SWITZERLAND

Eidg. Harmonika und Akkordeonmusikverband (EHAMV)

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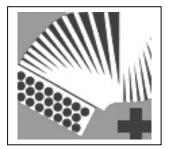
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News from Switzerland...

EHAMV: The Eidg. Harmonika und Akkordeonmusikverband (EHAMV) is the Swiss Accordion Association and member of the CIA and currently has approximately 5,000 members. The EHAMV publishes its newsletter six times per year, as well as providing information on their website.

The EHAMV makes documents available including Statutes, Festival and founding information for associations as well as EHAMV introductory material. This can be obtained from the Secretary - Marianne Neesen.

EHAMV Festival 2004: From 11th to 13th June 2004, the Accordion Festival of EHAMV was held in the town of Lyss (close to Bern, the capital of Switzerland).

More than 2000 accordionists from all over Switzerland played as members of accordion orchestras or as soloists in various categories of this competition of EHAMV.

During the festival, the National Swiss Radio Station broadcast several recordings as well as a live two hour transmission. The National Swiss Television Station made live productions on during the festival as well

Guests from the field of politics, economy, science and culture visited during the three day event. This official EHAMV Festival is held every four years and always gets high recognition from the Swiss public. Switzerland, with more than seven million inhabitants has six Conservatories or Academies for Accordion as well as one private Institution (the "Musikstudio Peter Frey" at Reinach AG). In relation to the number of inhabitants and the size of the country, it can be said that in Switzerland there are the most accordion orchestras (more than 230 accordion associations where each association consists of two orchestras) in the whole world!

Each year there are some master classes for soloists and teachers hold by international kown professors.

In 2004 has been organized a course for pedagogics (held by Prof. Jürgen Löchter, Köln, Germany) as well as a master class for accordion teached by Prof. Joachim Pichura, Katowice, Poland).

The work of the EHAMV can be outlined in eight sections:

- 1 The EHAMV works together with other Accordion and Orchestra Associations not only in Switzerland, but also in other countries
- 2 The EHAMV encourages development of new music for the accordion.
- 3 The EHAMV informs through the official newsletter 'Harmonicapost' and on the internet.
- The EHAMV offers an easier settlement of account with the SUISA.
- 5 The EHAMV is a Partner for the co-organizations.
- 6 The EHAMV encourages further education.
- 7 The EHAMV helps the young musicians.
- 8 The EHAMV works together with other music associations in Switzerland and abroad