

## **Johannes Rühl**

Born in in Soest / Germany, July 12, 1954,

Grown up in Italy (Milan), Germany and Switzerland

Nationality: German

Languages: German, Italian, English and French

Living since 2008 in Loco, Valle Onsernone (southern Switzerland)



### **Education**

1988 Magister Artium in **social anthropology and sociology**

1982 - 1988 University of Freiburg (Germany)  
studies in **cultural anthropology, sociology**  
and **visual anthropology**

1978 - 1981 **Matura / Abitur / A Level / SAT exam («zweiter Bildungsweg»)**

1976 - 1977 **anaesthesia and intensive care (2 years)**

1972 - 1975 **Nursing school (3 years)**

## Current professional mandates, tasks and freelance activities

2025 – 2026 **Traditional Vietnamese and Swiss Music Through a Contemporary Perspective**  
Research trip to Vietnam in collaboration with Kim Ngoc Tran (DomDom), funded by Pro Helvetia

2020 - 2025 Member of the jury for the **Swiss Music Price**  
Federal Office of Culture, Berne, 2024 – 2025  
**President of the jury for the Swiss Music Price**

2023 - present **Heimatklänge**  
Curator of the music program of Theater Casino Zug

2022 – present President of the cultural association  
**Associazione Olocene**, Valle Onsernone

2022 – present Presenter at the **Musikfestival Rudolstadt**  
Grosse Bühne Heidecksburg and Theater Rudolstadt

2019 – present Founder and director of the artistic residency  
**Casa di Rosa** (Villa Rosa)  
in 6661 Loco, Valle Onsernone, casadirosa.ch

2019 – present Curator of the program “Neue Volksmusik” at the  
**Festival LABEL SUISSE**, Lausanne

2019 – present Occasional staff member of **Tessiner Zeitung**  
reports and articles in the cultural sector

2019 *I officially retired in 2019 and gave up all my full-time positions.*

2014 – present **Festival de Música de Alturas** (Lima/Cusco/)  
> Member of the steering comity of the Highlands Art Association  
> Curator and fundraising of the European program

2000 - present **Speechwriter and Ghostwriter** for personalities in the field of cultural policy in all cultural sectors for Swiss federal authorities and municipal leaders (over 250 speeches since 2000)

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## Passed institutional mandates

2019 – 2025 Member of the music jury and presenter at the  
**Internationale Kulturbörse Freiburg/Brsg.**

2017 – 2024 Member of the commission of the **Fondo Roberto Leydi**,  
Centro di dialattologia e di etnografia, Bellinzona

2012 – 2013 **Ho Chi Minh City – International Anthropological Film Festival**  
Vietnam National Institute of Culture and Arts Studies (VICAS)  
Curator for the European section of the festival.

2011 – 2019 **Senior scientific collaborator and researcher**  
Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Music Department;

	Ethnomusicology, concepts of social, collective and cultural memory, folklore in modern societies, traditional music in Switzerland, cultural tourism.
2008 – 2019	Artistic director of the <b>International Music Festival Alpentöne</b> , Altdorf/ Uri; founded in 1999, biennial.
2008 – 2009	<b>Director of the theatre department</b> of the University of Applied Sciences of Southern Switzerland SUPSI, Accademia Teatro Dimitri
2000 – 2008	<b>Deputy director of cultural affairs</b> (Stellvertretender Leiter des Kulturamts) Municipality of Freiburg im Breisgau / Germany
1998 – 2000	<b>Head of Department of Culture, Sports and Tourism</b> (Fachbereichsleiter Kultur, Sport und Tourismus) Municipality of Rottweil / Germany
1995 – 1997	<b>Artistic director</b> of socio-cultural centre <b>Karlstorbahnhof Heidelberg GmbH</b> ; Programming in theatre and music, special events and festivals in theatre and intercultural fields.
1991 – 1995	<b>Director</b> of the socio-cultural centre <b>Speicher Husum</b> Responsible for management and program (music, theatre, literature and sociocultural activities). Founding of the arts festival WINDFANG.
1989 – 1991	<b>Head of Kulturbüro Basel, Switzerland</b> Promotion and coordination of the independent cultural scenes in Basel.
1986 - 1991	Co-Founder and co-director (with Werner Kobe) of the documentary Filmfestival of transcultural Cinema <b>Freiburger Filmforum</b> , Freiburg im Breisgau, Kommunales Kino freiburger-filmforum.de

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### Passed mandates, tasks and freelance activities

2016 – 2025	President of the association <b>gemeinsamdenken.ch</b> , Ascona, Monte Verità
2023/2024	<b>ZukunftsMusik – echos du future – utopie sonore</b> 40 compositions that will be performed in 100 years In collaboration with 100 years of SUISA
2023	Co-curator of the music festival <b>Finisterre</b> contemporary music in Valle Onsernone, Monte Verità <b>Associazione Olocene</b> and <b>Neue Musik Rümlingen</b>
2014 – 2023	Curator and organiser of the <b>intercultural musical project “Building Bridges”</b> , Fondazione Centro Incontrti Umani Ascona
2017 – 2024	Curator of the musical program of <b>Teatro San Materno</b> , Ascona.

