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Schweizer kämpft für den Grossen Weissen Hai

Zehn Jahre lang hat der Schweizer Michael Scholl in Südafrika als einer der führenden Wissenschaftler den Grossen Weissen Hai erforscht und dabei mit spektakulären Entdeckungen und Forschungsmethoden auf sich aufmerksam gemacht. *Gisela Piercey*

Die Erkenntnisse aus seiner Arbeit in Gansbaai der weltweit umfassendsten Studie zum weissen Hai - sowie unterhaltsame und interessante Anekdoten von Scholl und Thomas Peschak können in ihrem neuen Buch nachgelesen werden, das vom südafrikanischen Struik Verlag publiziert wird. Aufgrund des regen Interesses wurde die Auflage bereits mehrmals gedruckt.

„Eigentlich wissen wir gar nichts über die Haie. Wir wissen nicht, wo sie geboren werden, wo sie sich vermehren. Und wir wissen

erst seit kurzem, vor allem durch DNA-Proben, dass manche Haie zwischen Südafrika und Australien hin- und herschwimmen,“



Michael Scholl und sein Forschungsobjekt

erläutert Scholl, der in seinen Studien nachweisen konnte, dass die weissen Haie nicht ständig hier leben.

2002 gründete Scholl mit Partnern den White Shark Trust, um alle Informationen zusammenzutragen, Projekte zu lancieren und neue Sponsoren für die aufwendige Forschungsarbeit zu finden. Der Grosse Weisse Hai ist wie viele andere Spezien vom Aussterben bedroht. Durch Bewusstsein und Wissen will der leidenschaftliche Schweizer Forscher alles tun, um dies zu verhindern.

Mehr Informationen:
www.whitesharktrust.org

History of the Swiss in Southern Africa :

Website progressing

Since the short article appeared in the October 2007 Swiss Review, regarding an own website for the more than 30 year-old project „History of the Swiss in Southern Africa“, the undersigned has been contacted by many persons both from Southern Africa and Switzerland.

The digitalisation and

„bringing into the computer age“ of this project has found many supporters, and the concept of being able to submit the family's own „history“ as Swiss in Africa, has elicited widespread interest and feedback.

Amongst others with whom the project has been discussed are various Swiss Clubs in Southern Africa, the Auslandschweizer Organisation (ASO), Ruth Grossenbacher Cape Town

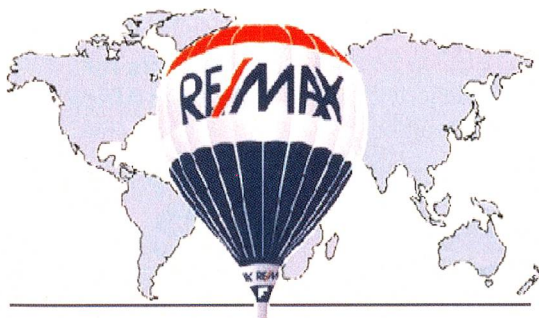
born former Swiss Member of Parliament and current Chairperson of Präsenz Schweiz, the Swiss Government's PR arm, whose own project „Swiss Roots“ has drawn much favourable attention in the United States, where it was launched.

Documentation, books and historical items, all with Swiss „Africana“ content, have found their way to the undersigned, which has enabled the construction of

an appropriate website, which will be ready for „release“ in the next few weeks.

In the meantime, all persons in any way interested or wishing to become involved, should contact:

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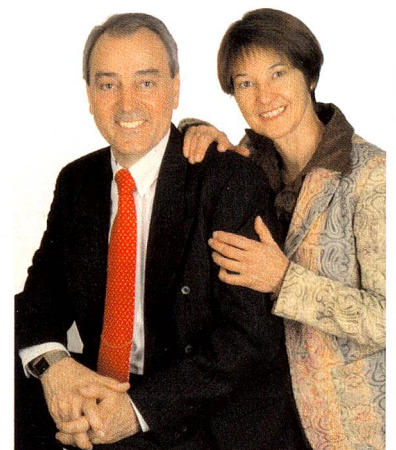
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Swiss Parliamentary elections 2007 :

A critical review

Some 45 Auslandschweizer candidates stood for election. Of these alone 33 candidates stood for the SVP.

