening of chamber music introduced by Artistic Director Toby Purser

Tuesday 24 March 2015 at 7 pm
at the Embassy of Switzerland,
16-18 Montagu Place, London W1H 2BQ



The Orion Orchestra
Patron HRH Princess Michael of Kent
President Lady Solti

Conductor Toby Purser will introduce members of the Orion Orchestra. The audience will be able to enjoy music from Schubert, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Brahms as well as Ernest Bloch, Swiss composer. We are very pleased to welcome back amongst the talented musicians of the Orion Orchestra, Samuel Jaeger, Swiss pianist and cellist.

The concert will be followed by a reception

I've would like to attend the event on Tuesday 24 March 2015 at 7 pm at the Embassy of Switzerland,
16-18 Montagu Place, London W1H 2BQ.
Entry price: £12.00 for NSH members. £20.00 per person for non-members.

Name(s): _____
Address: _____
Email: _____
Tel No: _____

As booking is essential, please return this slip with your cheque made payable to New Helvetic Society to Daniel Pridemore, 16 Thorne Way, Buckland, Aylesbury HP22 5TL.
Queries to: info@newhelveticsociety.org.uk
Registration deadline: 19 March 2015. Please note that no tickets or confirmations of booking are issued.

New Helvetic Society, c/o Embassy of Switzerland, 16-18 Montagu Place, London W1H 2BQ
Website: www.newhelveticsociety.org.uk | Email: info@newhelveticsociety.org.uk

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Future Events

- April 2015 AGM followed by an interesting and different event (details in due course)
- May 2015 Film night in the presence of the director (details in due course)

Details of the above events are published as soon as they are available.
Members are personally informed by email or post.

One to One

Loredana Guetg Wyatt, our Vice-President, answers Daniel's questions

I was born in Locarno but grew up in Giubiasco (a small town next to Bellinzona). My mum had the (non) common sense idea of moving to a smaller town, and at the age of 11 I moved to Agno. I should not complain too much as Agno is closer to Lugano... Beverly Hills to me at the time!

My parents were ... ermmm ... are Lisa and Doriano. Very much alive and full of energy. They however fail to comprehend the fact that I am 40 and I should not be treated like an 18 year old!

I became a risk consultant because I love to analyse financial processes and identify adequate and practical solutions. It does not sound very interesting but it is, trust me!

When I hear the word Switzerland, I think of my Swiss Alps. I do miss my mountains or as one has correctly pointed out to me ... "pre-Alps".

On my next trip to Switzerland, I would like to spend more time with my sister. Although I do not tell her very often, I do miss her.

My favourite Swiss food is This is a difficult one! I could write a poem on Swiss food but I guess what I really miss is "Buednerfleisch, Broetli und Floralp" and of course my favourite Ticinese dish "Costine", commonly known as Ribs!

My favourite Swiss personality, artist, author, musician is Carla Del Ponte. She is probably not as well known as Roger Federer but I admire her strength, determination and achievements. She was the former Chief Prosecutor of two United Nations international criminal law tribunals. A former Swiss attorney general, she was appointed prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) in August 1999. And let's not forget that she was born in Ticino.



I have settled in the UK because I fell in love with an English man!

My favourite activities are cooking, riding, trekking.

I am good at / enjoy everything if I put my mind to it, but if you ask my husband he will certainly have another point of view.

I am not good at / do not enjoy taking no for an answer. It is way too depressing. I can compromise with a "maybe".

My hobbies are, well, I really love music and my greatest hobby is to organise concerts!

My hopes are to put an end to unnecessary lower limb disabilities such as clubfoot/talipes in developing countries.

My motto is "Tomorrow is another day", from the movie "Gone with the Wind".

I would like the New Helvetic Society to "to boldly go where no man has gone before".

Me in three words Passionate, Chaotic, Resourceful

Past Events (January – March 2014)

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JAN 2014

Film night: The Little Room (La petite chambre)

This moving story met with the approval of everyone present. It must have been a first.



06

FEB 2014

British – Swiss Cooperation: Priorities for the next years

A talk by H.E. the Swiss Ambassador Monsieur Dominik Furgler followed by an animated Questions and Answers section.

Ambassador Furgler took this opportunity to explain the duties of the Embassy including the Regional Consular Centre.

