



Theaterwissenschaftliche Sammlung  
Schloss Wahn  
Burgallee 2  
51147 Köln (Porz-Wahn)  
Tel.: 02203/600 92 0  
Fax: 02203/600 92 60  
E-Mail: [tw-bibliothek@uni-koeln.de](mailto:tw-bibliothek@uni-koeln.de)

[www.rossinisbirthday.de](http://www.rossinisbirthday.de)

## Project Description

The **Theaterwissenschaftliche Sammlung** is one of the most important institutions for theatralia in the world, possessing extensive graphical and textual material about the european theatre from the last 400 years. For more than half a century now its domicile is Schloss Wahn (Castle Wahn) close to the airport of Cologne Bonn.

One of the pictures being part of the collection, is a portrait of the composer **Gioacchino Rossini**, showing him as a gourmet and a gourmand, thus combining the musical as well as the culinary aspects of his personality.

In 1992 the restauration of this portrait has been the inducement for celebrating and honoring Rossinis „50th“ birthday (he was born in a leap year) with an exclusive musical and culinary gala. Since then this event has been a tradition of our house every fourth year. At each celebration, Dirk Schortemeier did guide through the evening. Protagonists of the world of the opera as Anke Hoffmann, Mechthild Georg, Henner Leyhe, Axel Mendrok as well as first class cooks as Dieter Müller, Franz Hütter, Rainer Maria Halbedel, Erhard Schäfer did offer their excellent work gratuitous. The events did solely serve the benefit of the Theaterwissenschaftlichen Sammlung.

On the **29th of February 2008**, the Theaterwissenschaftliche Sammlung will celebrate Rossinis „54th“ birthday adequately. However this time there will be no main gala at Schloss Wahn, but various different events, which will meet the challenges of nowadays media world – precisely: The party will find its impulses in the internet.

[www.rossinisbirthday.de](http://www.rossinisbirthday.de)

As of December 1, 2007 the mentioned web site will be launched and provide information and insights into Schloss Wahn, the Theaterwissenschaftliche Sammlung, the composer Rossini and past gala evenings, as well as current greetings from all over the world. In addition users can find suggestions for menus and music: Particularly one can find the terms under which everybody can participate medial or live on **the 29th of February 2008**.

Different private Rossini birthday parties, but also fine restaurants will offer a fixed order of the menu to be joined. Besides the culinary pleasure, guests will also experience astonishing musical performances. Whether at home in front of the PC, at private parties or at the offered restaurants, all events for Rossini's birthday will be connected through the internet from 6 p.m.

Tickets for the parties will be sold by auctions at **Ebay** from January 2008. The expected income will be used exclusively **for the benefit of the Theaterwissenschaftlichen Sammlung** (for amounts, which exceed the minimum offer at those auctions, donation receipts to be used for setting off against tax liability, will be available from the association: Gesellschaft der Freunde und Förderer der Theaterwissenschaftlichen Sammlung).

A special highlight is the call for the **Rossini Media Award**, with which those web applicable contributions will be prized, which honor Rossini from his musical as well as from his culinary side.

Jury:

Ute Biernat (Chief Executive Officer, GRUNDY Light Entertainment, Cologne)

PhD Christoph Dammann (Director, Opera Cologne)

Reto Müller (Managing Director, Deutsche Rossini Gesellschaft, Basel)

Prof. PhD Michaela Krützen (Vice President, Hochschule für Film und Fernsehen, München)

N.N.

Organisation: Theaterwissenschaftliche Sammlung Schloss Wahn, University of Cologne

Partner: Gesellschaft der Freunde und Förderer der Theaterwissenschaftlichen Sammlung  
Deutsche Rossini Gesellschaft, Oper of the city of Cologne

Maître de Plaisir: Dirk Schortemeier

Live streaming: Cologne Digital Medienproduktion GmbH

CMS Programming and Hosting: Cologne Digital Medienproduktion GmbH

Project Management und Editorial Department: Tim Kaufhold, Theresa Züger

Design and Consulting: Tim Kaufhold, Theresa Züger and Cologne Digital  
Medienproduktion GmbH

Web-Design: Stephan Pavlovic

Video und Audio: Jan Rothstein, Tobias Weber

Idea und Supervision: Professor PhD Elmar Buck

Sponsored by the department of culture of the city of Cologne