

„Bei uns ist immer was los!“ Feste in Rheinland

„FASCHING IN MÜNCHEN“ / „CARNIVAL SEASON IN MUNICH“

Wie feiert man heute Fasching? (How is Fasching celebrated today?)

masquerade / costume ball: der Faschingsball, die Faschingsbälle

Geschichte der Faschingsbälle

sching gained greater importance as Fasching Balls were held in all big public halls in town. Around 1880, it became the custom of the clubs to have their own festivals and balls and not only to visit those held by the innkeepers and hall proprietors. The community feeling of these visitors guaranteed that these balls would run smoothly, as everyone knew each other. But it was not until 1893 that Munich Fasching in its present form was inaugurated. Then the first "Fasching society" was founded which organized and planned the parades and ceremonies of great and highly original balls. It was in this year that the first Fasching parade was held and it was attended with great interest by a large crowd of spectators.

From year to year, the ballrooms became more crowded and in the famous "Castles" of Fasching, such as the "Deutsches Theater", the "Regina Palast", the Hotel "Vier Jahreszeiten", the "Löwenbräukeller", etc., there were held not only the famous traditional artists' balls, but also many other masquerades ("Redouten") and Fasching concerts. Ballrooms which in the beginning were most ordinarily decorated, acquired more splended and fantastic decorations which were created by artists' hands.

Up until the beginning of the 19th century all Fasching celebrations took place in the open air. It wasn't until 1829 that the first "Fasching Ball" took place, an artist's festival, soon to be followed by other artist's festivals and numerous masquerades and society and court balls. In 1839 the Munich carnival Society was born, which marks the beginning of Fasching as we know it today. In 1908 it was succeeded by the founding of the "Narrhalla" (Council of Fools), which is still now responsible for the organization of many of Munich's Fasching balls.

At the turn of the century the grand balls took place in the then numerous ballrooms, all Munich artists came to the "Bauernkirta", later the "Damische Ritter" ball or the artists' balls in the Haus der Kunst or Deutsches Theater, a complete contrast in style. The Chrysanthemenball and the "dreamlike scenery" of the Kammer Spiele are examples of the colourful life of Fasching between Schwabing and the old city.

Munich Fasching

Munich, where carnival is called Fasching, boasts an old traditional carnival spirit born of more southerly, more light-hearted regions. By way of Vienna, the splendor of the Venetian carnival has had an influence on the innumerable balls that take place at this time of the year.