

# 1972

## FRANZ GRILLPARZER, 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 1972



1411 The centenary of the death of the famous Austrian dramatist, Franz Grillparzer (1791-1872), was commemorated with a 2S black, ochre and pale stone stamp that was issued on January 21, 1972. It was designed by Adalbert Pilch, using as a basis the miniature by Moritz Daffinger (1790-1849), engraved by Alfred Nefe and printed by both the recess and lithographic processes in an impression of 3.2 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½.

“The embittered poet”. He wasn't always so, but the life of handsome Franz Grillparzer, born in Vienna in 1791 and belatedly recognised as Austria's greatest dramatist was profoundly influenced by incompatible parents and an oppressive home life. After grammar school, Franz entered the University of Vienna to study law, passed his examinations and became a civil servant, later being appointed Director of the Exchequer Archives. An early enthusiasm for music and literature gradually came to the fore - he began writing essays and poems, and his first great success was the tragedy “Die Ahnfrau” (The Ancestress), which he wrote at the age of 25. He found himself committed to the tragic theme - “Sappho” was an historical drama of an ageing woman and the intransigence of life and art.

Mourning the death of his mother, Franz travelled abroad, to Italy, Germany, France, and England. He acquired a “permanent fiancée”, Katharina Fröhlich, and wrote a trilogy, “Das Goldene Vlies” (The Golden Fleece), in which he anticipated Strindberg's “conflict of the sexes”. His later works were not so well received, and the fervent dramatist became “acidly sarcastic” and aggressive. He became obsessed with the illusion that the life of man was one of self-destruction, and after his last three tragedies, including the noted “Die Jüdin von Toledo” (The Jewess of Toledo), withdrew from public life. He died in 1872

## THE 3<sup>RD</sup> “ART TREASURES” ISSUE, FEBRUARY 23 1972

As the third instalment of the continuing series devoted to “Austrian Art Treasures”, on February 23, 1972 a set of three stamps were issued showing “Beautiful Fountains”. This set was designed by Adalbert Pilch, and the three stamps were engraved respectively by Alfred Nefe, Wolfgang Seidl and Werner Pfeiler; being printed in recess in an impression of 2.9 million sets; comb perforated 14¼:13½.



1412 The 1S brown-purple stamp shows the “Roman” fountain in the main square of Friesach in Carinthia. This is actually a Renaissance fountain, erected in 1563 in a town founded earlier: its walls were built in 1131.



1413 On the 2S light brown stamp is a lead fountain in the cross-aisle of the Abbey of Heiligenkreuz in Lower Austria. This is the oldest Cistercian Abbey in Austria, founded by St. Leopold in 1135.



1414 The 2S50 olive-green stamp shows the Leopold Fountain in the Bozner Platz of Innsbruck. It was erected in 1877 to mark the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the union of Tirol with Austria. At the top is the bronze statue of Duke Rudolf IV, the first Habsburg Regent of Tirol.

## POSTAL MINISTERS' CONFERENCE, APRIL 11 1972



1415 Two stamps were issued on April 11, 1972. The first was a 4S deep bluish violet stamp in honour of the 4th European Postal Ministers' Conference held then in Vienna. It was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to depict the "Michaeler-Tor" of the Vienna Hofburg Palace, engraved by Rudolf Toth and recess printed in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. The facade of the Michaeler Trakt was erected in 1889-1893 by Ferdinand Kirschner. The portal leads into a vestibule and then into a grand Rotunda. The Postal Ministers' Conference took place in the Hofburg.

## WORLD HEART MONTH, APRIL 11 1972

1416 Also issued on April 11, 1972 was a 4S chocolate stamp to mark Austrian participation in the international "World Heart Month" concept. This stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to depict a male heart patient lying in bed, in front of an E.C.G. machine, which is displaying the trace of his heart beat. It was engraved by Werner Pfeiler and recess printed in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. Heart disease is the modern scourge of the Western industrial world; associated with obesity, incorrect diet, excessive smoking and lack of exercise.



