

1974

RADIO AUSTRIA, JANUARY 14 1974



The 50th anniversary of the foundation of RADIO AUSTRIA in 1924 was commemorated by a 2S50 grey-blue and ultramarine stamp that was issued on January 14, 1974. It was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to depict a telex machine and a stylised representation of a globe, and was printed by photogravure in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint impression was 3000.

In Austria the österreichischer Rundfunk G.m.b.H. (popularly called "Radio Austria") is legally part of the Telegraphic Department of the Ministry of Post. Founded on 1st October 1924 as RAVAG (Radio-Verkehr- AG) in a building in the previous Ministry of War on the Stubenring, it has since developed into an important national body.

HUGO HOFMANNSTHAL, FEBRUARY 1 1974

The centenary of the birth of the Austrian poet and writer, Hugo von Hofmannsthal (1874-1929) was commemorated with a 4S deep violet-blue stamp that was issued on February 1, 1974. It was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to depict a portrait of Hugo von Hofmannsthal, engraved by Werner Pfeiler and recess printed in an impression of 3.2 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint impression was 3000.



BRUCKNER MEMORIAL CENTRE, MARCH 22 1974



The inauguration of the Bruckner Memorial Centre in Linz was marked by issuing a 4S deep brown stamp on March 22, 1974. This was designed by Otto Stefferl, to depict the head and shoulders of the famous composer Anton Bruckner (1824-1896) in the foreground, with the Brucknerhaus in the background, engraved by Alfred Nefe and recess printed in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 14. The blackprint impression was 3000.

VIENNA INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL SHOW, APRIL 18 1974

The Second Vienna International Horticultural Show was held in April 1974 and was commemorated by a set of three stamps (2S, 2S50 and 4S) that was designed by Carlos Riefel, engraved by Alfred Nefe and printed in combination multi-coloured recess and photogravure in an impression of 3.2 million sets; comb perforated 14. The blackprint impression was 3000. The set was issued on April 18, 1974.



Of this set Watson wrote: "More than 20 countries from all over the world are supplying floral displays for Vienna's mammoth International Horticultural Exhibition ("WIG 74") which covers a formerly derelict waste of some 247 acres south of the city. Some of these displays are national ones - for example a Dutch 'paradise of flowers', a Belgian garden of azaleas and begonias, and a Japanese tea-garden and house where 'genuine tea-ceremonies will be held'. More than 200,000 trees and shrubs have been planted, and as many roses as well as nearly a million bulbs. The "Gartenschau", which opened on 18th April, runs for six months with a new flower show each month in a vast covered enclosure, until 14th October. There is the traditional Viennese beer-garden

where concerts are held, and a full programme of entertainments such as brass-band festivals and beauty contests. For those with 'tired feet', a new monorail will provide visitors with aerial views, and for those who cannot get there at all there are three new stamps showing delightful vegetable, fruit and floral arrangements."

Wikipedia-de says: The Vienna International Garden Show 1974, WIG 74 for short, was opened on April 18, 1974 and closed on October 14, 1974. It was located on the grounds of today's Kurpark Oberlaa in Vienna's 10th district of Favoriten, where the neglected former brick factory site on the south-eastern slope of the Laaer Berg was partly used as a dung dump and partly as a nature reserve. With 2.6 million visitors, just like its predecessor in the Danube Park, it was a notable hit with the public. The "consciously modern" parts of the park subsequently became outdated quickest. A monorail running in the park turned out to be a bad investment and had to be dismantled after a few years, and an adjoining amusement park was in deficit from the start. As in the case of the Danube Park, the rest of the park furniture also proved to have only a limited ability to survive. At the end of 1974, the garden show area was finally converted into a public park, which was very popular. However, no other international garden shows were organized by Vienna, and the trend in the years that followed was away from the maintenance-intensive (and costly) show green towards more natural design, such as in the Wienerberg recreation area.

JUDENBURG, APRIL 24 1974



The 750th anniversary of the foundation of the town of Judenburg in 1224 was commemorated with a 2S multi-coloured stamp issued on April 24, 1974. It was designed by Otto Zeiller, to depict a head which was the centre of an ancient seal, and was printed in photogravure in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint impression was 2600. The town of Judenburg, in Upper Styria at a height of 737 metres above sea-level, has a population of about 10,000 inhabitants. To the east rises the chateau and ruins of Liechtenstein.

