

Tokyo, 2 November 2015

Greeting for the „Kleine Krone Ball 2015“

As carnival starts in many regions and cities in Europe, Vienna opens its very own carnival season: The ball season. The tradition to organize balls during the carnival time in Vienna stretches back centuries. Nowadays, over 450 balls take place alone in Vienna. The ball season reaches its peak in January and February. At this time of the year people dressed up and on their way to a ball are seen all over the city in the evening.

In Japan, the Japan-Austrian Society for Cultural Exchange Kleine Krone regularly organizes a ball to celebrate this Viennese tradition. I therefore wish to thank the Japan-Austria Society for Cultural exchange and Ms. Makiko Krone in particular for their dedication and enthusiasm presenting and spreading the fascination of Viennese ball tradition.

This year the Kleine Krone society celebrates its 15th anniversary. I would like to extend to the society's members and Ms. Makiko Krone my wholehearted congratulations on this. This year's ball with the motto "*Wien, du Stadt meiner Traeume*" will certainly be one of the highlights of the celebrations on the occasion of this anniversary.

By using one of the most famous phrases from internationally renowned Viennese Opernball I send my best wishes to all ball guest for an enjoyable evening with Austrian music: "*Alles Walzer!*"

Bernhard Zimburg
Ambassador