

DEUTSCHER LEBENSTIL UND DEUTSCHE KULTUR (Austrian Lifestyle and Culture)

The “The Sound of Music”: 50 years on

“But if people show up in Dirndls and Lederhosen that would be cool,” he said. “We’d love it to be a collective experience – the cinema has 736 seats – and it could get really campy. We’ve tried to do sing-alongs before with the Rocky Horror Show but there isn’t really a repertory culture here, Austrians just don’t sing along!”

He did reveal that someone with the name Trapp has booked tickets for the screening, so wonders if a descendent of the Von Trapp family will be there.

The film only ran for a very short period in Austria and was subsequently dropped – perhaps because the instances of Nazi complicity depicted in the movie were unpopular at a time when Austria was attempting to forge a new, democratic future for itself.

But it put Salzburg, where much of the film was shot, firmly on the tourist map.

[Panorama Tours](#) offer two four-hour Sound of Music tours a day, every day, all year – which are particularly popular with Americans.

The Salzburg Festival takes place in the same theatre where the von Trapp family win first prize at the end of the film, while St. Peter's Cemetery nearby was used as a model for the scene immediately afterward, where the family hides from the Nazis.

The original von Trapp villa in the suburb of Aigen, where the family lived before they fled to America in 1938, is now a hotel.

Afterward, it became the main residence of SS head Heinrich Himmler, who built the high wall that surrounds it today.