



**14<sup>th</sup> Viennese Rainbow Ball – "The Imperial Rainbow":  
LGBT Emperor-Waltz turns the Imperial Palace upside down for the first time**

Wearing a flirty smile and being under the patronage of Federal President Heinz Fischer, Vienna's colourful, free-spirited and lively LGBT community moves, now socially acceptable, from the Parkhotel Schönbrunn to the Imperial Palace Hofburg Vienna. On 12<sup>th</sup> February 2011 the Rainbow Ball is having its first night amongst the imperial splendour of the Habsburgs' winter residency. There it will also set a pleasurable counterpoint of life's diversity. "The Imperial Rainbow" will be organised in the Hofburg's ballrooms by the tried and tested team of the Homosexual Initiative (HOSI) Vienna under the leadership of Christian Högl – with esprit, fantasy and in the spirit of tolerance. This invitation goes to all LGBT people, their friends and supporters to enjoy a sparkling night of music and dancing not only in waltz time. Be part of it!

**A night with that certain something, lead through by Lucy McEvil**

Christof Cremer will be the artistic director. He earned his reputation as costume and stage designer at ballet performances of the New Year's Concert of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. The artistic direction will add that certain something to classical ball tradition. In that spirit, the opening dancers of the dancing school Stanek will not strictly stick to traditional ball clothing. To the sound of Johann Strauss's famous waltz "The Blue Danube" they will present themselves classically in black and white clothing.

Subsequently, the dancing formation Les Schuh Schuh will spin and twist conventional role models by changing who leads, switching partners and doing some cross-dressing, and thereby putting themselves together in a totally new way. Their sweeping and ironic performance, which has been immensely popular since 2002, also picks Austria and Vienna as its theme. The Viennese call for "Alles Walzer!" ("Everyone Dance!") will let all colours of the rainbow sweep through the ball. Whether one is a lady or a gentleman: One is free to wear a gown, tails, tuxedo, dark suit or any other extravagant robe. The singer and actress Lucy McEvil will keep you entertained. Festively dressed, the male diva will comment the events with her smoky voice in a charming, witty and classy way.

**Mix of Classical Viennese Dancing Music, Jazz and Latin-Dance**

A sparkling ball night is assured in the Festsaal (main ballroom) by the highly professional orchestra Divertimento Viennese. Their routine consists of a variety of classical Viennese dancing music, legendary musical and swing compositions, hits from the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s, as well as passionate Tango, erotic Rumba and fiery Paso-Doble. In the Zeremoniensaal, the guitarist and composer Eric Lary's group Desert Wind will play jazz, funk and soul music. The internationally successful formation combines Yiddish love and melancholy of life with the groove of American jazz. A special guest will be the lesbian choir Le Zbor from Croatia, presenting pop rock with a female touch. The Rittersaal will, thanks to the show of charismatic José Ritmo, turn into a Latin dance-bar. Cha-cha, Salsa and Merengue will get you fired-up. In the Forum, DJ L. Rock, who works at Vienna's gay club "Why Not?", will make sure no one gets bored in the Solid-Gold-Lounge. And in the conservatory, DJ-lounge music will accompany the joys of "Imperial Smokers".

**Walking on Sunshine at Midnight**

For the 14<sup>th</sup> Rainbow Ball's midnight performance the sun shall show up. Exactly at midnight, Katrina (formerly Katrina and the Waves) will invite everybody to "Walking on sunshine"! After that, the quadrille lead by Wolfgang Stanek will finally turn upside down everything.

**Rainbow-Boulevard and Beneficiary Tombola under the rainbow**

The Rainbow Boulevard will be another aspect of variety offered for our guests. Strolling there, one will get to see a lot of different institutions, companies and associations that present



themselves, what they are all about and how their work contributes to diversity. The net profit of the Rainbow Ball will, as it traditionally has, support the work of HOSI Vienna. It's used to finance various LGBT causes, such as HOSI Vienna's educational project "Peer ConneXion" or the "Regenbogenparade" (rainbow parade, which is the name of the Christopher Street Day in Vienna). A fun twist in donating will be the popular tombola with unusual and exciting prizes.

### **14<sup>th</sup> Viennese Rainbow Ball – "The Imperial Rainbow"**

12<sup>th</sup> February 2011 – 7.30 pm – official opening at 9 pm

In the ballrooms of the Hofburg, Vienna's Imperial Palace

Entry ticket 70 €

Student ticket 40 €

Seat reservation 40 €

60 € in the Zeremoniensaal

110 € and 150 € in the Festsaal (main ballroom)

Tickets Online at the shop at [www.regenbogenball.at](http://www.regenbogenball.at)

Or at the following places:

Gugg – Centre and Café of HOSI Vienna, Buchhandlung (book store)

Löwenherz, Tanzschule (dancing school) Stanek and all branches of Bank Austria

Further Information [www.regenbogenball.at](http://www.regenbogenball.at)

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