## GURK DIOCESE, MAY 5 1972



1417 The 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Diocese of Gurk was commemorated with a 2S slate-purple and gold stamp that was issued on May 5, 1972. It was designed by Adalbert Pilch to depict the head of St. Hemma on the central support of her sarcophagus in the crypt of the Cathedral of Gurk in Carinthia. It was engraved by Alfred Nefe, and printed by both the recess and photogravure processes, in an impression of 3.2 million; comb perforated 14.

*The stamp for the 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Gurk Diocese shows the carved head of a woman, one of the three supports below the stone sarcophagus of St. Hemma, patroness of Carinthia and foundress of the Diocese, in the crypt of Gurk Cathedral. In 1131, Archbishop Conrad of Salzburg allocated to the Bishops of Gurk a small diocese comprising eight parishes. The construction of Gurk Cathedral was commenced about 1140 and in 1174 the bones of the donor, Countess Hems, of Zeltschach and Friesach were transferred to the crypt. Later, in 1721, the tomb's furnishings and the stone sarcophagus were overlaid with marble by Antonio Corradini, and it was not until 1925 that Father Joseph Löw rediscovered the carved supports beneath the casing, which were made visible through openings cut in the marble. The Gurk Diocese now has 336 parishes and covers the whole of Carinthia.*




## ECONOMY CONGRESS, MAY 23 1972

1418 The 9<sup>th</sup> International Public and Co-operative Economy Congress was held in Vienna from 23rd to 25th May 1972. To honour this Congress a 4S black, vermillion and yellow stamp was issued on May 23, 1972. This stamp was designed in part by Adalbert Pilch and in part by Heimo Lauth (who designed the Congress Emblem based on Vienna's Rathaus); engraved by Wolfgang Seidl and printed by both the recess and the lithographic process in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforated 13¾.



## ELECTRIC POWER, JUNE 28 1972

The Silver Jubilee of the nationalisation of the Austrian Electricity Supply system in 1947 was commemorated with a set of three stamps issued on June 28, 1972. Designed by Otto Zeiller and engraved by both Rudolf Toth (70g) and Alfred Nefe (2S50 and 4S), they were printed by both the recess and the lithographic processes in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½.

		
1419 The 70g reddish violet and grey stamp shows the grid system pylon and high voltage line that connect Lienz in the Upper Tirol with Pelos. The pylon stands in the high snow-covered mountains.	1420 The 2S50 red-brown and grey value shows the power station at Vienna-Simmering. This power station, with its many chimneys, is operated by steam and supplies the Vienna's electrical power. [ <i>Looks like the fuel is now oil, gas, and biomass.</i> ]	1421 On the 4S slate-blue and grey stamp is shown the Zemm Dam which was built in 1966 to act as an accumulator for the Tauern power station which produces each year a total of 171 Megawatts of electricity.

## GOTHIC ART EXHIBITION, AUGUST 21 1972



1422 A special exhibition on "Late Gothic Art" was held in Salzburg during August 1972. A 2S maroon stamp was issued on August 21, 1972 in honour of this event. It was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to portray St. Hermes, engraved by Alfred Nefe and recess printed in an impression of 3.1 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. The statue depicted on the stamp is of painted wood and was made in 1449 by Conrad Laib for the left wing of a "Crucifixion Altar" which is now in the Carolino Augusteum Museum in Salzburg.

## OLYMPIC GAMES, AUGUST 21 1972

1423 The 20<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games were held in Munich in West Germany from 26th August until 10th September 1972. To honour this event, Austria issued a 2S blackish brown and red stamp on August 21, 1972. This stamp was designed by Otto Stefferl, to depict a runner holding the Olympic fire in a torch and passing through an Austrian landscape. It was engraved by Kurt Leitgeb and printed, by both the recess and photogravure processes in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½.