2010 – 2019	<b>University lecturer</b> Innovation in traditional alpine music and cultural management > University of Salzburg, Master in comparative literature > Ho Chi Minh City University Of Culture > Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Music Department > Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana > University of Basel, Institute of Cultural Studies and Ethnology > University of Göttingen Institute of Ethnology
2016 – 2019	Independent expert for the Swiss Art Foundation <b>Pro Helvetia</b> , music
2015	External advisor for the redesign of the <b>Musikfestival Bern</b>
2015	Member of the preselection committee for the “long list” of the <b>Swiss Music Price</b> 2015, federal bureau of culture.
2013	Co-curator of the 2013 edition “Ton&Tal / Valli&Intervalli” of the contemporary music festival <b>Neue Musik Rümlingen</b> (BL)
2011 – 2019	Founding member and member of the steering group of <b>Swiss Festival Association</b> (Basel)
2010	Leading curator of the international conference <b>GlobalFlux</b> , conference on the future of higher education in contemporary global music, Cologne.
1997	<b>Lecturer at the Hanoi Institute for Theatre and Cinema</b> fall-semester: Intensive course; Introduction in theory and practice of visual anthropology; DAAD-lecturer (German Academic Exchange Service).
1989	<b>Lecturer at the Institute of Ethnology</b> visual anthropology at University of Freiburg im Brsg.
1996	Heidelberg, curator of the theatre festival <b>UNTER WASSER FLIEGEN, festival for female clowns</b> .
1994 – 2022	Manifold activities in the <b>Vietnamese film, music and art scene</b> , close cooperation and many projects with VICAS, the Vietnam Institute for Culture and Arts Studies, Hanoi.
1990 – 1991	Secretary of the <b>European Association for the Visual Studies of Mankind</b> , Basel/Florence

## University research

2018 – 2019 Head of research team  
**Bandella**  
*Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Art  
Centro di dialettologia e etnografia, Bellinzona*

2017 – 2020 **Alte Volksmusik** / historical folk music before 1800  
*Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Art*

2017 – 2018 Member of working group  
**UNESCO «List of Living Traditions in Switzerland»**  
*Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Art*

2014 – 2016 Member of the research team „**Broadcasting Swissness**“, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. Performing musical Swissness?  
**Traditional popular music between "Stubete" and Studio.**  
*Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Art, Univ. of Zürich - Department of Social Anthropology and Cultural Studies, Univ. of Basel - Cultural Studies and European Ethnology*

2013 – 2014 Member of the interdisciplinary working group  
**“Culture and Tourism”**  
*Lucerne University of Applied Sciences  
Institute of Tourism and Mobility*

2014 – 2016 Head of the interdisciplinary working group  
Research about sustainable cultural festival organization  
**“Nachhaltiger Ausnahmezustand”**  
*Lucerne University of Applied Sciences  
Institute of Tourism and Mobility*

2012 – 2015 Research project and monography „**Neue Volksmusik der Schweiz**“ with Dieter Ringli - *Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Art*

2006 – 2008 Advisor of the research group “**musik-szene-forschung**”, studies on urban music scenes.  
*Institute for Sociology, University of Freiburg (Germany)*

1990 – 1991 **Basler Sponsoringstudie**; Head of a research project on private engagement for cultural activities in Basel / Switzerland.

1988 „**could be on the moon**“ zur systematischen Inhaltanalyse ethnographischer Filme am Beispiel von DEAD BIRDS von Robert Gardner (1961); Universität Freiburg, Institut für Ethnologie.

## Memorial projects

2023/2024	<b>40 for 100</b> Music that will be performed in 100 years In collaboration with 100 years of SUISA
2000 -2022	<b>100 years</b> Private, unread letters, sealed in an envelope with a designation of the person to read the letter in 100 years. 2022 <b>Bern</b> : Briefe an die Zukunft, with Kornhausbibliothek 2021 <b>Freiburg im Brsg.</b> : Brief an das 1000. Stadtjubiläum 2000 <b>Stadt Rottweil</b> : Postbox
2011	<b>mai scomparso</b> Concept for a mural made from shredded 3 million CHF banknotes in the Giubiasco waste incineration plant (not realized).
2017 - 2018	<b>Ganz allein für mich</b> Musical program of the <b>500th Anniversary of the Reformation</b> in Zürich under Huldrych Zwingli when Zürich became the birthplace and center of the Reformation in German-speaking Switzerland.
2003	<b>the forgotten coat</b> Freiburg Holocaust Memorial, Freiburg im Brsg.: Since 2003 a memorial in the form of a coat on the railing of the Balue Brücke remembers the deportation of about 350 Jews from Freiburg to the Gurs camp in Southern France.

## Music

1986 - 2000	Member of the street-brassband <b>Blechschaden</b> Freiburg im Breisgau alto and baritone saxophone
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## Medical assistance (as nurse)

1982	<b>Djibouti</b> – medical assistance for war- and drought-refugees from the Ogaden war (4 months)
1981	<b>South China Sea</b> – crew-member at the M.S. Cap Anamur rescue ship for 3600 Vietnamese boat people (in 4 months)
1980	<b>Cambodia</b> – Member of the medical team of "Soforthilfe e.V." in border-camps to Thailand after the crackdown of the Khmer Rouge regime (4 weeks).