

FAST 2000 : First America's cup Swiss Team

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Upcoming Swiss Cultural Events in New Zealand

(As indicated by the Swiss Embassy, Wellington)

The Abbey of St. Gall: A Cultural Centre

Wellington **17 April - 10 May 1998**
Wellington Central Library
Victoria Street, Wellington
Central.
(see article last issue)

Auckland **21 May - 21 June 1998**
Auckland City Library
44-46 Lorne Street, Auckland

Mario Botta Architecture 1980 - 95

A photographic retrospective of the work of the famous Swiss architect, Mario Botta, during the period 1980 - 1995.

Wellington **6 - 24 July 1998**
Faculty of Architecture, Victoria
University of Wellington
139 Vivian Street
Wellington

Auckland **31 July - 21 August 1998**
Faculty of Architecture, The
University of Auckland Architec-
ture Building, 26 Symonds
street, Auckland

"Joli n'a qu'un oeil"

This photographic exhibition of two Swiss photographers, Anne-marie Grobet and Charles Weber, is part of the *Fotofest 98* exhibition. The two photographers both swap images of the countryside in the way that travellers swap tales.

Wellington **1 - 8 August 1998**
Wellington Festival Convention
Centre, Wakefield Street
Wellington Central



Press Release received via Swiss Embassy Wellington

Morges, March 24, 1998:

While the work of the team which is in charge of the research and design of the future *Swiss Class America* yacht is continuing in excellent conditions at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, FAST 2000 wishes to now officially communicate the names of the principal members of its naval architecture group:

The composition of this group reflects the basic philosophy of the Swiss challenge, characterised by its open spirit so as to attract the best possible competences, in order to obtain a pluridisciplinary, creative and efficient team.

Sébastien Schmidt - Not only does he design yachts, he often sails them to victory. His design activities range from 28' and 40' multihulls to fast cruising/racing yachts. But it is with the design of very successful 5,5 m IC boats that he acquired international status. Several of his designs won many World and European titles. One of his specialised domains is the improvement of appendages. He will bring to the R & D team his innovating mind and a fresh analytical approach to the IACC design problems.

Peter van Oossanen - This Dutchman is an *old hand* of the America's Cup. He was involved in the victorious Australian Challenge (member of the design team of *Australia II*, together with Ben Lexcen). As a towing tank consultant, he worked for 11 different syndicates that carried out towing tank work at the Netherlands Ship Model Basin for the 1987 America's Cup. Peter was head of the design team for the 1992 Royal Sydney Yacht Club Challenge, while for the 1995 event, he carried out research for the One Australia Challenge.

Phillippe Briand - Aged 41, he ranks among the most successful European designers in racing yachts. Following winners originated on his drawing board: Maxi Series in '81, Half Ton Cup in '83, One Ton Cup and Quarter Ton Cup and Whitbread in '86, 50' World Cup in '88 and Admirals Cup in '91. His relation with the America's Cup is a long standing one. Designer of *Sverige* in '77, *French Kiss* in '87 and *Ville de Paris* in '92 (both made it to Louis Vuitton semi-finals) and *France* in '95.

In accordance with the rules of the America's Cup, the two last mentioned have obtained Swiss residency already since February 1997.

Supported by the competences of the engineers of the Laboratories of Fluid Mechanics, Hydraulic Machines and Composite Technology of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, sustained by computer specialists of Silicon Graphics / Cray Research and researchers of North Sails, their work has permitted them to achieve tank testing level. These are done at the Wolfson Unit of the University of Southampton in England (Switzerland doesn't have a suitable towing tank). One has to take note of the fact that it was also the Wolfson Unit which, already in 1995, has helped the New Zealand team to define their victorious yacht.

With best regards.

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