## GARDENERS' CONGRESS, SEPTEMBER 7 1972

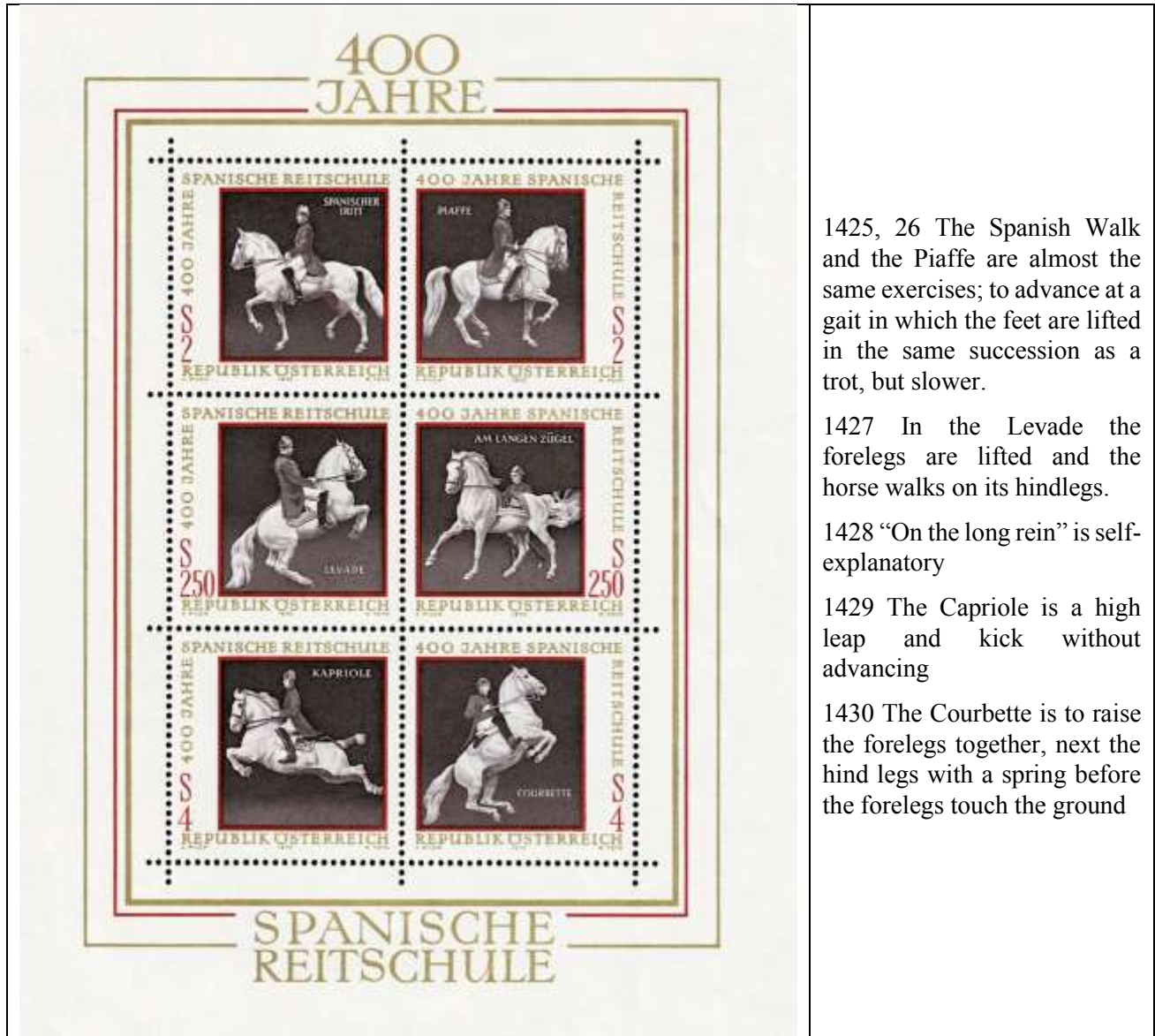


1424 The International Amateur Gardeners' Congress was held in Vienna in September 1972. In its honour a 2S50 multi-coloured stamp was issued on September 7, 1972. This stamp was designed by Carlos Riefel to depict two pears on twigs with leaves, engraved by Alfred Nefe and printed by both the recess and photogravure processes in an impression of 3.15 million; comb perforated 14:13½.



