

Romance in Vienna

Johann Straus & Co.



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Madame Adele Strauss

*Requests the pleasure of your
company at a musical soir ee in
Vienna to celebrate the life of her
Husband*

Johann Strauss Jr.

Guests include:

*Karoline Charles-Hirsch
Soprano*

*Alexander Girardi
Baritone*

*Accompanied by the
"Pizzicato String Ensemble"*



Soirée Programme

<i>Emperor Waltz</i>	
<i>There's no place like Vienna</i>	<i>The Gypsy Baron</i>
<i>I'm well known</i>	
<i>I have no luck at all in love</i>	
<i>As in my dreams</i>	
<i>Gypsy Song "Beware"</i>	
<i>Bridal Cake</i>	
<i>Wine Drink it down</i>	<i>A Night in Venice</i>
<i>When you're in love</i>	
<i>Overture</i>	<i>Die Fledermaus</i>
<i>What a Feast</i>	
<i>Laughing Song</i>	
<i>Dui Du</i>	
<i>Champagne Trio</i>	

Interval

<i>Tritsch Tratsch Polka</i>	
<i>Wine, Women and Song</i>	
<i>Pizzicato Polka</i>	
<i>Always a Smile</i>	<i>Land of Smiles</i>
<i>The Blue Danube</i>	
<i>Chez Maxim</i>	<i>Merry Widow</i>
<i>Women, Women</i>	<i>Merry Widow</i>
<i>Overture</i>	<i>Orpheus in the Underworld</i>
<i>The Doll Song</i>	<i>Tales of Hoffman</i>
<i>As Jewels divine</i>	
<i>Barcarole</i>	
<i>Vilia</i>	<i>Merry Widow</i>
<i>Waltz</i>	
<i>Medley</i>	

Programme Notes

Johann Strauss Jr. was born in Vienna in 1823, the first of five children. His father, Johann Sr., went to great lengths to keep his sons from following in his footsteps as a violinist/musical director. Ironically all three achieved success as musicians. Johann Jr. made his debut in 1844 as concert director at the Dommayer Casino at the age of 19. He had a fire and passion that not even his father could muster. His career took him on concert tours around Europe, Russia and America.

Idolized by women, yet he didn't marry until 1862. His first wife, the singer Henriette "Jetty" Treffz died in 1878. She had persuaded him to compose operettas. Johann was unable to face life alone and only seven weeks after Jetty's death, he married the actress and singer Angelika "Lili" Diettrich, 30 years his junior. Lili soon realized that she had married a compulsive worker and humiliated him before all Vienna with her infidelities. Lili eventually left Johann. With the breakdown of his second marriage, Johann turned for consolation to the young Adele Deutsch. Although the Roman Catholic Church would not recognize Johann's divorce from Lili, Adele took up residence with Johann until they were finally married in 1887. Johann died on June 3rd 1899 in the arms of his devoted wife. Known as "The Waltz King", he completed 16 stage works, of which "Die Fledermaus" and "The Gypsy Baron" remain the most popular. He leaves a legacy of over 500 orchestral compositions.

Jacques Offenbach was born in 1819 and trained as a cellist at the Paris Conservatoire, finding employment at the Opéra-Comique. He became conductor of the Théâtre Français and in 1855 rented his own theatre, where his early light-hearted stage-works were performed. He continued a successful career devoted largely to operetta and opéras comiques ("Orpheus and the Underworld" and "Tales Of Hoffman" among others) until his death in 1880.

Franz Lehar was born in Hungary in 1870, the son of a military bandmaster. His first opera, produced in 1896, was a failure, but it led him to the world of operetta, and his greatest success "The Merry Widow".