

SWISS CULTURE FROM HOME



Mid-April 2024

Dear Friends of Switzerland,

How can a snowman predict the weather? Read below to learn more about Zurich's Spring Festival *Sächsilüüte* and its traditional weather forecast with an explosive twist. If the weather turns out to be rainy here in DC, though, then we have some indoor options for you: this year's Filmfest DC will feature three unique Swiss films all telling incredible stories. And for those beautiful spring days, this issue's Swiss *Rendez-Vous* takes you on a walk to admire the Conrad Hotel and experience the beauty of Swiss architecture in DC.

Please continue to check our website, social media channels, and events calendar, where we are providing regular updates, for more cultural content. Have you found something we're missing? What would you like to see more of? Let us know – [we would love to hear from you.](#)

We hope you continue to enjoy, and take care!

Film



Source: [Filmfest DC](#)

Swiss Productions at Filmfest DC 2024

Washington DC International Film Festival

April 18–28 2024

Landmark's E Street Cinema (unless otherwise noted)

555 11th Street NW, Washington, DC 20004

Tickets \$10-14

It is the month for Swiss films. Tickets for the three Swiss movies featured at this year's Filmfest DC are now on sale and available [here](#). Meet sad-sack policeman Walter planning to save Switzerland from national unrest due to the result of a national language referendum in *Bonjour Switzerland*; high school teacher Balz Näf, who hopes to build a fortune through bets in *Streaker*; and Claudine, who is on a journey to find human connection in the drama *Let Me Go*. You can explore the full program and information about the individual films [here](#). Can't make it to *Bonjour Switzerland* in person? No problem!

We will feature *Bonjour Switzerland* online later this month as part of the Swiss Film Club. Stay tuned for registration information. Enjoy!

Meanwhile in Switzerland



Source: [Keystone, 2017](#)

Sächsilüüte in Zurich

April 12-15, in Zurich, Switzerland.

Sechseläuten, or *Sächsilüüte* in the Zurich dialect, is a traditional spring festival dating back to the early 16th century, typically celebrated on the third Monday of April, with festivities taking place throughout the weekend. On Monday, the *Sechseläuten* procession ends with the event's highlight: the symbolic burning away of the winter in the shape of a burning snowman—the *Böögg*. The faster the Böögg's head explodes, the better the coming summer will be. This year, for the first time ever, the burning of the Böögg was cancelled due to strong winds. Some people have jokingly commented that winter will be even longer because the Böögg survived. Learn more about the explosive weather forecast [here](#) or check out the festival's [website](#) (in German).

Your Swiss Rendez-Vous in DC



Source: [Hines, Conrad Washington DC](#)

The Conrad Washington DC, 950 New York Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001

The Conrad Washington DC offers a taste of Swiss architectural design nestled in DC's urban landscape. Created by Basel-based architects Herzog & de Meuron, who are famous for having built the tallest buildings in Switzerland, the Conrad Hotel was built between 2016 and 2019 and since then has been a beautiful addition to DC's international architectural landscape. You can read about the architects' reflections on the planning process and how the building fits into DC's urban environment [here](#). If you are interested in the other work of Herzog & De Meuron you can check out their website [here](#). The Conrad's restaurant & bar are open to both visitors and hotel guests, so why not take a spring walk to explore this Swiss *Rendez-Vous*?

Stay connected for more glimpses of the Swiss *Rendez-Vous* in D.C. – and share your discoveries with us!

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