

**Dear fellow Citizens,
Dear Friends of Switzerland,**



Consul General Alexander Hoffet

I am pleased to introduce this year's first issue of Grüezi Shanghai, which comes under a new format in an effort to harmonize the appearance of the FDFA newsletters throughout the world.

2015 is an important year for the Sino-Swiss partnership, as it marks the 65th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Since the beginning of that extraordinary journey, our two countries have set many milestones and are paving the path for a shared future. Today China and Switzerland closely co-operate in a variety of fields, thus enhancing the mutual dialogue and further strengthening their already excellent relationship.

At diplomatic level, 2015 began with the meeting of China's Premier Li Keqiang with Swiss President Simonetta Sommaruga at the WEF in Davos in January, followed in February by the visit of Federal Councillor Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf to China, which focused on the development of the Renminbi hub in Switzerland.

To celebrate the 65th anniversary, a large number of cultural events have been set up, opening with the Basel Symphony Orchestra's concerts in Beijing and Shanghai during their Far East Tour in March and the performance of the NZO (Neues Zürcher Orchester) in Shanghai in April. Among the upcoming events, the Swiss Week in Shanghai will take place from 12th to 17th May, the watch exposition "Geneva at the Heart of Time" in Beijing from April to August 2015, to mention just a few.

And - finally - Solar Impulse 2 has successfully landed in Nanjing, its second stop in China, on 21st April after the flight from Chongqing which lasted 17 hours and 22 minutes for a distance of 1344 km. The landing in Nanjing of the zero-fuel airplane was widely broadcasted by the media across the globe. We are particularly honored to have Solar Impulse, which is setting new standards in the field of renewable energy innovation, still on the doorsteps of Shanghai these days. The VIP Swiss day and other events organized under the wings of the solar plane were a huge success and largely approved by the participants. We wish Bertrand Piccard and André Borschberg as well as the entire team all the best for the continuation of their round-the-world solar flight.

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I look forward to seeing you at some of our 65th anniversary celebrations!

Alexander Hoffet
Consul General

Celebrating the 65th Anniversary of Sino-Swiss Diplomatic Relations

Booklet on the 65th Anniversary available at the Consulate General



On the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Switzerland and the People's Republic of China a booklet has been created gathering all the activities that will take place in 2015 to celebrate this joyful event. Free booklets with a list and description of those activities are available at the Consulate General of Switzerland.

For more information about upcoming events and a more comprehensive and updated list, please visit the website dedicated to the 65th anniversary:
www.Switzerland65China.com

Solar Impulse 2

Solar Impulse 2 arrived in Nanjing!



Landing at Lukou Airport Nanjing

On Tuesday, 21st April Solar Impulse 2 with Swiss pilot Bertrand Piccard safely landed at Lukou Airport in Nanjing. It was a great emotion to see the plane approaching and finally touching the ground of Jiangsu province. Now it is safely parked under the tent in Nanjing where various events are taking place. The Swiss pilots already prepare for the next step of the adventure: the crossing of the Pacific, a solo flight of five days and nights in a row.

Solar Impulse 2, a solar airplane designed and engineered in Switzerland, is attempting for the first time to fly around the globe without a single drop of fuel. The energy it uses is supplied by more than 17000 solar cells built in its wings, which help recharge the plane's batteries. As it has been described by Ambassador De Dardel, Solar Impulse is "Switzerland at its best: innovation, adventure, teamwork and openness of mind!"



Ambassador de Dardel with Bertrand Piccard

During their stay in China Bertrand Piccard and André Borschberg intend to use their unique adventure to demonstrate that innovation can contribute to the cause of renewable energies, to underline the importance of clean technologies for sustainable development and to place dreams and emotions back into the heart of scientific adventure. Solar Impulse is a perfect example of Switzerland's commitment to innovation and dedication to environment protection - it is the reason why the project gained support from the Swiss federal government since its

inception.

swissnex China

Ending the Year of the Horse



Breaking the chocolate marmite, Escalade Shanghai 2014

With the first scientific work shop on Urbanization of Second Tier Cities and the 2nd edition of the Geneva Escalade, we had two successful events closing the year 2014. With these and various other activities we continued to create opportunities to interact more and we further developed platforms for exchange and cooperation. We are delighted to see that our work and efforts are being well received and we welcome more and more guests to our events.

In the meantime spring has arrived, and while flowers start blooming and the trees are getting greener, we are preparing various interesting activities for the next months!

Starting the Year of the Goat



CNY 2015 swissnex gathering

Traditionally we celebrated Chinese New Year with a gathering and shared our best wishes for a successful and promising year of the goat! Of course Solar Impulse in China is a highlight for us! Contributing towards such a fascinating adventure by organizing a Swiss Day in Nanjing together with the Swiss Consulate General was a unique experience. But there is more to come, with numerous delegations visiting us again and various events ahead. For example, a Swiss University Alumni gathering during this year's Swiss Week (13th - 17th May), and the 2nd edition of LIFT China Conference in mid-June. Would you like to learn more? We invite you to join us and get the latest scoop by following us through our website <http://www.swissnexchina.org/> (EN/CN) and social media platforms. Contact us if you want to come by and get a feel on what we do and meet us.