KARL KRAUS, APRIL 26 1974

The centenary of the birth of the Austrian poet Karl Kraus (1874-1936) was celebrated with a 4S carmine-red portrait stamp that was issued on April 26, 1974. It was designed by Otto Stefferl, using a portrait of the poet in the Austrian National Library, engraved by Alfred Nefe and recess printed in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint impression was 2600. Karl Kraus who a poet, a critic of language and culture, a translator of Shakespeare and both a dramatist and a journalist. He made a special study of the works of Nestroy but also fostered young talent amongst his contemporaries.



SCHWANTHALER FAMILY, MAY 3 1974

A 2S50 blackish-olive stamp was issued on May 3, 1974 in connection with an exhibition in Reichersberg entitled "Sculptures by the Schwanthaler Family". This stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch to depict a statue of St. Michael, engraved by Alfred Nefe, and recess printed in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint impression was 2600. The Schwanthaler family produced sculptors from 1633 to 1848 and the stamp depicts a model wood carving made by Thomas Schwanthaler (in 1694-1697) for the fountain in the courtyard of the Augustinian Monastery at Reichersberg am Inn. The actual statue was cast in bronze.



EUROPA-CEPT, MAY 8 1974



The 6th Europa-CEPT issue appeared on May 8, 1974. This was a 2S50 slate-blue and ochre value that was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to depict the statue of King Arthur on the tomb of Maximilian I in the Hofkirch in Innsbruck, engraved by Rudolf Toth and recess printed in an impression of 3.2 million; comb perforated 13½:13¾. The blackprint impression was 2600. The Postal Commission of CEPT had chosen the theme of "Sculpture" for the 1974 stamps which is why the statue of King Arthur was selected for the Austrian stamp.

ARBÖ, MAY 17 1974

The 75th anniversary of the foundation of the Austrian Association of Motoring, Motor Cycling and Cycling (ARBÖ)

was commemorated with a 2S purple-brown and pale bluish grey stamp that was issued on May 17, 1974. It was designed by Otto Stefferl to depict an early Dion-Bouton Motor Tricycle, engraved by Wolfgang Seidel and recess printed in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. The blackprint impression was 2600.



RENAISSANCE EXHIBITION, MAY 22 1974



An exhibition "The Renaissance in Austria" was held in Schallaburg Castle; starting on 21st May 1974. To mark this event a 2S black, gold and chestnut stamp was issued on May 22, 1974. It was designed by Otto Stefferl, engraved by Alfred Fischer and printed in both recess and photogravure (chestnut) in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. The blackprint impression was 2600. The Renaissance was the period in the 15th century when a revival of arts and letters took place. The design of the stamp depicts a satyr's head in the form of a mask in terracotta used as terminating stone.

In 1967 the government of Lower Austria bought the castle from the Austrian state and decided to renovate it. In 1968 the restoration started with the roof. In 1974 the Schallaburg was opened as a museum for Lower Austria. The topic of the first exhibition was the Renaissance. Every year there is a new exhibition; the exhibition of 2011 was on the history of Venice, the one of 2012 about Byzantium. On March 29, 2014 an exhibition on the First World War called "Glory and Gloom - living with the Great War 1914-1918" was opened. The exhibition showed weapons, movies, historical posters, post cards from particulars and other items from that time. In 2015 the Vikings were the topic of the annual exhibition.

THE I.R.U. CONGRESS, MAY 24 1974

The 14th International Road Haulage Union (I.R.U.) Congress took place in Innsbruck from 27 to 30 May 1974. In honour of this event a 4S black and reddish orange stamp was issued on May 24, 1974. It was designed by Otto Stefferl to depict the emblem of the I.R.U. and was printed in photogravure in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. The blackprint was 2600.



The foundation of the International Federation for Commercial Motor Transport took place in 1929. This collapsed in 1939 but was re-founded in 1947 as an International Bureau for Autobus and Commercial Transport and this led to the foundation on 23rd March 1948 of I.R.U. in Geneva.



