



Semperoper  
Dresden

## Semperoper Dresden: Open-air Premiere »Wie werde ich reich und glücklich?«



Premiere image: »Wie werde ich reich und glücklich?«, ©Cornelius Völker

PRESS RELEASE

### Mischa Spoliansky's Cabaret Revue »Wie werde ich reich und glücklich?« at the Weißer Hirsch concert venue on 2 July 2021.

Dresden, 22 June 2021. Originally scheduled for the 2019/20 season in Semper Zwei, the Semperoper is now premiering Manfred Weiß's production of the classic revue »Wie werde ich reich und glücklich?« as a summer open-air event at the Weißer Hirsch concert venue on Friday evening, 2 July 2021.

In the fast-paced farce »How can I become rich and happy?«, divided into ten so-called »lessons«, Marie (played by Menna Cazel) and Kibis (Aaron Pegram) are looking for a patent remedy to make their dreams come true, as promised by the advertising brochures. And almost 91 years to the day after the premiere, Mischa Spoliansky's snappy and caustic songs are still pertinent to our modern society with its obsessive search for self-improvement and optimisation. In adapting this work by Russian-British composer Mischa Spoliansky and German-American author Felix Joachimson for contemporary audiences, Semper Zwei's artistic director, Manfred Weiß, was inspired by the crazy energy of Berlin in the 1920s and 1930s: »For us it was important to move the story from its original setting to the present day, because happiness and wealth are, after all, the goals of every form of society; especially, of course, in the capitalist system, where money is equated with happiness.« The premiere will take place at a historic location, namely the Weißer Hirsch concert venue. Max Renne will conduct this new production, arranged for two pianos, two double basses and percussion.

The premiere of the cabaret revue »Wie werde ich reich und glücklich?«, a work born out of the long-standing friendship and collaboration between Felix Joachimson and Mischa Spoliansky, was enthusiastically received at Berlin's Comedy Theatre on Kurfürstendamm in June 1930. No lesser figure than Richard Strauss congratulated Spoliansky on his success. During the years of the Weimar Republic, the celebrated composer Spoliansky wrote countless film scores as well as many popular cabarets and revues, which were performed for Berlin audiences by stars such as Marlene Dietrich or Anita Berber. But only a few years later, Spoliansky emigrated to London. His fondness for political, even revolutionary theatre, as well as mordant and witty musical theatre continued to bear fruit during his exile and up to his death in 1985. An extensive oeuvre, always popular with audiences for its lightness of touch, can still touch hearts today.

## **Mischa Spoliansky »Wie werde ich reich und glücklich«**

Premiere at 7 p.m. on 2 July 2021. Further performances at 7 p.m. on 3 July 2021 and 4 p.m. on 4 July 2021.

Weißer Hirsch Concert Venue, Stechgrundstraße, 01324 Dresden

Conductor: Max Renne

Stage direction: Manfred Weiß

With Menna Cazel, Elke Kottmair, Barbara Neundlinger, Nathalie Parsa, Matthias Henneberg, Martin-Jan Nijhof, Aaron Pegram & Matthias Schlung

Tickets available from 10 a.m. on 23 June 2021 (please note: there will be no evening box office).

Online at [semperoper.de/en/tickets](https://semperoper.de/en/tickets) or from the Schinkelwache, Theaterplatz 2, 01067 Dresden

The current Saxon Coronavirus Protection Regulations apply to all visitors.

For more details, check out [semperoper.de](https://semperoper.de).

Press enquiries and applications for review tickets should be sent to [presse@semperoper.de](mailto:presse@semperoper.de).

High-quality images available for download at [semperoper.de/presse](https://semperoper.de/presse).

Semperoper Dresden

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