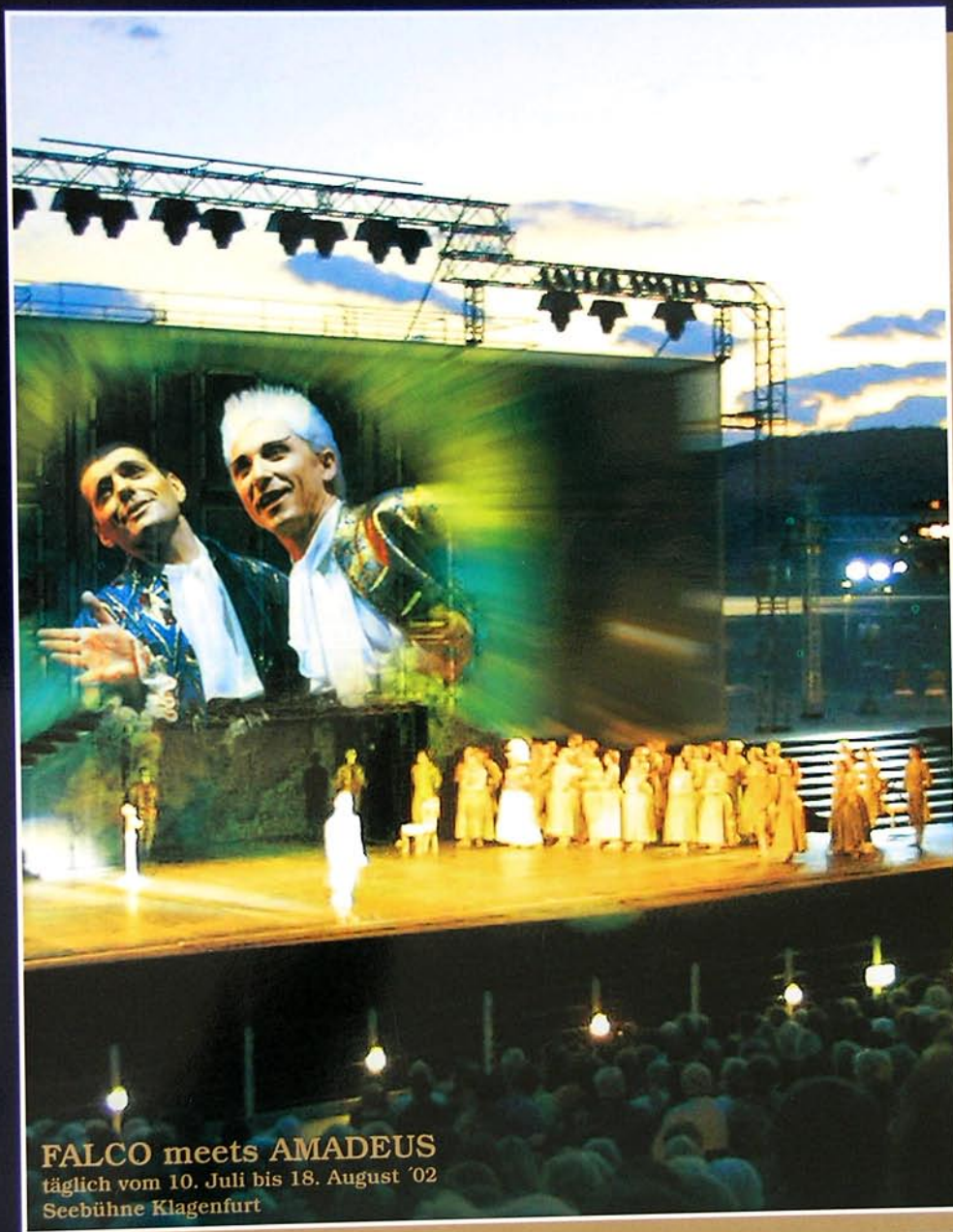


www.cercle-diplomatique.com
D A S FÜHRENDE MAGAZIN ÖSTERREICHS FÜR DAS DIPLOMATISCHE CORPS UND INTERNATIONALE ORGANISATIONEN /

CD CERCLE DIPLOMATIQUE ET ECONOMIQUE INTERNATIONAL



FALCO meets AMADEUS
täglich vom 10. Juli bis 18. August '02
Seebühne Klagenfurt

KÄRNTEN

Kärnten



Pistol grip cap with a lion's head. A small detail on the most expensive hunting rifle in the world, a big game double barrel rifle by Peter Hofer.