F.A. MAULBERTSCH, JUNE 7 1974

The 250th anniversary of the birth of the Austrian painter Franz Anton Maulbertsch (1724-1796), was celebrated with a 2S purple-brown stamp issued on June 7, 1974. This portrait stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch, basing it upon a self-portrait by the artist which is preserved in the Austrian Gallery of the Baroque Museum, engraved by Kurt Leitgeb and recess printed in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. The blackprint was 2600.

GENDARMERIE, JUNE 7 1974



The 125th anniversary of the foundation of the Austrian Gendarmerie on 8th June 1849 as a reaction to the Year of Revolutions in 1848 was marked with a 2S multi-coloured stamp issued on June 7, 1974. It was designed by Otto Stefferl to depict a gendarme of 1849 on a horse and one of 1974 on a motorcycle, and was printed by photogravure in an impression of 3.1 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint was 2600. Gendarmes (originally mounted lancers) have been instituted in most European countries, since the French Revolution, as a corps of military police - half way between the army and the police - to deal with civil disturbances.

SPORT: FENCING, JUNE 14 1974

An additional value to the stamp series with sport motifs was issued on June 14, 1974. This 2S50 black and salmon stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch to depict two fencers with their foils crossed, engraved by Marie Laurent, and printed by recess (the black colour) and photogravure (the salmon colour) in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 13½:13¾. The blackprint impression was 2600. Fencing can be traced back through the Middle Ages to Antiquity but modern schools of fencing only date back to the end of the 17th century; the most famous being the Royal School of Fencing in Prague. It is now an official Olympic sport.



EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT, JUNE 18 1974



A 4S multi-coloured stamp was issued on June 18, 1974 in honour of the 39th European Conference of Ministers of Transport that took place in Vienna from 18 to 21 June 1974, under the presidency of the Austrian Transport Minister: E. Lanc. This stamp was designed by Otto Zeiller, to depict various symbols of transport (an anchor, a tyre, wings and a runway), and was printed by photogravure in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint impression was 2600. The E.T.M.C. was founded in Brussels on 17th October 1933 to form a forum for the discussion of all transport problems relating to Europe.

CHRISTIANITY IN SALZBURG, JUNE 28 1974

A 2S deep violet-blue stamp was issued on June 28, 1974 in honour of "Salzburg-Centre of Christianisation in the 8th century" (i.e. 1200th anniversary). This stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch to show a woodcarving of St. Virgilius** in the parish church at Nonntäl, engraved by Rudolf Toth and recess printed in an impression of 3.05 million; comb perforated 13i:13i. The blackprint impression was 2600. ** Actually Saint Feirgil (700-784), an Irishman who became Bishop of Salzburg in 766 A.D.



PRESIDENT JONAS, JUNE 28 1974



The Federal President Franz Jonas died in Vienna on April 24, 1974. A 2S black mourning stamp was issued on June 28, 1974. This portrait stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch, engraved by R. Toth and recess printed in an impression of 3.2 million; comb perforated 13¾. The blackprint was 2600

Franz Josef Jonas (4 October 1899 – 24 April 1974) was an Austrian politician who served as the President of Austria between 1965 and 1974. He was a typesetter by profession and a member of the Social Democratic Party of Austria. After World War II, he got involved in Viennese communal politics and was mayor of Vienna from 1951 to 1965. From 1965, he was federal president and was re-elected in 1971.

Jonas was a fervent supporter of Esperanto, and starting in 1923, became a long-time instructor of the language. His address to the 1970 World Congress of Esperanto, which was held in Vienna, was delivered in Esperanto. In 1974, he died in office, the fourth consecutive president to do so.

FRANZ STELZHAMMER, JULY 12 1974



The centenary of the death of the Austrian dialect poet, Franz Stelzhammer (1802-1874), was commemorated by a 2S indigo portrait stamp which was issued on July 12, 1974. This stamp was designed by Otto Stefferl, who based his design on a portrait of the poet held in the Austrian National Library, engraved by Werner Pfeiler and recess printed in an impression of 3.2 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint was 2600.

