

**Zeitschrift:** Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Herausgeber:** Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Band:** 66 (2000)  
**Heft:** [10]

**Artikel:** What about a Christmas family project? : Here is a Swiss Christmas carol taken from my "Swiss song book" (Schweizer Singbuch) with origin 1938!

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**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-944585>

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## What about a Christmas family project?

Here is a Swiss Christmas carol

taken from my 'Swiss song book' (Schweizer Singbuch) with origin 1938! Ed.

*liberal translation of text from German to English;*

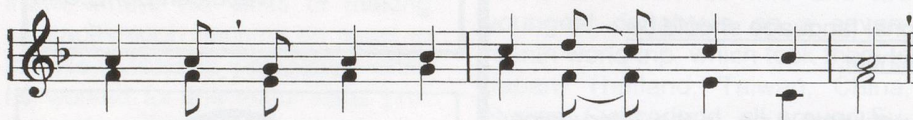
- Verse 1. A time has come for us...a time has come for us, of great fortune!  
Our saviour Jesus Christ, who for us...who for us...who for us  
became man.
- Verse 2. In a manger he is to lie, almost as hard as on rock  
Between ox and donkey you lie...you lie...you lie, you poor Christ child.
- Verse 3. Three kings came to search for you, the star lead them to Bethlehem  
Crown and scepter they laid down, they brought to you... they brought to you...  
they brought to you, their valuable gift.

## Es ist für uns eine Zeit angekommen

Kanton Luzern. Satz Alfred Stern



1. Es ist für uns ei - ne Zeit an - ge-  
2. In der Krip - pe muß er  
3. Drei Kö - nig ka - men ihm zu



kom - men, es ist für uns ei - ne gros - se Gnad!  
lie - gen, und wenn's der här - te - ste Fel - sen wär:  
su - chen, der Stern führt sie nach Beth - le - hem,



Un - ser Hei - land Je - su Christ, der für uns, der für  
Zwischen Ochs und E - se - lein lie - gest du, lie - gest  
Kron' und Scep - ter leg - tensie ab, brach - ten ihm, brach - ten



uns, der für uns Mensch ge - wor - den ist.  
du, lie - gest du, ar - mes Je - su - lein!  
ihm, brach - ten ihm ih - re rei - che Gab.

## News and Articles from Switzerland.....

### New Swiss film put forward for Oscar

Switzerland has nominated "Gripsholm" - the new film by one of the country's best-known directors, Xavier Koller - for an Oscar in the category of best foreign film.

Koller already has one Oscar to his fame after winning the best foreign film award for "Reise der Hoffnung" (Journey of Hope) in 1991. "Gripsholm", a biography of the German poet, Kurt Tucholsky, opened at Swiss cinemas earlier this month to mixed reviews. Koller said he chose to make a film about the Berlin-born writer because; "Tucholsky was an incredibly multi-faceted character, full of life and yet deeply depressed. He was a fervent literary opponent of the Nazis."

Critics have described the film as a hybrid of comedy and tragedy. Koller responded by saying it was his "full intention to produce a sad comedy and a light-hearted tragedy at the same time, in line with Tucholsky's own thinking".

There is also a touch of romance in the film, offering an insight into the loving relationship between Tucholsky and his partner, Lydia. The title of the film is taken from an anecdotal tale, "Schloss Gripsholm", written by Tucholsky when he was in Sweden in the early 1930s.

### Exhibition in Berne

A new exhibition in Berne highlights a turning point in the history of modern art, when colour became of primary importance.

Entitled "The Harmony of Colour" it focuses on a group of artists and friends who pioneered the new approach.

### Cost of property increases threefold

*compiled for the Swiss National Bank*

The cost of renting or buying a home in Switzerland is three times higher than it was 30 years ago, according to a survey by Büro Wüest and Partner.