See you soon!
Team swissnex China

Lift Conference 2015



Preparing for Lift Conference Shanghai 2015

Since 2006, **Lift Events** identify technological innovation trends and explore the business and social implications of new technologies. These unique opportunities for exchange, network and learning about new trends have already brought together thousands of people in Europe, and since last year, finally, China has a Lift Conference of its own!

Lift China is a one-day, invitation-only event taking place in Shanghai on 17th June 2015. Organized by the international networks Lift and swissnex China, it will be the place for producers, artists, startups and pioneers alike to network, exchange ideas, start projects and get inspired. Come and participate!

Program in Shanghai:

One-Day Conference

Exclusive conference, including a special blend of activities to foster creativity and collaboration among participants.

Detailed program: <http://liftconference.com/lift-china-15>

Swiss-Chinese Innovation Night

Discover the technologies of tomorrow, share knowledge and network with some of the brightest Swiss and Chinese minds.

Program: Up-and-coming entrepreneurs, artists, researchers and young professionals will demonstrate the power of their state-of-the-art projects while you sip on a refreshing cocktail

More details on <http://liftconference.com/lift-china-15#innonight>

Open all day: Lift Interactive Design Exhibition

Measure pollution, dust, light, sound, temperature, and humidity with an interactive map!

Details : <http://liftconference.com/lift-china-15#exhibit>

Want to be part of it?

For sponsorship and partnership, please contact Mr. Pascal Marmier, CEO swissnex China:

pascal.marmier@swissnexchina.org

Pro Helvetia

Philippe Saire presents “Black Out” first China Tour



Black Out performing

Supported by Pro Helvetia Shanghai, Black Out, choreographed by Swiss choreographer Philippe Saire, is an elegy to our darker side and an appeal for self-contemplation.

Schedule:

June 9-10, Peng Hao Theatre, Beijing

June 13-14, Tianjin Theatre, Tianjin

June 17-18, Minsheng Art Museum, Shanghai (ticketing info will be released on Pro Helvetia website soon)

Duration: 40 minutes. Please note: this performance, due to its intimate nature, is limited to a maximum audience capacity of 50 people.

About Black Out:

With materiality at the center of the performance, dancers leave traces of their movement on a floor strewn with black granules. The proximity of an audience to this shape-shifting piece does not allow a moment of change, however small, to go unnoticed, making one ask: is this intimacy or is this voyeurism? The choreographer Philippe Saire describes this piece as being at the 'crossroads of dance and visual art'. It bears both, a plenitude of movement and Saire's fondness for drawing.

For more information on Philippe Saire:

www.philippesaire.ch

Pro Helvetia website: www.prohelvetia.cn

SwissCham Shanghai

The new Bridge Magazine is available



The latest issue of the Bridge magazine, no 38, covers a wide range of topics. Human resources is an issue that is heatedly discussed over and over again. We get the newest trends and insights from HR solution and interim management providers and Swiss SMEs. This issue also covers the results of the latest CEIBS China business survey and provides an overview of the fast changing E-commerce market in China. The Bridge also lists a comprehensive review of the events organized during the last weeks and months, including a picture review of the Swiss Ball in Shanghai. To download the Bridge magazine, [click here](#).

SwissCham Shanghai has a new President and Board Members



On 19th March, SwissCham Shanghai organized its Regional Annual General Assembly (RAGA) in the Sofitel Hyland Hotel. During the evening, the board and the members reviewed SwissCham's last year performance, decided upon financials, elected the new board and agreed on the programme for 2015/16. Alberto Bertoz was chosen to replace Andreas Luchsinger as President of the Shanghai Chapter. The Board welcomed four new members: Detlef Britzke (Medela), Edouard Le Bourgeois (Biocom Energy), Thomas Schweizer (Oerlikon Metco) and Marcus Setterberg (Komax Group). The following people left the Board: Andreas Luchsinger, Martin Wagner, Christine Li and Martin Honegger. Visit our website [here](#) for an overview of our new Board.

Swiss Ball 2015: Captain's Dinner



The Swiss Ball 2015 was a great success with 419 guests present. The theme was "Captain's Dinner", so the decoration and entertainment was all about the sea. Many guests dressed accordingly and showed up as captains, sailors or mermaids. The visitors enjoyed delicious food, great entertainment and occupied the dance floor until late night. For the first time, the organization committee launched a 'most elegant dress contest', which was fiercely competitive. The lucky draw included great prizes such as free business class tickets from Swiss Air Lines, a Maurice Lacroix watch and a designed furniture piece of Atelier Phi, as well as many hotel vouchers. For pictures of the Swiss Ball, edition 2015, [click here](#).

Swiss Club Shanghai

Swiss Club Shanghai is calling for Jasser!



