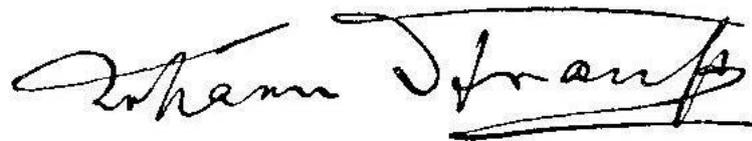


Prof. PhD Mag.art. Werner HACKL

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Johann Strauss" in a cursive script. The signature is underlined with two parallel lines.

JOHANN STRAUSS, SON

October 25, 1825 Vienna – June 3, 1899 Vienna



*200 Happy Birthday*

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### **Austria's Ambassadors to the World**

*"Vienna is the true starting point for classical, cheerful music, and it was in Vienna that the greatest masters lived and worked, such as Lanner and Johann Strauss father and son, who brought the waltz to its full development and popular perfection." <sup>1</sup>*

In Viennese musical life, which is so rich in festive anniversaries and can look back on a brilliant tradition, the name Johann Strauss plays a special role. Attention! Not all Strausses are the same! The Viennese Strauss family includes the father Johann (1804-1849), his wife Anna Streim (1801-1870), and their three sons: Johann, the Waltz King (1825-1899), Josef (1827-1870), and Eduard (1835-1916). There was also a successful operetta composer in Vienna named Straus: Oscar Straus (1870-1954), and the famous Bavarian opera composer Richard Strauss – he too felt at home in Vienna.

The today's descendants of the Viennese Strauss family spell their names with the ss.

Along with the masterpieces of Viennese Classicism by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert, it was especially the Viennese Waltz and the classical Viennese operetta that gave Austrian music the immortality it can point to today. Johann Strauss II raised the Viennese Waltz to the heights that have since defined its fame. Through his operetta "The Bat," Johann Strauss can also be called the father of the classical Viennese operetta.

Johann Strauss is the most famous and, to this day, most successful composer of Viennese music of the 19th century, which has become a model for popular music throughout the entire world, influenced by European culture. In 1867, there was little to suggest that "On the Beautiful Blue Danube" would become the greatest success ever achieved by a musical piece in music history. Six months after its premiere, boxes filled with the "Blue Danube" were being sent all over the world. Today, the "Blue Danube Waltz" is a required piece at every New Year's concert, as well as after every touring concert. Because the general enthusiasm for this Austrian anthem compels the encore, orchestras generally do not include it in their programs. Johann Strauss Sr.'s "Radetzky March" claims the same success, always forming the crowning conclusion to a patriotic Austrian concert.

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<sup>1</sup> Oscar Straus (1870 born in Vienna – 1954 died in Bad Ischl

Eduard Hanslick<sup>2</sup> witnessed that in the field of dance music, the waltz, "the sweet, numbing three-quarter time that turned all heads and feet," reigned supreme; Strauss (Sr.) and Lanner were idolized. Every nation can envy Austria for Strauss and Lanner. Today, it is hard to imagine the enthusiastic frenzy they brought to Vienna.

**Johann Strauss, Sr.**<sup>3</sup> (March 14, 1804 – September 25, 1849) initially played in the Lanner Quartet, but since the demand for dance music was so great, Strauss founded his own 14-man orchestra. His popularity grew both as a composer and as a conductor. The years when he directed the music at the dance hall "Sperl"<sup>4</sup> remain unforgettable in Viennese musical history. His reputation grew through his artistic tours to Pest, Berlin, Holland, Paris, and London.

Strauss the Elder spread the fame of German dance music throughout the world; he was crowned with laurels and acclaimed. From 1831 onward, Johann Strauss the Elder played with his orchestra at balls at the Imperial Court, and in 1846, he was given the title of *Imperial and Royal Court Ball Music Director*. In 1843, Strauss was required to provide the music at court balls with his orchestra in a "uniform-like dress," as the musicians were not happy with the black tailcoats they had previously worn.



