

Readers' letters

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THE ARTS

AUTHOR and mountaineer André Guex visits the UK this month to talk to British audiences on "Evolution du Valais".

Guex is the author of several works, his most characteristic being "Le Rêve de Pierre", "Altitudes", "Voiles et Carines", "Léman" and "Memoires du Léman".

He has also written three volumes on the rapid evolution of the Valais, charting its changes between 1913 and 1963.

A former teacher of French literature, he spent much time gaining experience of his fellow men for writing purposes by boring tunnels, building dams, lumber jacking and fishing on the high seas.

Also in Britain this month are pianists Albert Ferber and Martha Argerich, star of Swiss ballet Manola Asensio, Heinz Holliger (oboe) and Ursula

Evolution du Valais, by Guex

Holliger (harp), Lionel Rogg (organ) and conductor Tamas Vasary.

Full details of where and when these artists and speaker are appearing are detailed below:

Albert Ferber, piano, Master course.

Nov 18, 7.30pm, Wigmore Hall (Works of Polish composers including Chopin, Szymanowski, Lutoslawski).

Martha Argerich, piano, plays a Mozart piano concerto with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

Nov 30, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall.

Manola Asensio performs leading roles in Giselle, Romeo and Juliet and The Sphinx in London Festival Ballet's season in the provinces.

Nov 3-8, Grand Theatre, Leeds.

Nov 17-22, Opera House, Blackpool.

Nov 24-29, Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

André Guex talks on Evolution du Valais.

Nov 3, 1pm, University of Lancaster.

Nov 6, 5.15pm, University College, Cardiff.

Nov 10, 7pm, Swiss Embassy, London. (Tickets may be obtained from the Cultural

Counsellor, Swiss Embassy).

Nov 13, 4.15pm, University of Nottingham.

Dr Max Frenkel lectures on Swiss Federalism and the European Community.

Nov 11, 4.45pm, University of Brighton.

Nov 12, 1.30pm, Royal Institute of International Affairs, London.

Nov 13, 11am, University of Leicester.

Nov 14, 2.30pm, University of Bradford.

Nov 17, University of Hull.

Nov 18, 2.30pm, University of Manchester.

Nov 19, 2.30pm, University of Reading.

Heinz Holliger, oboe, and **Ursula Holliger**, harp, play Lutoslawski's Concerto for Oboe and Harp (first British performance) with BBC Symphony Orchestra.

Nov 19, 8pm, Royal Festival Hall.

Lionel Rogg, organ, at the Royal Festival Hall.

Nov 26, 5.55pm.

Tamas Vasary conducts the Northern Sinfonia Orchestra in concerts at which he is also the soloist.

Nov 8, 7.30pm, St. Cuthbert's Church, Carlisle.

Nov 9, 7.45pm, City Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Nov 10, 7.45pm, Town Hall, Middlesbrough.

(Works by Britten, Mozart and Schubert).

READERS' LETTERS

YOUR two articles in the October issue of the Swiss Observer by Brian James and Gottfried Keller have been of particular interest to me, and I would like to comment on another angle to the troubles.

You see, I was one of the youth of the early '50s who helped organise youth festivals, sold "jumble" to raise money and spent many hours planning a "Jungenhaus". Although it became clear to us that the officials did not agree with our enthusiasm and plans, at least we hoped for the future youth of Zürich to benefit from all our efforts.

I left Switzerland for England in the late '50s and on my visits home always enquired what was (or was not) happening regarding a youth centre in Zürich.

My children are growing up now and I can't help feeling that the youth of Zürich troubling the authorities now are the children of all my friends in the '50s. So perhaps the youth of

Zürich is not only showing their disapproval of the authorities' continuing mishandling of the "Jungenhaus" saga, but also voicing the frustration and disapproval of their parents, whether consciously or not.

In any case, I do hope that after nearly 30 years something will be done in Zürich, perhaps for the next generation. — Mrs M. Fuell, 18 Marys Mead, Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Bucks.

I AM English, married to a Swiss. Because of my job our married life has been spent in England where we have brought up our family.

In three years time when I retire at 60 we plan to settle in Switzerland and live near Zürich where my wife was brought up and still has family business interests.

Not being proficient in German my first priority on retirement will be to learn the language properly (I don't think

I can compete with the dialect—not immediately anyhow!).

Thereafter I would like to take on voluntary work of some kind which will keep me occupied and make me feel I am doing something useful.

Have any readers any suggestions as to what I might do and who I might contact for advice? — P.B. Arthur, Oxted, Surrey.

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