In this context this link might interest you: <http://bit.ly/1CIMqkW>



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MAR 2014

Spring Theory

Guided tour and private talk by Swiss artist Hans Stofer at the Gallery S O in Brick Lane. Professor Hans Stofer is Head of Programme of Metalwork & Jewellery at the Royal College of Art.



Past Events (April – May 2014)

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APR 2014

AGM

The usual items of the AGM were dealt with swiftly. As the Society is soon reaching its 100th anniversary, the President asked the members what they thought about changing the name as some might say that there is nothing new about it anymore. The membership made it clear that they did not want any change.



The AGM was followed by a meal with Swiss wine tasting.

We are grateful to our member Joelle Nebbe-Mornod, owner of Alpine Wines, for giving us some fine Swiss wines to taste. Alpine Wine is our wine supplier. If you want some Swiss wine for a special occasion, this is the place to go to www.alpinewines.co.uk.

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MAY 2014

Further Education in the UK or in Switzerland?

To help with making this decision, a special information event, initiated by FOSSUK, organised by the Embassy of Switzerland and supported by the New Helvetic Society, the City Swiss Club and the Unione Ticinese, took place at the Embassy of Switzerland with a panel of four members from the business world.



Past Events (June – July 2014)

3

JUN 2014

From Classical Music to a Taste of Rock and Movie by members of the Orion Orchestra.

Samuel Justitz, A Swiss cellist and Anna Hashimoto, a Japanese clarinetist, were amongst other talented musicians who took the audience through an intricate journey into the world of music and orchestras. From classical music pieces such as Mozart – Clarinet Concerto (Slow movement) and Ernst Block – In the Mountains – to a taste of rock and movie melodies.



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JUL 2014

Swiss National Day London



The New Helvetic Society again supported the Swiss National Day London Celebration not only financially but also practically as many of our members volunteered to help. Our involvement contributed in no small way to the success of this important event in the calendar of the Swiss community in London.



Past Events (September – November 2014)

13

SEP 2014

Kenwood House Highlights

We took a guided tour of this former stately home which houses a few paintings by Swiss-born artist Angelica Kauffman (1741–1807)

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OCT 2014

World Music with the Nicolas Meier Group featuring Lizzie Ball



From bossa nova, samba to Turkish, Balkan music and more. We welcomed the return of Swiss guitarist Nicolas Meier and violinist and vocalist Lizzie Ball, this time with Demi Garcia on percussion and Kevin Glasgow on bass.

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NOV 2014

Cybercrime – should I fear using technology?

Jonathan Wyatt, Managing Director of Protiviti and a member of our Society, gave us some very interesting and valuable advice on how to get streetwise while on Internet amongst other subjects. We are grateful to Protiviti for providing the use of their offices in the Strand.



Past Events (December 2014)

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DEC 2014

L'Escalade in London 1914–2015

In December 1602, during a moonless night, the Duke of Savoy, Charles Emmanuel, attempted to take Geneva by surprise and suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of its citizens.

In 1914 a group of professional men from Geneva residing in London formed a committee to organise the annual celebration of this historic event, L'Escalade, so named because some of the Duke of Savoy's men had scaled the walls to gain access to the city but were defeated.

Nowadays The New Helvetic Society – incorporating the Cercle Genevois – carries on the organisation of the tradition started 100 years ago. On Saturday 13 December 2015, 40 Genevans and friends of Geneva gathered at the Embassy of Switzerland in the presence of the Ambassador of Switzerland, H.E. Mr Dominik Furgler and Mrs Hayam Furgler, to partake in a delicious three course meal. The celebration culminated in the smashing of the chocolate marmite filled with marzipan vegetables while reciting *Ainsi périrent les ennemis de la République* (Thus perished the enemies of the Republic). This refers to how Catherine Cheynel, better known as Mère Royaume, poured boiling hot vegetable soup on soldiers climbing up the walls of the city.



Members' Corner

The Society is pleased to welcome the following members who joined in 2014

Delphine Hoarau
Boris and Svitlana Vladimirsly
Andrew Allaz
Madina Fassassi
Susie Kendall
Dr Louis and Roslyn Guenin

Claudette and Marcus von Arx
Dorothy Hahn
Paulin Meier
Sophie and Emmanuel Salles
Laura and Haag-Gallin
Ara Yeromian