'Year-end Jass' with Jass Champions 2014

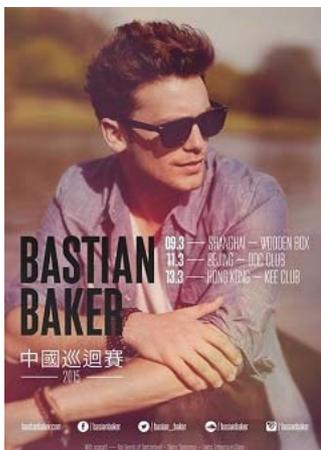
Jassen is one of Switzerland's most traditional game of cards and it is played in many families in our home country. For more than 10 years, the Swiss Club Shanghai (SCS) has organized Jass events for the Swiss community in Shanghai on a regular basis.

On the last Monday of each month we usually get together at Papa's Bierstube in Hong Mei Road at 19:30h (for specific dates please check the homepage of the SCS) to enjoy the game away from home and in a relaxed atmosphere. In November the so-called 'Year-end Jass' takes place in a beautiful old villa, when we crown the Shanghai Jass Champion of the Year. Conceding that different Jassers have different levels, the Jass evenings and tournaments are rather social events than an exercise to win, and everyone who knows the game is welcome to join. We play the classic 'Schieber' with Swiss and French cards alternating every month, and by getting different partners drawn four times an evening, it is a great and easy way to meet new people.

Come and join us on one of our next Jass events! For registration please contact the Jassmaster on mailto:jass_shanghai@hotmail.com.
by Stefan Schmidt, SCS

Cultural Highlights

Bastian Baker China Tour



On 9th March, during his first tour of China, Bastian Baker performed at the Wooden Box Café in Shanghai on a thrilling show that he offered to his fans. There, the talented 24-year-old Swiss singer and songwriter executed his repertoire, which was warmly greeted by a mixed audience. After having released two Platinum albums, won the MTV EMA Best Swiss Act in 2013 and performed at the most famous venues in Europe, Bastian Baker continues his ascent with a world tour in several countries including Japan, Korea, China, Brazil, Chile and more European destinations!

20th Fête de la Francophonie



The 20th edition of the Francophonie took place from 10th - 30th March throughout all major Chinese cities. In Shanghai the Consulate General of Switzerland had the honor to start the celebrations for this 20th edition with an opening ceremony held at the AURORA Building on 13th March 2015. The ceremony was attended by Mr Alexander Hoffer, Consul General of Switzerland, Mr Emmanuel Lenain, Consul General of France as well as Mr Dominique Othenin-Girard, the movie director especially invited to for the screening of his movie "Henry Dunant: Red on the Cross". The movie well represented Switzerland's humanitarian tradition, in line with the principles of unity and solidarity characterizing the

20th Fête de la Francophonie projected on the Aurora Building

Francophonie. The festivities continued throughout March with several conferences, concerts and other cultural activities featuring different countries and aiming to celebrate the French language as well as to spread the values of the Francophonie.

Launch of Krayer Book and Basel Symphony Orchestra Concert



Consul General Alexander Hoffet (middle) during the launching ceremony of the Krayer book

On the occasion of the book vernissage "The Late Qing Empire through the Lens of a Swiss" on 24th March and the concert of the Basel Symphony Orchestra on 25th March, a delegation from Canton Basel has been received in Shanghai. The book, featuring 91 photographs taken from 1860 to 1869 from Adolf Krayer collection in four different Chinese regions – Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangnan and Xiamen, was presented at the East China Normal University and arouse the interest of the audience.

The day after, the Basel Symphony Orchestra, one of Switzerland oldest and most renowned, performed at the Shanghai Oriental Art Center, with the participation of a distinguished musician, Turkish pianist Fazil Say.

News from the Chancery

Facts & Figures of our Consular District

Update March 2015

This Consulate General is responsible for the Swiss living in the provinces of Anhui, Jiangsu, Zhejiang and the municipality of Shanghai. Contrary to last year, the amount of Swiss citizens registered at our Consulate decreased.

Swiss living in our Consular district*		996
Adults		683
Children under 18 years old		313
Swiss living in our Consular provinces*		
Shanghai	838	84.1%
Jiangsu	122	12.3%
Zhejiang	34	3.4%
Anhui	2	0.2%
*31st December 2014		
registered Swiss citizens only		
Languages		
German		56%
French		27%
Italian		3%
English		14%
Swiss visa issued at our Consulate 2014		30'276
average decrease from 2013 to 2014		-16.8%
Swiss living in the Consular districts in the P.R.China**	4056	100%
Hong Kong & Macao	2190	53.9%
Shanghai	996	24.6%
Beijing	639	15.8%
Guangzhou	231	5.7%
** 31st December 2014		
registered Swiss citizens only		

Youth Offers Summer 2015 of the Organization of the Swiss Abroad



Also this summer, the Organization of the Swiss Abroad (OSA) gives the opportunity to young Swiss living abroad to get to know their home country and to enjoy Switzerland.

In the offers for young Swiss Abroad, the participants are sure to get an exciting experience at reasonable prices. They get to know the country, the people and make friends with other young Swiss of their own age from all over the world.

Use your holidays to learn more and discover your roots! Newly, you will find all the youth offers under www.swisscommunity.org (youth).

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