Th. Zäsche

Johann Strauss' (Senior) orchestra at the court ball

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<sup>2</sup> Eduard Hanslick, 1894, From my life p. 118

<sup>3</sup> For the spelling Strauss see: <https://www.johann-strauss.at/forschung/forschungssplitter/strauss-strauss/>

<sup>4</sup> "Zum Sperl" was the name of a dance hall in the Viennese suburb of Leopoldstadt. Thanks to the presence of Johann Strauss Sr., the establishment became one of Vienna's most popular entertainment venues.

**Maria Anna Strauss** (August 30, 1801 – February 23, 1870) married Johann Strauss Sr. on July 11, 1825. On October 25, 1825, their son Johann (1825–1899) was born, along with his siblings Josef (1827–1870), Anna (1829–1903), Therese (1831–1915), Ferdinand (1834–1834), and Eduard (1835–1916). From 1834 onward, the family lived in a large apartment in the "Hirschenhaus" at Taborstrasse 17b, Vienna's 2nd district. In this "business household," they not only lived, but also composed, copied, and rehearsed with the orchestra. Anna organized this household. Johann Strauss the Elder left his family in 1843/44 and moved in with the milliner Emilie Trampusch.

In 1843, the then 18-year-old Johann Strauss the Younger began systematically preparing for his career as an independent dance composer. His mother, Anna Strauss, was certainly behind these efforts; she wanted to achieve financial independence from her husband for herself and her children. On July 31, 1844, Johann Strauss the Younger declared to the Vienna City Council that he wanted to become a musician. The fact that Johann Strauss the Younger then did everything in his power to prevent his son's debut, planned for October 15, 1844, at the Casino Dommayer in Hietzing, was part of the dispute between Anna and Johann Strauss the Younger.

Anna Strauss was a skilled manager of her children and, from the time of her son Johann's debut, continued to run the business household with her unmarried daughters Anna and Therese. Under Anna's strict matriarchal leadership, the Strauss "entertainment music company," unrivaled in Vienna at the time, grew and flourished. During the company's heyday between 1863 and 1870, her sons created significant works. Her death brought an end to this era, especially since Josef was also to die that same year. Under the influence of his first wife, Jetty, Johann Strauss devoted himself to composing operettas, while the orchestra remained in Eduard's hands. Anna Strauss was undoubtedly a fascinating, independent woman and manager in 19th-century Vienna. She managed a company that not only provided a comfortable living for herself and her children, but that continues to shape Vienna's image as a musical city around the world.



Anna Streim



Johann Strauss (Sr.)

### The Three Strauss Brothers

**Johann Strauss the Younger's** (October 25, 1825 – June 3, 1899) first performance in 1844 was a huge success. After his father's death in 1849, he took over his father's orchestra and merged it with his own. Tours led him from one success to another; from 1856 to 1865, he traveled every summer to Pavlovsk near St. Petersburg at the invitation of the Russian Railway Company. Like his father, he was a conductor and composer, incorporating their works into their repertoire. Further tours took Johann Strauss through Europe and the USA. In 1863, Emperor Franz Joseph I appointed him "*Imperial and Royal Court Ball Music Director*" (successor to his father). Johann Strauss conducted all court balls until 1871. During this time, Strauss—the innocent squanderer of so much happiness<sup>5</sup>—created only dance music, which established his reputation as the "Waltz King."

The younger Strauss son, **Josef** (August 20, 1827 – July 22, 1870), did not pursue a musical career. However, when his brother Johann returned completely exhausted from a concert tour in 1852, Josef had to step in as Kapellmeister of the Strauss Orchestra the following year. He took composition lessons and learned to play the violin. In 1870, during a concert tour, he fell unconscious from the conductor's podium and died shortly thereafter in Vienna. Johann said of his brother Josef: "He is the more talented one, I am the more popular one."