Stelzhammer was born on 29th November 1802 at Grosspiesenham bei Ried and died on 14th July 1874 at Henndorf. He was the most important of the Austrian dialect poets and even wrote the text of the provincial anthem for Upper Austria.

SWIMMING, AUGUST 16 1974

The 13th European Swimming, Diving and Water-polo Championships were held in Vienna from 18 to 25 August 1974. A 4S sepia and pale blue stamp was issued on August 16, 1974 to honour this event. It was designed by Adalbert Pilch to depict a diver, engraved by Kurt Leitgeb and printed, by both recess and photogravure, in an impression of 3.2 million; comb perforated 13½:12¾. The blackprint was 2600 items. All 29 European states are members of the European Swimming Union.



DERMATOLOGISTS, SEPTEMBER 10 1974



The 30th Meeting of the Association of German-speaking Dermatologists was held in Graz from 10 to 14 September 1974. In its honour a 4 Schilling sepia portrait stamp was issued on September 10, 1974. It was designed by Adalbert Pilch to depict the famous Austrian doctor and dermatologist, Ferdinand Ritter von Hebra (1816-1880), engraved by Kurt Leitgeb and recess printed in an impression of 3.25 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. The blackprint was 2600.

SCHONBERG, SEPTEMBER 13 1974

The centenary of the birth of the famous Austrian composer, Arnold Schönberg (1874-1951) was commemorated by a 2.50 Schilling plum portrait stamp that was issued on September 13, 1974. It was designed and engraved by Otto Stefferl, who based it on a portrait in the National Library, and recess printed in an impression of 3.2 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. The blackprint was 2600.



Schönberg was born in Vienna of Czech parents, began a short-lived career as a bank clerk while studying the violin, then turned to music as a matter of inner compulsion, at first earning a living by scoring operettas. After working in Vienna, where his first Chamber Symphony created a riot in 1906, and in Berlin, where he taught at the Academy of Arts, he fled from the Nazi regime in Germany to the United States in 1933. There he first taught in Boston and New York, then became professor at the University of California in Los Angeles where he died on July 13 1951.

"The name of Arnold Schönberg, 1874-1951, is remembered most for his work in the discordant field of atonal music, a twelve-note system based on the chromatic scale which discarded the traditional keys and the predominance of certain notes in a scale. Examples are his string sextet, "Verklärte Nacht", written in 1899; "Das Buch der hängenden Gärten" for chorus and piano, and "Ertwartung" a musical drama for solo performer."

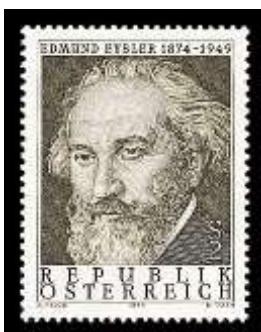
1974



AUSTRIAN BROADCASTING, OCTOBER 1 1974

The 50th anniversary of the first Austrian broadcast, on 1st October 1924, was commemorated by a 2S multi-coloured stamp which was issued on October 1, 1974. It was designed by Otto Zeiller, to depict the ÖRF studio in Salzburg, and was printed in photogravure in an impression of 3.2 million; comb perforated 1421:13. The blackprint was 2600. The Salzburg studios were designed by Professor Gustav Peichl and he received the Large Austrian State Prize for the design. Similarly designed studios were erected in Linz, Innsbruck and Dornbirn.

EDMUND EYSLER, OCTOBER 4 1974



The 75th anniversary of the death of the Austrian composer, Edmund Eysler (1874-1949) was commemorated with a 2S blackish-olive portrait stamp issued on October 4, 1974. It was designed by Adalbert Pilch, who based the portrait on one in the Austrian National Library, engraved by Rudolf Toth and recess printed in an impression of 3.2 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint was 2600. Edmund Eysler wrote 40 full-length operettas and 20 one-act operettas including "Artist's Blood" (1906), "Count Tony" (1917) and "Golden Music" (1946).