## SPANISH RIDING SCHOOL, SEPTEMBER 12 1972

The 400th anniversary of the foundation of the “Spanish Riding School” in Vienna was honoured with a miniature sheet of six stamps (2 of 2S; 2 of 2S50 and 2 of 4S) issued on September 12, 1972. These stamps were designed by Adalbert Pilch, engraved by Rudolf Toth and printed by both the recess and photogravure processes in an impression of 3.55 million sheets (dark violet/carmine red/gold colours); sheet perforated 13¾. The first documentary evidence of the existence of the “Spanischer Reitsall” was in 1572 but the present building was constructed for the Emperor Charles VI in 1729-1735 by Fischer von Erlach. It is a quadrangle (187 x 62 feet) with a gallery supported by 46 columns. On the north side is the Imperial Box, with an oil-painting depicting Charles VI on horseback. The individual stamps show six of the special steps the Lippitzaners can perform.



1425, 26 The Spanish Walk and the Piaffe are almost the same exercises; to advance at a gait in which the feet are lifted in the same succession as a trot, but slower.

1427 In the Levade the forelegs are lifted and the horse walks on its hindlegs.

1428 “On the long rein” is self-explanatory

1429 The Capriole is a high leap and kick without advancing

1430 The Courbette is to raise the forelegs together, next the hind legs with a spring before the forelegs touch the ground

*The origin of these is apparently moves to repel attack by soldiers (or peasants) on foot - a large horse kicking out is dangerous! The mounted knight could then escape from the attackers.*

## UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, OCTOBER 17 1972

1431 The centenary of the foundation of the “Hochschule für Bodenkultur” (The University of Agriculture) was commemorated by issuing a 2S multi-coloured stamp on October 17, 1972. It was designed by Karl Gessner, to depict the University Coat of Arms designed specifically for the centenary, engraved by Alfred Fischer and printed in both recess and photogravure in an impression of 3.1 million; comb perforated 13½. This “Hochschule für Bodenkultur” was founded in 1872 and is located in the north-eastern corner of the Türkenschanz Park in Vienna.



## PARIS LODRON UNIVERSITY, NOVEMBER 7 1972



1432 The 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Paris Lodron University in Salzburg was commemorated by issuing a 4S red-brown stamp on November 7, 1972. It was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to show the Collegiate Church and part of the old University Buildings after an old engraving, engraved by Werner Pfeiler and recess printed in an impression of 3.1 million; comb perforated 13. This Collegiate Church was built in 1606-1607 by J.B. Fischer von Erlach with a lofty dome and a striking facade. Graf Paris Lodron (1586-1653), Archbishop of Salzburg from 1619, opened the University of Salzburg in 1622.

## CARL ZIEHRER, NOVEMBER 14 1972

1433 The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of the Austrian composer and conductor Carl Michael Ziehrer (1813-1922) was commemorated by issuing a 2S brown-lake portrait stamp on November 14, 1972. This stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch, engraved by Rudolf Toth and recess printed in an impression of 3.1 million, comb perforated 14¼:13½.



Carl Michael Ziehrer, 1843-1922, Austrian composer and conductor of waltzes, military music and operettas, was born in Vienna, the son of a middle-class hat maker. After serving his apprenticeship as a hatter, he gave up his father's trade and began studying the piano and musical theory. At the age of 20 he introduced his own orchestra to appreciative audiences at Vienna's Dianabadsaal and commenced writing waltzes in the Strauss tradition: his first was “Wiener Tanzweisen” (Viennese Dances). As bandmaster of several infantry regiments, Ziehrer raised the standard of Austrian military music to new levels. He undertook many concert tours - to Budapest and Bucharest (where he was appointed Kappelmeister to the Rumanian royal court), to German towns and to the Chicago World Fair in 1893.