**Eduard** Strauss (March 15, 1835 – December 28, 1916), the youngest of the three Strauss brothers, aspired to a diplomatic career, but ultimately, like his other brother Josef, his brother Johann encouraged him to pursue a career as a musician. In 1870, Eduard assumed sole leadership of the Strauss Orchestra for over 30 years. Under his leadership, the orchestra became one of the most outstanding international ensembles. In 1872, Eduard was awarded the title of "*Imperial and Royal Court Ball Music Director.*"



Eduard, Johann, Josef Strauss

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<sup>5</sup> Karl Krauss

### The Johann Strauss Monument in Vienna's Stadtpark

The sculptor was Edmund Hellmer (1850-1935). The unveiling took place on June 26, 1921



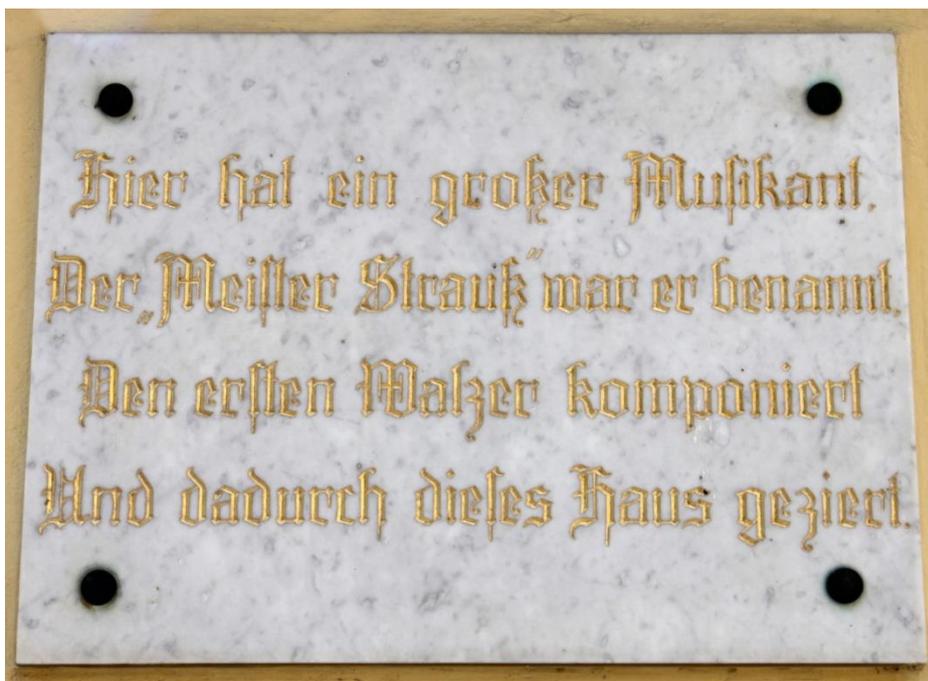
Danube females and couples hover around the composer.

The Johann Strauss monument has repeatedly been linked to Austrian consciousness and Austrian history. On each anniversary, top politicians such as the Federal President, the Federal Chancellor, the Mayor of Vienna, renowned artists, and ordinary people gather to celebrate the timeless Strauss.

Memorial plaque, Vienna, 7th District, Lerchenfelderstraße 15



*On this site stands the birthplace of Johann Strauss Jr., born on 25 October 1825, his honorary member of the Vienna Men's Choir Society*



*Here, a great musician, "Master Strauß" as he was known, composed the first waltz and thereby graced this house.*

**The honorary grave of Johann Strauss** at the Vienna Central Cemetery, Group 32A, No. 27, was created in 1902 by the Viennese sculptor Johannes Benk (1844-1914)



Danube Wench with Urn and Harp (Danube Waltz)



Putti play music, sing, and dance to the rhythm of a waltz.