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION CENTENARY, OCTOBER 9 1974



The centenary of the Universal Postal Union was honoured with two stamps; a 2S purple brown and dull mauve plus a 4S steel blue and bluish grey value, which were issued on October 9, 1974. They were designed by Adalbert Pilch, to depict a 19th century postman with a stagecoach and a 20th century postman with a mail van and plane, and printed in photogravure in an impression of 3.2 million; comb perforated 13¾. The blackprint was 2600. The "General Postal Union" was founded on 9th October 1874 in Bern under the influence of Heinrich von Stephan; the German General Post Master.



AUSTRIAN FOOTBALL POOLS, OCTOBER 23 1974



The 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Austrian Football Pools (Sport toto) was celebrated with a 70g vermilion, black and light green stamp that was issued on October 23, 1974. It was designed by Karl Gessner, to show the emblem of the Sport toto created by the artist Heinz Wagner, and was printed in photogravure in an impression of 5 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint was 2600. The first Sport toto took place on 23rd October 1949 with 61,556 participants and a capital of 209,418Sch.

NATURE PROTECTION, OCTOBER 23 1974

A 2S multi-coloured stamp was issued on October 23, 1974 to promote the concept of "Nature Protection" (Umweltschutz). It was designed by Otto Stefferl to depict a mailed fist protecting a delicate rose, and was printed in photogravure in an impression of 3.2 million; comb perf 14½:13½. The blackprint was 2600.

On 19th November 1973, a Council of Nature Protection was established in Austria with representatives of government, business and trade unions as members.



1974

DITTERSDORF, OCTOBER 24 1974



The 175th anniversary of the death of the Austrian composer, Carl Ditters von Dittersdorf (1739-1799) was commemorated with a 2S bluish-green portrait stamp that was issued on October 24, 1974. This stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch, who based it on a portrait in the Austrian National Library, engraved by Alfred Fischer, and recess printed in an impression of 3.2 million; comb

STAMP DAY, NOVEMBER 29 1974

The annual Stamp Day Issue was a 4+2S deep ultramarine stamp that appeared on November 29, 1974. It was designed by Otto Stefferl to depict a mail coach at the Vienna I Post

Office about 1905, engraved by Alfred Nefe and recess printed in an impression of 2.15 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint was 2600. The small, closed, four-wheeled vehicle shown was used for the delivery of small quantities of mail.



CHRISTMAS STAMP, NOVEMBER 29 1974



The annual Christmas Issue was a 2S deep brown and gold stamp that appeared on November 29, 1974. It was designed by Otto Zeiller, to depict a wood carving of "Mary and Child", engraved by Maria Laurent and recess printed in dark brown, with the gold applied by photogravure, in an impression of 5.2 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint was 2600. The statue on the stamp was carved in wood by the Master of Oberwang (circa 1600) and it is from the Church of St. Konrad at Oberwang in Upper Austria.

FRANZ SCHMIDT, DECEMBER 18 1974

The centenary of the birth of the Austrian composer Franz Schmidt (1874-1939) was commemorated with a 4S black and stone portrait stamp that was issued on December 18, 1974. It was designed by Otto Stefferl, who based it upon a portrait in the Austrian National Library, engraved by Rudolf Toth and printed by both recess (black) and photogravure (stone), in an impression of 3.15 million; comb perforated 14½:13½. The blackprint was 2600.



Franz Schmidt was born in Pressburg (Bratislava) Czechoslovakia. In 1888, the family moved to Vienna where Franz studied the cello, and in 1896, accepted the post of cellist at the Vienna Court Opera, thus becoming a member of the Vienna Philharmonic. But the daily orchestral routine was not to his taste, and he turned his mind to writing music - a symphony (the first of four) which achieved an early success, and an opera, "Notre Dame" (after Hugo), which Gustav Mahler, then director of the Vienna State Opera, refused to stage. He left the Court opera orchestra in 1910, composed a second symphony, first performed in 1913, and became a professor of pianoforte at the Vienna Academy of Music. "Notre Dame" was finally produced in 1914, but, like his second opera, "Fredegundis", met with little success. His great talent was for instrumental music and he wrote many pieces for the organ and pianoforte and orchestra, also appearing as a concert pianist. He became director of the Academy of Music in 1925, and died at Perchtoldsdorf in 1939.