



**Late February 2025**

Dear Friends of Switzerland,

As the wintry weather continues, there are many indoor entertainment opportunities to keep you busy this month. Working through your watchlist before the Academy Awards? Read below to learn about Swiss representation among this year's films. You can also immerse yourself in our linguistic diversity as we *celebrate Emna de la lingua rumantscha* – the Week of the Romansh Language, Switzerland's lesser-known national language. You also have the opportunity to see a Swiss documentary at the National Museum of Asian Art. Finally, don't miss our latest feature in *The Swiss Beat* series, presenting *Mattiu* – a Graubünden-based singer, who sings in Romansh!

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!

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## Films



Source: [Deadline](#)

## **Swiss Representation at the Oscars**

**March 2, 2025, 7:00 PM**

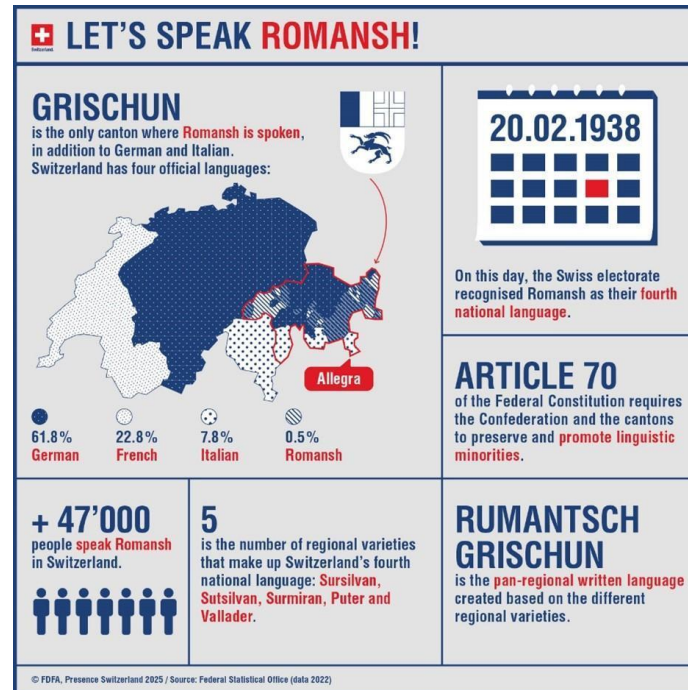
**Find out how to watch [here](#)**

Though Switzerland's entry for Best International Feature missed out on a nomination this year, there is still plenty of Swiss representation to be found at the 2025 Academy

Awards. The film, [Conclave](#), a political thriller about the secret election of a new pope which received eight nominations including 'Best Picture,' is directed by the Swiss-Austrian dual national, Edward Berger. In addition, Tim Fehlbaum, a Basel native, is nominated in the 'Best Screenplay' category for his film [September 5](#), which tells the story of the massacre at the 1972 Munich Olympics. The 97th edition of the Oscars will take place March 2, 2025, and you can follow the ceremony live. Let us know what you think about the movies and keep your fingers crossed for us!

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## Language



Source: [House of Switzerland](#)

## ***Emna de la lingua rumantscha***

**February 17-21**

Each year at the end of February, Switzerland proudly celebrates its linguistic diversity with the *Emna de la lingua rumantscha* – the week of the Romansh Language. In 1938, the Swiss electorate officially recognized Romansh as Switzerland's fourth national language, alongside German, French and Italian. The protection of linguistic minorities is enshrined in the Swiss Federal Constitution, so although it is only spoken by 0.5% of the population, Romansh remains a vital part of Switzerland's linguistic mix and cultural diversity. A key role in maintaining the language is carried out by the Swiss National Broadcaster and its Romansh-language channel, *RTR (Radiotelevisiun Svizra Rumantscha)*. Stay tuned for an opportunity to enjoy Romansh-language content soon! Want to learn some Romansh phrases? Check out this [translator](#): *Tge pensais Vus dals linguatgs minoritars?* – What do you think about minority languages?

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## Film



Source: [Annette Berger](#)

## **Screening: *Closer to God***

**March 2, 2025, 3:45 PM**

**Freer Gallery of Art, Meyer Auditorium**

**1050 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC**

**Free entry**

If you're interested in documentaries, head to the National Museum of Asian Art for a screening of the Swiss production, *Closer to God*. Filmed in Pakistan, and co-directed and written by Swiss filmmaker, Annette Berger, this 2018 film immerses itself in the spiritual lives of the mystic Gogha Sain, who devotes himself to serving his fellow human beings, and the master singer Ustad Saami, who focuses on carrying this ancient musical heritage of the subcontinent forward to the next generation. What they have in common is the realization that finding themselves is the best way to serve humanity. Registration is free.

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### ***The Swiss Beat***



Source: [mattiu.ch](#)

Do you want to expand your musical horizons? Are you curious about Swiss musical artists? If so, we have just the thing for you: with every edition of our newsletter in 2025, this new series, *The Swiss Beat*, will introduce you to a different Swiss musical artist. These musicians and their performances are as diverse as Switzerland itself: some sing in one of the national languages (Swiss German, French, Italian, or Romansh), some in English or other languages—listen and learn more!

This week, in line with the *Emna de la lingua rumantscha* (the week of Romansh language), we present *Mattiu*. The 26-year-old artist is from the canton of Graubünden and produces original Indie-Pop songs, inspired by his passion for Icelandic music. Since his successful debut album *Sur La Selva*, he performs regularly at festivals throughout Switzerland. His wonderful voice allows the listeners to escape the stress of everyday life. We hope you enjoy it as much as we do. Check out the live performance of one of our favorite songs of Mattiu's, *Va Lunsch!*

Stay connected for more editions of *The Swiss Beat*—and share your thoughts about Swiss music with us!

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