### Johann Strauss anniversary stamps



50 Kronen stamp: Johann Strauss, 24. 4. 1922



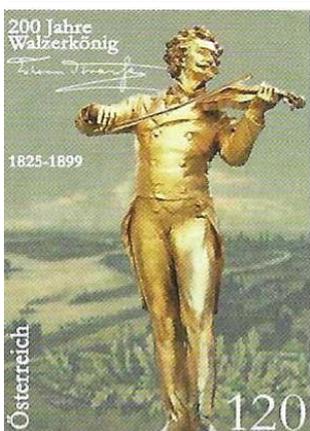
Stamp for 1 Schilling: Johann Strauss Death 50th Anniversary, 1949



Stamp for 7 Sch: Johann Strauss 150th birthday, 4.10.1975



Stamp of 7 Schilling: J. Strauss Death 100th Anniversary 4.6.1999



Stamp for 120 cents: Johann Strauss 200th birthday, 2025

### Movies with Music by Johann Strauss

A selection:<sup>6</sup>

Johann Strauss's On the Beautiful Blue Danube 1913 [silent film]

The Bat 1923 / 1931 / (P. Verhoeven) 1937 / 1945 / 1955 / 1962 / 1966 / (O. Schenk) 1972



Hundred years of Johann Strauss 1925

The Gypsy Baron 1927 / 1935 / 1954 / 1962 / 1965 / 1976

Waltz time 1933

Voices of Spring 1933

Emperor Waltz 1933

Stories from the Vienna Woods 1934

A night in Venice 1934 / (P. Verhoeven) 1942 / 1953 / 1973 / 1975

Burgtheater (W. Forst) 1936

Immortal Waltz (E. W. Emo) 1939

Operetta (W. Forst) 1940

Vienna Blood (W. Forst) 1942 / (H. Lanske) 1971

Vienna Waltz 1951

Eternal Waltz – Women around Johann Strauss (P. Verhoeven) 1954

Johann Strauss – The King Without a Crown (F. Antel) 1987

The Strauss Dynasty (Marvin J. Chomsky) 1991

A Space Odyssey (Stanley Kubrick) 2001x

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<sup>6</sup> Glenzdorf's International Film Encyclopedia: A biographical handbook for the entire film industry. - Bad Münden: Prominent-Filmverlag. 1960 Johann Strauss: fimography [www.citwf.com](http://www.citwf.com)

## ViennaWindMusic

### Anniversary Editions for the 200th Birthday of Johann Strauss

In 2025, Vienna and the entire world are celebrating 200 years of Johann Strauss. The Strauss family created an art form that has enjoyed great popularity since the 19th century and, with its timeless beauty, continues to capture people's hearts today. To carry the timeless music of Johann Strauss into the future, Prof. Werner Hackl<sup>7</sup> has published an anniversary edition for wind instruments featuring works by this genius in the following categories:

Music for Wind-Orchestra  
Music for Brass-Ensemble  
Music for Brass-Quintet

Music for Symphony Orchestra  
Music for Wood-Wind-Quintet  
Booklet: Johann Strauss 200