An Austrian Cultural Heritage



There are only a few manufacturers left in the world today who still handcraft exclusive hunting weapons the traditional way. One of the most remarkable of them is Peter Hofer who has been variously described by experts as a "virtuoso" and a "perfectionist". Others again speak of him as a "romantic riflemaker", or a "phoenix from the ashes."

In any event Hofer has entered the gunsmiths' Hall of Fame as one of the world's best gunmakers. But he is definitely more than a perfect craftsman, he is also a designer, an innovator and an artist who works with the skill of a precision engineer. Moreover, he sees gunmaking as an Austrian cultural heritage which cannot afford to rest on its laurels.

Indeed, Hofer's success is not due to mere chance or family reputation. It is the result of constant research and development. Meticulous care is devoted to each part of every weapon. Don't even bother to enquire why a screw which will for ever remain hidden inside the action receives the same attention as the more visible parts such as the sideplates. That is just the way Hofer works, no matter how much time it involves. After all, nobody would have thought of asking Leonardo da Vinci how long he took to paint his

Mona Lisa. A masterpiece is timeless in every sense of the word.

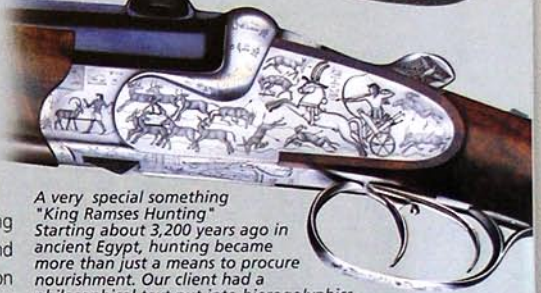
It is therefore easy to understand why only a few units - no more than four or five - leave the Hofer workshop each year. They are rapidly snapped up by those few discerning collectors who prefer the luxury of the genuinely exclusive. And since the guns and rifles require beautiful, time consuming engraving the unit of measure is "a thousand hours", endless periods of total concentration and painstaking labour on the part of the engraver resulting in a true work of art. There is no denying that the pleasure of owning such a truly unique object has its price. However, it is a steadily appreciating investment which brings with it the satisfaction of leaving a completely personal treasure for future generations to cherish.

Product range

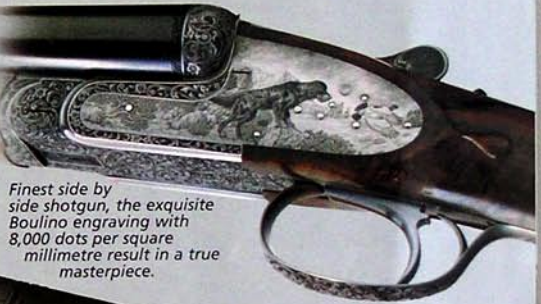
Exquisite hunting guns and rifles, in more than 300 calibre combinations, from .22 Hornet up to .700 Nitro Express; double rifles, shotguns, single shot "Kipplauf" rifles, drillings, four and five barrelled guns, bolt action rifles - in side-lock or box lock versions.



Double barrel rifle, cal. 9.3x74R "The Knight, Death and the Devil" by Albrecht Dürer designed and made by Peter Hofer



A very special something "King Ramses Hunting" Starting about 3,200 years ago in ancient Egypt, hunting became more than just a means to procure nourishment. Our client had a philosophical text put into hieroglyphics to be engraved on this rifle.



Finest side by side shotgun, the exquisite Boulino engraving with 8,000 dots per square millimetre result in a true masterpiece.

Fotos: Peter Steffon

Big game double barrel rifle, a wonderful composition. "Africa Pure" by Peter Hofer



Peter Hofer Jagdwaffen
Kirchgasse 24, A-9170 Ferlach, Austria
Tel: +43 4227 3683 Fax: +43 4227 3683-30
E-mail: peterhofer@hoferwaffen.com