

The Society „Die schöne Münchnerin“ (Beautiful Munich girl) wears attire of the Biedermeier period from the beginning of the 19th century.

Members of the society don't concern themselves with „Trachten“ (the German name for local costume) but rather with „Gwand“ which is the colloquial name for historical traditional costume.

It all began with the outfit of Helene Sedlmayr, whose portrait hangs in the Beauty Gallery of Palace of Nymphenburg. In 1985 a few ladies began to embroider a Munich „Riegelhaube“ (the little hat she is depicted in). This led to the Society's founding on the 6th April 1987.

The „Gwand“ that was worn during the Biedermeier period consisted of a many-pleated skirt reaching almost to the ankle, an apron 2 to 3cm shorter, a blouse in subdued colours made of silk, cotton or fine wool, often in Biedermeier pattern, sometimes with the sleeves pushed up or with long puff sleeves. Then comes a small square silk shawl with long tassels worn over the shoulders and a bodice, usually in black. The bodice is structured with pedigrohr (formerly whalebone) and is sometimes decorated with embroidery. This is supplemented by a „Gschnür“ (cord or chain) from which various charms and amulets can be hung.

The choker is made of filigran silver decorated with pearls and rhinestones.

The „Schöne Münchnerin“ wears her hair up with the little „Riegelhaube“ on the back of her head.

The „Riegelhaube“ was the most frequently worn headdress during the Biedermeier period, and is not comparable to any other type of headwear in Germany. Spirals are formed to make the cap, which is decorated with precious gold or silver embroidery, sequins and layers of film. Its origins can be traced back to the larger rococo bonnets.

The men wear long trousers without cuffs, a waistcoat, white shirt, jacket, top-hat and carry a walking stick. The jackets are blue, red, brown, green, black or grey. Formerly the colour was an indication of the man's station, e.g. butchers wore a dark brown jacket.

As children and grandchildren of Society members also actively participate in their functions, a few words to children's dress:

The little girls wear waistcoats or jackets and flowers in their hair until after their First Communion, when they are allowed to wear the „Miedergwand“ of the older ladies. The boys wear jacket and trousers and a cap on their heads.

Activities

The Society participates foremostly in folklore processions and traditional festivities and visit exhibitions and markets, where they wear their traditional Munich costume. They are regularly represented at the Oktoberfest folklore procession, the Anniversary of the City's Founding, local festivals and other festive occasions where traditional dress is worn and also concerts to the benefit of the Bavarian Association for the Blind „S'Münchner Herz“ (Munich Heart) etc.

The Dance Circle

In 1994 a few couples formed the Dance Circle. Their repertoire consists of local folklore dances, historical and courtly dances and quadrilles.

General

Since May 2003 the Society has a Standard and since April 2006 is a member of Isargau Munich. It is a part of the Heimat- und Brauchtumsverein Lechler e.V. Munich (Lechler Society for the Home Country and Tradition).

We look forward to your visit.

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*Society „Die schöne Münchnerin“ e. V.
Dedicated to the Home Country and Tradition*



Der Heimat und dem Brauchtum verbunden



Foto: Ingrid Grossmann

