PRESS RELEASE

and concert programme for the:

Extra-ordinary SUMMER CONCERT JULIA ORGAN SPONTANEOUS INTERNATIONAL VIENNA 2008 Mag. Dr. Rainer König-Hollerwöger LOOKING FOR MISSING JULIA K. MISSING PEOPLE IN THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS OF THE NAZI ERA

an intercultural international interdisciplinary interdenominational event on

Thursday, 11 September 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lutheran Church Protestant Parish A. B., Vienna City Center Dorotheergasse 18, 1010 WIEN

Motto:

Raising awareness of the situation of "being missing" of children/ adolescents in Austria, Europe and internationally at the present time, in the past regarding the Nazis' human extinction terror and in future – solidarity, help, publicity/ medias – International Initiative Julia 06 (IIJ06) launched by IPS-WIEN

*Vienna, August/ September 2008* 

On Thursday, 11 September 2008, on this memorable date, the City center of Vienna will become the focus point of an interdisciplinary intercultural interdenominational and international event.

As part of the interdisciplinary and international project "Raising awareness of the situation of BEING MISSING in the past, at the present time and in the future" launched by IPS-WIEN Mag. Dr. Rainer König-Hollerwöger as an international artist, researcher, scientist and president of IPS-WIEN will give his "extraordinary SUMMER CONCERT JULIA ORGAN SPONTANEOUS INTERNATIONAL VIENNA 2008" in the Lutheran Church Vienna – Inner Stadt (City Center). He is also initiator of the "International Initiative Julia 06 (IIJ06)". This organ concert he will create in a symphonic way.

Supposed sights of Julia were recorded also in Vienna. Mag. Dr. Rainer König-Hollerwöger is in a continuous communication with the Criminal Investigation Department of Lower Austria, the Department for Security of Lower Austria and the Austrian Federal Criminal Department of Investigation. He pursued each tip and passed on the information to the investigating bodies of the police in charge. He also explored the closer and further social surroundings of Julia Kührer in detail.

The first culture-concert event "SEARCH FOR JULIA ORGAN SPONTANEOUS" took place on 8th of December 2006 in Julias home town Pulkau followed by several public "Julia-events" in Austria, also covered by the medias, of which the concert in the St. Nicholas cathedral in Znojmo in the Czech Republic and the concert on Whit Monday in the St. George's church under the auspices of Dr. Erwin Pröll are to be named first.

(More to be found under <u>www.ips-wien.at</u>, <u>www.findetjulia.at</u>, <u>http://orgel-spontan.ips-wien.at</u>)

The well-known expert for conflicts, questions of missing children/ adolescents and the complex issue of sexual violence applied on children and violence in general draws a connecting line between the current situation of "being missing" of Julia Kührer from Pulkau/ Lower Austria in the present time who disappeared without a trace two years ago (she was 16 then) and who is one of the persons searched for most in Austria and Europe, and the situation of "being missing" of survivors of the concentration camps of the Nazi era in the past. This connection will be made clear by:

**1. Misses Erika Bezdíčková (Brno),** who will as a former Jewish adolescent survivor of the concentration camp Auschwitz speak about her former situation (she lost her whole family except her sister, was in several concentration camps, death march ...)

**2.** Her reading of the world famous poetry "Death Fugue" by the Jewish poet Paul Celan (1920 – 1970), who similar to Misses Bezdíčková lost his family in the concentration camps.

**3. Mr. Michal Salomonovič (Ostrava),** former Jewish surviving child/ concentration camp Auschwitz and Stutthof (also death march) who will speak about his experience as a child and adolescent. Trained as an engineer Mr. Michal Salomonovič is Head of the Historian Auschwitz-Group Prague and member of the Board of the Jewish Congregations, concerned with raising awareness and reconciliation.

**4. The parents of missing Julia Kührer** who will not deliver speeches but will offer the give interviews to the media in the presence of Mr. Rainer König-Hollerwöger.

The event is launched to raise solidarity and compassion and the awareness of the situation of "being missing" of children and adolescents in the past, at the present time and in the future in Austria, in Vienna, the federal capital, and in Europe through words and tones.

Rainer König-Hollerwöger will present an oil painting specially created for this event that will illustrate the diverse backrounds and the event itself by pictorial means. (More can be found under www.ips-wien.at, www.findetjulia.at, http://orgel-spontan.ips-wien.at)

# **Greetings:**

Dr. Heinz Fischer, Federal President of the Austrian Republic Dr. Ariel Muzicant, President of the Federal Association of Jewish Congregations in Austria

# Speeches:

**Dr. Ines Knoll,** Reverend of the Lutheran Church protestant congregation A.B. Vienna – Inner Stadt (City Center)

**Univ.-Prof. Dr. Hubert Christian Ehalt**, Head of Division of the City of Vienna for the Advencement of Science and Research, Head of the MA7 – Science and research, Department for cultural affaires

**Erika Bezdíčková (Brno)**, former Jewish adolescent survivor of the concentration camp Auschwitz, internationally active journalist. Misses Bezdíčková is "Honorary President Southeast and Central Europe" and "Head of the advisory Council on international questions concerning Southeast and Central Europe and bridges of remembrance between the past and the present" of IPS-WIEN. (<u>www.ips-wien.at</u> - the institute/ team)

# Manfred Marihart, Mayor of Pulkau/ Lower Austria

**Mag. Dr. Rainer König-Hollerwöger**, organist, composer, scientist, researcher, President of IPS-WIEN and initiator of the International Initiative Julia 06 (IIJ06)

There will be a short intermission. After the intermission both of the two survivors of the concentration camps, Mr. Michal Salomonovič (Ostrava) and Misses Erika Bezdíčková (Brno), and Rainer König-Hollerwöger will give esodic speeches and Misses Erika Bezdíčková as a survivor of the concentration camp

# Vienna, August/ September 2008

Invitation to the intercultural international concert "Extra-ordinary SUMMER CONCERT JULIA ORGAN SPONTANEOUS INTERNATIONAL VIENNA 2008" given by Mag. Dr. Rainer König-Hollerwöger on Thursday, **11 September** 2008, referring to this memorable date, at 7 p.m. in the Lutheran Church Protestant Parish A. B., Vienna City Center, Dorotheergasse 18, 1010 WIEN.

The event also takes place in relation to an international interdisciplinary research project launched by IPS-WIEN concerning the situation of "being missing" of children/ adolescents at the present time (having special regard to Julia Kührer who has been missing for more than two years now!) and in the past regarding the children/ adolescents affected by the concentration camps. Three of these persons, now adults, live in Brno und Ostrava. They will attend this concert event and will express their solidarity with the children/ adolescents presently missing in Austria, Europe and internationally by their presence and by words.

In the continuous text and in the annex the recent press release and the concert programme can be found.

The greetings sent by Federal President Dr. Heinz Fischer that will be read previous to the concert are groundbraking in respect to the question of missing people in Austria, Europe-wide and internationally! Also the greetings sent by Dr. Ariel Muzicant, President of the Federal Association of Jewish Congregations in Austria, will touch the audience.

# This event will also offer several artistic highlights.

# With kind regards

# THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISING TEAM OF IPS-WIEN

(At the end of the text the following press release also contains a reference to a further event that will interest the media.)

The International Initiative Julia 06 (IIJ06) launched by IPS-WIEN in fall 2006 lobbies in many ways for the children and adolescents in Europe that suddenly disappeared without a trace and in particular for Julia Kührer.