Aesculap-Polka, op. 130  
An der Moldau / On the Vltava, Polka française, op. 366  
An der schönen blauen Donau / Blue Danube, Waltz, op. 314  
Annen-Polka, op. 117  
Auf der Jagd, Polka schnell / On the Hunt, Polka fast, op. 373  
Aufs Korn! Bundesschützen-Marsch / On target! Federal Riflemen's March, op. 478  
Austria-Marsch / Austria-March, op. 20  
Bachus-Polka, op. 38  
Banditen Galopp, op. 378  
Bauern-Polka / Peasantry-Polka, op. 276  
Bei uns z'Haus / At our house, Walzer, op. 361  
Burschenwanderung / Boys' hike, Polka-française, op. 389  
Czechen Polka, op. 13  
Egyptischer March, op. 335  
Einzugsmarsch aus der Operette Der Zigeunerbaron / Entrance March from Operetta  
The Gipsy Baron, o. op.  
Éljen a Magyar! / Long live the Hungarian!, Polka op. 332  
Express, Polka schnell / Express, Polka fast, op. 311  
Geschichten aus dem Wiener Wald / Stories from the Vienna Woods, Walzer, op.325  
Glücklich ist, wer vergißt! / Happy is he who forgets!, Polka-Mazur, op.368  
Groß Wien, Walzer, op. 440  
Habsburg Hoch!, Marsch / Habsburg High!, March, op. 408  
Im Krapfenwald'l / In Krapfen's Vienna Wood, Polka, op. 336  
Indigo-Marsch, op.349  
Ja das Schreiben, Couplet aus Der Zigeunerbaron / Couplet from operetta The Gipsy Baron

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<sup>7</sup> Werner Hackl, Professor at the University of Music for Ensemble for brass instruments. Trombonist in the Lower Austrian Tonkünstler Orchestra; Ensemble leader. Conductor of the KünstlerOrchesterWien. Conductor of the Original Kaiserjäger. Adjudicator.

- Kaiser Franz Joseph I. Rettungsjubel Marsch, op. 126
- Kaiser-Jäger-Marsch, op. 99
- Kaiser Walzer / Emperor Waltz, op. 437
- Künstler-Quadrille / Artist Quadrille, op.201
- Künstlerleben, Walzer / Artist's Life, Waltz, op. 316
- Leichtes Blut, Polka schnell / Light Blood, Polka fast, op. 319
- Lucifer-Polka, op. 266
- Myrthenblüten Myrtleblossoms, Walzer, op. 395
- Myrthen-Kränze oder Elisabethenklänge / Myrtle-Wreaths, Waltz, op. 154
- Nachtigall-Polka / Nightingale-Polka, op. 222
- Neu-Wien, Walzer, op. 342
- Persischer-Marsch / Persian-March, op.289
- Revolutions-Marsch / Revolutionary-March, op. 54
- Rosen aus dem Süden / Roses from the South, Waltz, op. 388
- Russischer Marsch, op. 426
- 'S gibt nur a Kaiserstadt, 's gibt nur a Wien! / There is only one imperial city..., Polka, op.291
- Sängerfahrten / Singers' trips, Walzer op. 41
- Sängerlust-Poka / Singer's Desire-Polka, op. 328
- Tritsch-Tratsch, Polka schnell, op. 214
- Vergnügungszug / Pleasure Train, Polka fast, op. 281
- Vöslauer-Polka, op. 100
- Warschauer Polka / Warsaw Polka, op. 84
- Wein, Weib und Gesang / Wine, Women and Song, Waltz, op. 333
- Zigeunerbaron Der, Ouvertüre / The Gipsy Baron, Ouverture, o. op.
- Johann & Josef Strauss: Vaterländischer-Marsch / Patriotic-March, o.op.
- Johann, Josef u. Eduard Strauss: Schützen-Quadrille / Archer-Quadrille, o.op.

## An der schönen blauen Donau

### Walzer op. 314

Johann Strauss Sohn (1825–1899)

Arr.: Prof. Werner Hackl

23 Walzer 1

Arrangement for Woodwind-Quintet (flute, oboe, clarinet in Bb, horn in F, bassoon)

by Prof. Werner Hackl

## Conclusio

Johann Strauss is the most famous and, to this day, most successful composer of 19th-century Viennese music, which has become a model for popular music throughout the entire world, shaped by European culture. The symbolic value of Johann Strauss as a person is central to Austria's national identity; his musical works are of paramount importance for the development of mass tourism and tourism in Vienna, which is why the celebration of Johann Strauss's anniversaries is of great importance.



Johann Strauss, Bronze Medal, 1949



Title page of the waltz by Johann Strauss  
“On the Beautiful Blue Danube”