For Africa we had 6 candidates, namely Mario Valli (Edenvale RSA), Hubert Brumann (East London RSA), Hans-Peter Bieri (Cairo Egypt), Walter Müller (Cape Town RSA), Rolf Schudel (Johannesburg RSA), and Philippe Chollet (Abuja Nigeria). All of these also stood for the SVP. The results were: Mario Valli: 779 Votes, Hubert Brumann: 712 Votes, Hans-Peter Bieri: 761 Votes, Walter Müller: 807 Votes, Rolf Schudel: 305 Votes, Philippe Chollet: 1353 Votes. Regrettably, world-wide not a single Auslandschweizer candidate was elected, nevertheless we congratulate all candidates on their courage and interest in standing in what promised to be an impossibly difficult contest to win.

Comment

The main difficulty for genuine Auslandschweizer candidates is that they are relatively if not almost

completely unknown to the electorate both in Switzerland and indeed world-wide. This coupled with the fact that most of them are on separate Auslandschweizer-Lists as opposed to inland Swiss Party-Lists makes it even more difficult. This is borne out by looking at the results, where the individual candidatures on inland Swiss Party-Lists polled votes around the 2000 mark per person. This is a lot better than the polling of for instance our candidates from Africa. However, if one is a candidate on an inland list, in order to succeed one needs to be relatively high up on the Party-List ranking to have a „reasonable chance“ at being elected.

Quo Vadis elections 2011?

In order to prevent further disillusionment, and to thoroughly debate these problems and hopefully come up with a broadly based and agreed „modus operandi“ for the next elections in 2011, your delegates at the Auslandschweizererrat will be submitting a motion to

the Spring Session of the ASR in Bern in April, calling for the establishment of a joint „Arbeitsgruppe“ of the ASR with the major Swiss political parties, in order to hammer out a „meaningful dispensation“ for Auslandschweizer candidates in future elections.

Should you have any ideas yourself in this regard or any feedback regarding the 2007 elections, please feel free to contact Peter Muller at:

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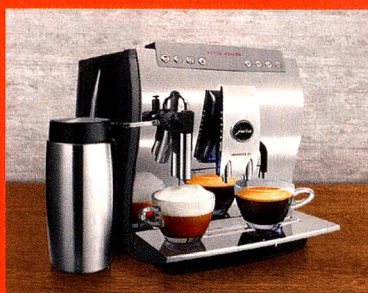
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Upcoming Pro Helvetia events

A vibrant fusion

Writer in Residence Olivier Sillig

1.2. - 31.3.: Acclaimed Swiss French novelist, filmmaker and visual artist Olivier Sillig takes up a 2-month residency in Johannesburg. His residency culminates in a screening of and discussion around his two short films, *Umbo* and *Samuel and Samb* and the *Superintendent*.

Screening Dates:

13.3. Alliance Française, Pretoria; 24.-26.3. Fête de la Francophonie, Centro Cultural Franco-Moçambicano
www.perso.ch/olivier.sillig

Festival of Electronic Music UNYAZI

12. - 16.3.: Swiss experimental musicians, Jason Khan and Joke Sudden Infant, will participate at the second Unyazi Festival of Electronic Music, *Fear of the Known*, a festival of "extreme listening." Jason Kahn: <http://www.jasonkahn.net/>; Joke: <http://www.suddeninfant.com/>

Festival Dates:

12.3., UCT, Lecture & Concert; 14.3., MATIES Endler and Fisser Hall, Concerts; 15.3., MATIES Jannasch and Fisser Hall, Workshops and Conference; 16.3., WITS, Concerts
www.prohelvetia.org.za

Beat Bag Bohemia and Fellowship of the Drum

Cape Town, Durban, Maputo
24.3. - 5.4.: This international Drum-Quartet unites two accomplished



Beat Bag Bohemia

Swiss percussionists with two African percussionist, one from Mozambique and the other from South Africa. Following the very successful Swiss and German tour in 2007, which resulted in the recording of the *Beat Bag Bohemia* debut CD, they will now take to the stage in East London, Cape Town, Durban and Maputo. The CD will be launched in Cape Town and will form part of the Pro Helvetia Cape Town 10 years celebration. On the road with the band, Swiss Filmmaker, Martin Smith Fuchs will film the tour to produce a documentary, *Fellowship of the Drum*. Kesivan Naidoo drums; Rolando Lamussene - djembe, mbira; Peter Conradin Zumthor drums; Lucas Niggli - drums, composition

