

Swiss Club of Washington, DC



November 2024 Postillion

Message from the President

Gruezi, Bonjour, Buongiorno, Hello,

Happy November everyone! It was so great to see so many of you at the annual Raclette dinner a few weeks ago. Although the weather was unseasonably warm, we still enjoyed an amazing evening under the lights of the Swiss Embassy. As usual, all of the food was delicious, particularly the plates of raclette and potatoes. And we had the honor of welcoming our new Ambassador Ralf Heckner to the Club and the Washington, D.C. area. Thanks so much to all who volunteered and made the event possible!

It was also great to see several of you at the annual General Assembly meeting last week. As the recap of our year indicated, we continue to be a very active Swiss Club offering many activities for our members (essentially one per month). I am particularly proud to report that all 26 Swiss cantons are represented in our Swiss Club! We have at least one member from each. It is a special reminder that our Club represents the full range of Swiss culture.

Our last Club event of 2024 will be the annual Samiclaus event at the Embassy on Sunday, December 8th. As a reminder, this is a free members-only event, and admission is first-come-first-serve. We will have food, drinks, entertainment for children young and old, and a special appearance from "the man himself." More details will be distributed closer to the event.

In the meantime, have a great month and Thanksgiving holiday!

All the best,

Kevin H. Sprenger

Heidi Goes AI - A Call for Submissions

The **Consulate General of Switzerland in San Francisco** and the **Heidiseum** (owner of the UNESCO's Heidi Archive) are thrilled to announce that the Call for Submissions of AI-generated art for the upcoming exhibition "**Heidi Goes AI**" is now open.

Heidi is the protagonist of the novel written by the Swiss writer **Johanna Spyri**. Published between 1880 and 1881, Heidi became one of the most successful children's books of all times. This beloved character has since inspired numerous literary adaptations, film, television, theater, and even computer games, captivating audiences across generations with her timeless story, and reaching countries across the globe! This cultural icon was inscribed in 2023 on UNESCO's "**International Memory of the World Register**",

testifying to the recognition of the global significance of its Heidi archive.

In the age of AI and generative technologies, how would you imagine Heidi?



We invite **YOU**, artists, professionals, and aficionados from all backgrounds from the United States and Switzerland to showcase your interpretation of **Heidi** using **AI**!

Unleash your creativity and experiment with various AI techniques, prompts, and software to breathe new life into cultural heritage. If selected by our international jury, **your Artwork could win USD 3'000 (first place), USD 2'000 (second place), or USD 1'000 (third place)**. Further selected Artworks will be part of an exhibition and discussed during panels, where topics such as AI, art, and copyright will be debated.

Make sure to submit your application on [SWISS IMPACT](#) by **December 16, 2024!**

Film NEU 2024

Film NEU is back with a great selection of German language films from Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, and Switzerland!

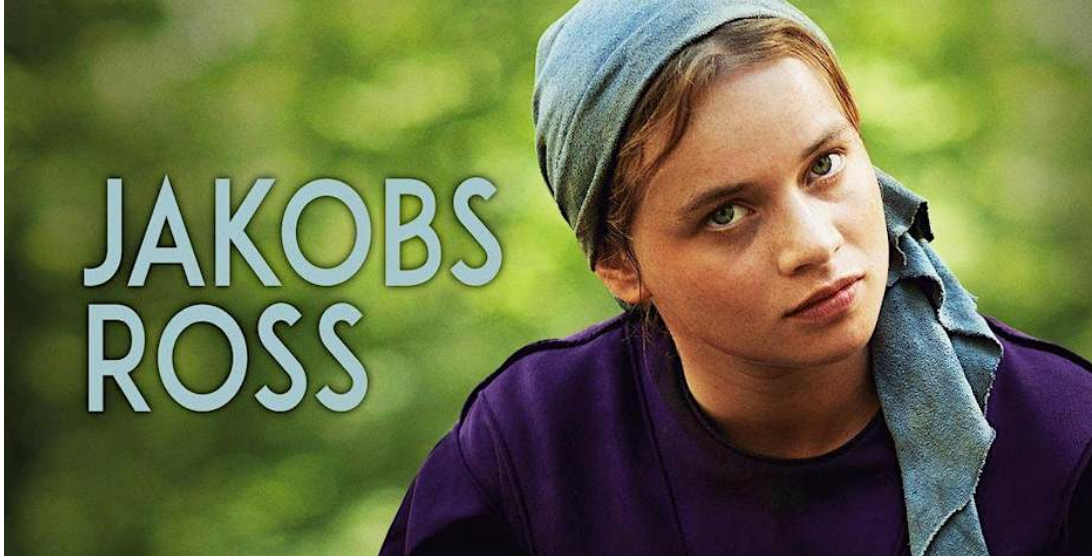
This year's Swiss selection is "Songs Within (Jakobs Ross)", 2024, directed by Katalin Gödrös.

Based on the best-selling novel by Swiss author Silvia Tschui, Songs Within tells the story of Elsie, a musically-gifted maid who dreams of being a singer, who is forcibly married to Jakob, a young farmhand with dreams of his own: to own a horse. They learn they must work together to escape their pasts and overcome their lack of opportunity in search of a better life. This story of emancipation and social advancement is set against the stunning Alpine backdrop of 19th century Switzerland.



The film will be shown with English subtitles.





[Register Here](#)

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

Doors open: 6:00pm, Screening begins: 6:30pm

Late entry, after 7:15pm, will not be permitted

Swiss Club Events for 2024

- Grittibänz
- Samichlaus

December 8, 2024

December 8, 2024

Board Members and Volunteer Coordinators

President: Kevin Sprenger, kevin.sprenger@swissclubdc.org

1st Vice-President: Catherine Gees, catherine.gees@swissclubdc.org

2nd Vice-President: Susann Kollmar, susann.kollmar@swissclubdc.org

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Board Member: Christine Saba christine.saba@swissclubdc.org

Board Member: Martin Perret, martin.perret@swissclubdc.org

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Swiss Embassy Liaison: Annette Moser annette.moser@swissclubdc.org

Webmaster: Markus Pfeiffer, markus.pfeiffer@swissclubdc.org

About Other Swiss Groups

Swiss Rifles:

Ken Schelbert, ken@schelberts.com

Swiss Folklore Group:

Erwin Buerlimann, President, Eburlimann@comcast.net

Die Stauffacherin:

Janine Ali, President, janine.seltzer@gmail.com

Susann Kollmar, Vice President

Swiss Benevolent Society:

Barbara Balman, President, president@sbsofdc.org

www.sbsofdc.org

Swiss American Club of Richmond:

swissamericanclubrichmondva@gmail.com

Swiss American Historical Society:

<https://www.swiss-american-historical-society.org/>

Advertisement

We invite professionals and corporations to place your ad on the Swiss Club website by contacting [Melanie Way](#).

Your ad will also appear on the e-Postillion which is sent to our membership on a monthly basis. All we need from you is a business card sized image containing your website/email information; anyone clicking on it will be linked to your website.

2024 prices are as follows:

\$75.00 for dues paying members and \$100.00 for non-members.

Great exposure to the Swiss community for a small cost.





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