

Larger than life

The Austrian American Gerhard Andlinger supports culture and science

Gerhard Andlinger (known as Gerry to his friends), is one of those unique personalities who can only be described as larger than life. Gerry is not only an extremely successful businessman but he is also a very dedicated father and family man, a generous patron of the arts and a wonderful host. When you find Gerry in the evening with a glass of good wine and a cigar, it is hard to imagine that he started his day early in the gym, then oversaw his various businesses before hitting the slopes in Aspen, where he now lives most of the year. He and his family also spend time every year at his homes in Florida, New York City and Attersee. His love of his native Austria and music has proven to be a god-send for the Salzburg Festival. There he is not only one of the largest donors in the long history of the legendary institution, but also the founder of the Salzburg Festival Society, the American arm of the Festival. With the launch of the New York-based organization he created and insured the opportunity for the Salzburg Festival to help itself to raise funds far into the future.

The Salzburg Festival Society is busy building a network of patrons and Salzburg supporters throughout the country. The Society conducts patron programs and lectures with Festival artists on both sides of the Atlantic and provides its members with exclusive access to events related to the Festival. The broader mission of the Society is to advance the general public's understanding and appreciation of classical music and opera. Under Gerry Andlinger's chairmanship the Society has been able to attract a group of American and international business leaders, philanthropists and artists.

Life did not start out so glamorously for Gerhard Andlinger and when he was born in Linz, Austria, on 17

January, 1931, it was hardly with a silver spoon in his mouth. Following his graduation from high school in 1948 he traveled to the United States for the first time as a winner of a New York Herald Tribune essay contest for Austrian high school students. A year and a half later, at the age of 19, Gerry left post-war Austria again, this time with a scholarship to Princeton University where he received his B.A. with a major in economics and a minor in Arabic in 1952. Two years later he graduated with an MBA from Harvard Business School. More recently he received an honorary doctorate from Bryant College in Rhode Island.

After serving in the U.S. Army, Gerry began his extremely successful career in business at McKinsey & Co. and worked on a variety of assignments for large international clients based in the U.S. and Canada. In 1960, he joined ITT as Director of Planning and Organization for their worldwide operations. In 1962 he became Group Executive – Far East, based in Hong Kong. He reorganized and expanded ITT's activities in the Pacific Basin, as well as serving on the Board of Directors of NEC and Sumitomo Electric. While in the Far East, he was elected Corporate Vice President at age 34, the youngest man ever elected as vice president at ITT.

In 1965, Gerry assumed responsibility for ITT's Latin America Operations comprising 22 companies. From headquarters in Buenos Aires, he managed the successful turnaround of the Latin American Group. Gerry resigned from ITT in 1967 to become Chairman of Esterline Corporation, a New York Stock Exchange listed electronics and instrumentation company. In the span of four years, Esterline made more than 20 acquisitions and increased more than ten times in size.



Patron Gerry Andlinger

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In 1972, ITT attracted Gerry back as Chairman of the Board of one of its subsidiaries; Levitt & Sons, Inc. Levitt at that time was the largest American home builder with sales of over \$ 300 million. In addition to building over 4,000 units annually in the U.S., Gerry expanded the firm internationally in Puerto Rico, France and Spain. In 1975, he resigned in order to set up his private investment banking firm, specializing in leveraged buyouts. With several acquisitions and a number of partners, the firm was in good shape when, in 1978, ITT hired Gerry back for a third time (an event unprecedented in the company's history). He was elected as Executive Vice President of ITT Corporation and President of ITT – Europe. Based in Brussels, he was responsible for some 360 companies with sales of over \$ 10 billion. Following a change of corporate chief executives at ITT, Gerry returned to his own firm as chairman in 1979, a position he continues to hold today.

Gerhard Andlinger has been a long-time supporter

of his alma mater Princeton, with generous donations to advance the school's reputation as a leader in financial and social studies. The Andlinger Center for the Humanities, dedicated in May 2004, gave Princeton's distinguished department a revitalized home for cross-disciplinary scholarship. Gerry's generosity facilitated development of the Center, which includes departments for Art and Archeology, History, Foreign Languages, and Religion. In 2000, he made a gift of \$ 25 million to Princeton as part of the university's Anniversary Campaign. Gerry's generosity lifted total donations above \$ 1 billion and capped a five-year effort to raise funds that enabled the University to significantly broaden its financial aid policies, build new academic, residential, athletic and social facilities and launch new interdisciplinary programs in the natural and social sciences, engineering and the humanities.

Gerry says, "Princeton holds a very special place in my heart. I feel privileged to be able to give back to this great University and to the country that offered me a welcoming home and wealth of opportunity."

Another beneficiary of Gerry's support, and one to which he is very committed is the Dana-Farber Cancer

Institute in Boston, MA. The mission of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute is to provide expert care to children and adults with cancer while advancing the understanding, diagnosis, treatment, cure, and prevention of cancer and related diseases.

As an Austrian American, Gerry's generosity and ideas naturally extend to the American Austrian Foundation where he is a trustee. The American Austrian Foundation is a non-profit, non-governmental organization founded to promote a positive relationship between the U.S. and Austria. Through exchanges in medicine, communications and science, the American Austrian Foundation endeavors to bring the two countries together in the interests of peace and prosperity. The American Austrian Foundation works toward opening opportunities among Americans, Austrians and Eastern Europeans: opportunities to share ideas, establish contacts and build lasting personal relationships.

The Salzburg Festival is not the only performing arts institution to benefit from Gerry's largesse. He has for many years been a very dedicated supporter of the New York City Ballet. Gerry Andlinger has been one of the most important pillars of support for the Salzburg Festival in the last five years. His generosity made the SalzburgKulisse a reality and one of the most celebrated venues for post-performance events and lectures.

As for the current Salzburg season, Gerry Andlinger and the Salzburg Festival Society showed special interest in and support for the new German and English music camps 2008, an initiative of the Salzburg Festival and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. Children between the ages of 7 and 15 are invited to attend these camps held at Schloss Arenberg, which is owned by the American Austrian Foundation. Musicians from the Vienna Philharmonic, music educators, theatre teachers, painters, dancers and sculptors are available to help the participants in their creative efforts. As a man at home with three generations, and with several continents and various organizations, Gerry Andlinger is in his element here.

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