Tour Dates:

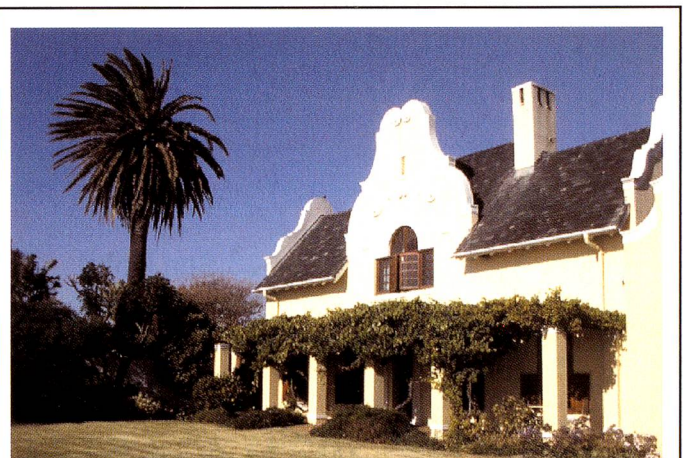
25.3. Concert in East London; 27.3. CD-launch in a Cape Town Club; 28.3. Concert at Cape Town International Jazz Festival; 29.3. Concert at Cape Town International Jazz Festival; 31.3. Workshop at BAT Centre / Concert in Durban; 1.4. Concert in a Durban Township; 2.4. Concert in Durban, Jazzclub University; 4.4. Concert in Maputo, Centro Cultural Franco-Moçambicano; 5.4. Concert

in Maputo, Rolando's suburb
www.lucasniggli.ch,
www.prohelvetia.org.za

Visual Artist in Residence Daniel Glaser and Magdalena Kunz

1.2. - 30.4.: Swiss Installation artists, Daniel Glaser and Magdalena Kunz

spend three months in residency at Blank Studios in the Bo-Kaap. Their intention is to explore the concept of Freedom by interviewing South Africans from all walks of life and then creating several installations using kinetic images (talking heads).
www.kinotopia.ch



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Swiss Club Info and Forthcoming Events

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Swiss Society Helvetia,
31 Moerdyk Ave, Vorna Valley,
Midrand, T/F 011 805 3039,
Restaurant T 011 805 3040,
swissclubjhb@whoswho.co.za

Senior Swiss Circle meets every second Saturday of the month for lunch; Andy Tischhauser
011 672 1753/ 082 719 3389.

PRETORIA

Swiss Embassy 012 452 0660
Swiss Society Alpina,
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Diana Lüthi, Secretary,
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SWISS CLUB NATAL

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T/F 031 568 2457, C 083 262 6107,
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23+24.02.: A1 GP, Durban; 2nd week March: AGM, venue and date to be confirmed; May: Beach Breakfast Amanzimtoti, date to be confirmed. Jass Meetings: every second Friday of the month at 18h00 in Westville Bowling Club House near the Westville Civic Centre. This gathering was during the last year very popular, and everybody is welcomed to join even if you a beginner!

Target shooting Practices: The "Hammond Shooting Range" near Durban has now permanently being closed due to imminent residential developments, and we currently negotiating with the Nottingham Road rifle club for the use of an other accredited shooting range in Nottingham Road or Merryvale/Howick. The Range allocation dates for the different shooting clubs were not finalised by press deadline, but we are confident that we will continue, and have our regular monthly practice shooting. Please contact us the meantime for our interim practice dates and time.

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Port Elizabeth, Walter Middleton,
President
T 041 964 1008, Comm.member
Mark Krebsler C 082 3281098,
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SWISS CLUB FAR NORTH

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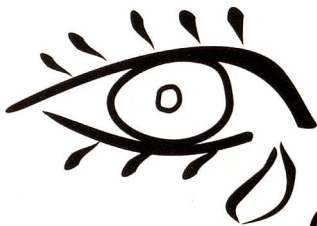
03/08: deadline 15 May
(distribution: 25 June)

05/08: deadline 5 September
(distribution: 15 October)

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