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SWITZERLAND IN BRITAIN'S CULTURE

Celebrated puppeteers will be here soon

The Théâtre Antonin Artaud (Piccolo Teatro di Lugano) was founded in 1969 by Michel Poletti. Its prime object is to produce experimental puppet shows. It also stages productions for children. All these shows are created simultaneously in Italian and French versions. A few have sound tracks in other languages. The Théâtre Antonin Artaud — Piccolo Teatro di Lugano has been seen not only in most parts of Switzerland, but also in Italy, France, Germany and Sweden. It will be performing in Edinburgh, Manchester, Oxford and London under the auspices of the Pro Helvetia Foundation, the Swiss Embassy and the French Institute.

Dates to note

25th March to 15th May — The Central Library, Manchester

22nd May to 8th June — Bath Academy of Art (for the Bath Festival) — *Award-Winning Books and Posters from Switzerland.*

To 12th April — City Museums & Art Gallery, Birmingham

22nd April to 22nd May — Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield — *Exhibition Photography in Switzerland from 1840 to the Present Day.*

19th March to 17th April — Courtauld Institute Galleries, Woburn Sq., London

23rd April to 15th May — Usher Gallery, Lindum Road, Lincoln — *Prints and Drawings by Felix Vallotton*, an Arts Council Exhibition.

PETER MAAG RETURNS

Peter Maag was born at St. Gall in 1919 and studied literature and philosophy in Zürich and Geneva. He also studied music in Zürich. He was attracted to the theatre at an early age. Mozart's operas held a particular fascination for him, and while still a young man he spent a number of years conducting many Mozart operas at the tiny theatre of Bienne-Soleure. This little theatre has served as a "nursery" for many well-known artists of the present-day operatic stage.

Peter Maag's operatic career continued when he was appointed principal conductor at the Düsseldorf Opera, and in 1954 he became Musical Director at the Opera in Bonn. He left Bonn five years later to take up an appointment as Musical Director of the Netherlands Opera, Amsterdam. He pursued his

operatic activities at the Zürich Opera and at the St. Charles Theatre in Naples. Since then he has toured the main centres of Europe and America and made many recordings.

Peter Maag made his début at Covent Garden in 1955 in "The Magic Flute" by Mozart. He has also conducted at Glyndebourne. He is now returning to Covent Garden to conduct Gounod's "Faust".

As a symphonic conductor Peter Maag has appeared with many of the principal European and American orchestras. He has made many recordings with the London Symphony Orchestra. In 1976 he was in London for a recording of Verdi's "Luisa Miller", in which Monserrat Caballé, Luciano Pavarotti and Nicolai Ghiaurov were the principal soloists.

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The celebrated Swiss conductor Peter Maag who is returning to Britain soon. Picture by courtesy of Gorlinsky Promotions Ltd.

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