In 1888 he married the singer, Marianne Edelman, and after 1894 he devoted all his time to his orchestra and to the composition of operettas such as *Die Landstreicher* (1899), *Der Fremdenführer* (1902), *Der Schätzmeister* (1904), *Liebeswalzer* (1908), and *Fürst Casimir* (1913).

In 1908, he was appointed to the post of Director of Music for Court Balls; a post hitherto held only by members of the Strauss family. World War I and the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy brought hardship to the Ziehrers and he conducted his orchestra for the last time in 1921. The music on the stamp is from the operetta “*Die drei Wünsche*”.

## CHRISTMAS, DECEMBER 1 1972



1434 This 2S dull purple and yellow olive stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to depict a Gothic woodcarving “The Mother of God with Child” (1420-30), which is kept in the Church at Inzerdorf near Krems. It was engraved by Maria Laurent and printed by recess and photogravure in an impression of 5.2 million; comb perforated 13½:13¾. It was issued on December 1, 1972.

## THE 22<sup>ND</sup> STAMP DAY, DECEMBER 1 1972

1435 For the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual “Day of the Stamp”, a 4 + 1S olive-green stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch to depict a Letter Carrier of the Vienna “Small Post” in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It was engraved by Werner Pfeiler and recess printed in an impression of 2.2 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. The stamp was issued on December 1, 1972. On 1<sup>st</sup> March 1792 Joseph Hardy started a local post in Vienna; in the first year 32,000 letters were delivered.



## THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ART TREASURES ISSUE, DECEMBER 12 1972

The 4<sup>th</sup> set of stamps in the series “Austrian Art Treasures”, devoted to carriages from the Imperial Coach House, was issued on December 12, 1972. It was designed by Otto Zeiller, engraved respectively by Maria Laurent (1S50), Wolfgang Seidel (2S) and Alfred Fischer (2S50) and printed, in both recess and photogravure, in an impression of 3.1 million sets, comb perforated 14.



*A new series of Austrian Art Treasures concerns the collections of historic state coaches and carriages of the Wagenburg, or Imperial Coach Room, now a part of the Vienna Museum of Art, accommodated in the winter riding school of the Schönbrunn Palace. 1436: The first of the three stamps shows the lavish, baroque-style State Sledge (1S50S) built by Viennese craftsmen in 1750 and often driven for the enjoyment of Empress Maria Theresa and her daughter. Made of lime-wood and richly decorated with carved and gilded ornaments, it is said to have “glittered and shimmered” in the Austrian sunlight. 1437: The Coronation Landau (2S) was built by the Viennese coach-maker Ulmann in 1824, a modest, dark green, all-weather carriage with a leather roof which folded back in opposite directions. 1438: The Imperial State Coach of the Habsburg (2S50) is the most splendid carriage in the Museum, “a gilded cage”, with eight glass windows, extravagant ornamentation and paintwork. The body, suspended on leather straps, has no driver's seat as it was hauled by a team of six or eight horses, two of them ridden by grooms. It was used for the coronation of Joseph II in 1763, and on many other state occasions.*

## THE TELEPHONE SYSTEM ISSUE, DECEMBER 14 1972



1439 The completion of the Austrian telephone system was marked by issuing a 2S black and lemon stamp on December 14, 1972, designed by Adalbert Pilch to depict a map of Austria with a schematic telephone network and a telephone hand set. It was printed in photogravure in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 13½. By the beginning of 1965, 95% of the local and 86% of the long-distance telephones had been automated with a co-axial cable length of 1237 Km. and 3577 Km. of tube lengths in service. Seven years later the automation was completed.