



Book burning on the Residenzplatz in Salzburg,
April 30, 1938

FAREWELL

After Hitler's ascension to power in 1933, the majority of Salzburg's residents had favoured a quick "Anschluss" to National Socialist Germany. For years Zweig had witnessed their antisemitism and sympathies for the Nazi dictatorship, which prompted him in the spring of 1933 to make preparations to leave Salzburg and his family as well. In February 1934, a decision was made. Zweig was suspected of hiding weapons of the Social Democratic "Schutzbund" in his house. The police searched his residence, but Zweig realised this was just another impertinent provocation. Zweig then turned his back on Salzburg and moved to London. His wife Friderike and both of her daughters remained in the Salzburg house until May 1937, when it was sold. They divorced in 1938.

The fact that the National Socialists in Salzburg burned his books in 1938 – in the city where he had lived for fifteen years – deeply insulted Zweig.

RETROSPECTIVE

In 1934, Stefan Zweig left Salzburg for England where he lived for six and a half years. He married a second time. His wife Lotte Altmann, a German emigrant, had become his secretary in 1934. In the autumn of 1939 they bought a house in Bath, which Zweig liked to call his "Ersatz-Salzburg". In June 1940, ten months after the outbreak of World War II, Lotte and Stefan Zweig left Europe. They lived in exile, alternately in the USA and in Brasil.

Zweig's global fame as an author of famous novellas and biographies, of essays and theatre plays, started in Salzburg. Despite many humiliating experiences in Vienna and Salzburg, Zweig indelibly kept the memories of Austria alive in his mind: in his novels, novellas and autobiography he tried to retrospectively understand the decisions and utopias that shaped his life.



Stefan Zweig with his Italian translator Lavinia Mazzuchetti in
Salzburg's Café Bazar in the summer of 1933



STEFAN ZWIG IN SALZBURG

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The Stefan Zweig Zentrum Salzburg is open to the public on Mondays,
Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 02:00 to 04:00 p.m.

Entrance fees: regular: € 4,00, reduced : € 2,00 (students, retired persons,
disabled persons, military and community service conscripts, members of the
O1-Club, members of the Salzburg Museum Society)

Guided tours upon request (please telephone)

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Front page: Stefan Zweig in front of his home on the Kapuzinerberg,
in the summer of 1933.

Picture: Franz Xaver Setzer

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Interior pages 1,2,3 and 4: Stefan Zweig Zentrum Salzburg

Page 5: Franz Krieger, Salzburg City Archive

Page 6: The National Library of Israel, Jerusalem



STEFAN ZWIG IN SALZBURG





Stefan Zweig, Friderike Zweig and their spaniel "Kaspar" in the garden of their home in Salzburg. In the background, Suse and Alix von Winternitz, the daughters from Friderike's first marriage.

FAMILY

Stefan Zweig was born on November 28, 1881 in Vienna, where he lived until November 1917. Afterwards he spent one and a half years in Switzerland. In October 1917, still during World War I, Zweig acquired the so-called "Paschingerschlössl" in Salzburg, also known as the "Trompeterschlössl". Erected as a hunting chalet by Archbishop Paris Count of Lodron in the 17th century, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and his sister Nannerl appeared there as guest musicians.

Zweig originally intended to stay in the house only during the summer months to focus on his work, and to spend the winters in Vienna. In the spring of 1919 he changed his mind. Together with his partner Friderike von Winteritz (his wife as of 1920) and the daughters from her first marriage, Suse and Alix, Zweig lived year round at the address "Kapuzinerberg 5". In his memoirs *The World of Yesterday*, Zweig described how cumbersome life initially was for the family in a run-down castle on the Kapuzinerberg.

EUROPE

Zweig's decision to leave Vienna and to move to small town Salzburg (humourously called "Gmachlville" by Zweig) had various reasons. Beyond doubt one of them was that Zweig believed his literary *oeuvre*, which up to World War I was modest, had received too little attention in Vienna. While quickly gaining recognition in the German literary scene (and later on in France, Switzerland and Italy), he had occasionally experienced harsh criticism in Vienna.

Moving to Salzburg however, not only meant turning away from Vienna. In Zweig's opinion, Salzburg also was "the most ideal, because of its geographical position at Austria's edge". In his memoirs *The World of Yesterday*, Zweig calls Salzburg the "right springboard to Europe", since from there it would be possible to reach Munich, Zurich, Venice or Paris within a short time. In the 1920s Zweig actually started to concentrate on his European network. In Salzburg he led a secluded life and befriended only few artist colleagues. One of his favourite places was the Café Bazar. He also enjoyed playing chess at the Café Mozart in the Getreidegasse.



Stefan Zweig plays chess with his Salzburg friend Emil Fuchs, Ostend 1936.



Stefan Zweig in the garden of his home in Salzburg during the late 1920s

SUCCESS

In the mid-twenties, Zweig's worldwide literary success began in Salzburg. The novellas *Amok* (1922) and *Confusion of Feelings* (1926), as well as the historical biographies of Joseph Fouché (1929) and Marie Antoinette (1932), were enthusiastically received far beyond the German-speaking world. Within a few years Zweig's works were translated into nearly thirty languages. Zweig's comedy *Volpone*, which premiered at Vienna's Burgtheater (1926), and his collection of historical miniatures *Decisive Moments in History* (1929) were also enormously successful.

Wherever he appeared, whether at readings and lectures across Europe and the Americas, he encountered enthusiastic audiences. In 1927, when Zweig was hardly fifty years old, the first edition of his collected works was published in the Soviet Union, with a preface by Maxim Gorki.

SALZBURG FESTIVAL

The first Salzburg Festival took place in the summer of 1920, one year after Zweig had moved to Salzburg. Although Zweig was acquainted with Hugo von Hofmannsthal and Max Reinhardt, no cooperation transpired. This is surprising, as Zweig authored ten theatrical plays that had been performed on many stages during his lifetime (and not only in the German-speaking countries). Undoubtedly it was Hugo von Hofmannsthal who prevented Zweig's participation in the festival's Board of Directors.

Disappointed, Zweig frequently left the city during the summer, retiring to Zell am See and to Thumersbach, where he could work without being disturbed. Not until the early 1930s did Zweig speak favourably about the festival. He befriended the conductors Bruno Walter and Arturo Toscanini, attended their rehearsals and performances, and invited them to his home on the Kapuzinerberg.



The conductors Arturo Toscanini and Bruno Walter as guests of Stefan Zweig in Salzburg in the summer of 1934