

ANNA EHRLICH / BERNADETTE MAYR

**SCEPTRE AND ROSE**

18

A ROMANTIC HISTORIC NOVEL –  
ARTISTIC, COLOURFUL AND AUTHENTIC

At the end of the 16th century the melancholy Emperor Rudolf II rules at the Prague Hradschin. He lives in constant fear of conspiracy and poisoning and spends many hours alone in his "Kunstkammer" (chamber full of works of art). He puts more trust in magical things, man-drakes, evocations and the prophecies of his fortune tellers than in his own will power. Katharina Strada, the court antiquarian's beautiful and bright daughter, longs for encountering the powerful sovereign. With the help of the seeress Magdalena the two meet at a glamorous festivity and fall in love with each other. When Katharina gives birth to the Emperor's son, Rudolf insists on a secret wedding. Yet the Church would favour Rudolf's ambitious brother Matthias on the throne. When Katharina nearly dies in a malicious assault, Rudolf has to face the gravest decision of his life.

**CONTACT**

Buchverlage  
Langen Müller Herbig  
Thomas-Wimmer-Ring 11  
D-80539 München

Rights Manager:  
Frauke Hoppen

Tel.: 0049/89 290 88 156  
Fax.: 0049/89 290 88 178  
f.hoppen@herbig.net

www.herbig.net

**INFORMATION**

- The old Prague comes back to life: Emperor and nobility, literate citizens and common people, artists and scholars, Jews, Catholics and Protestants, hangmen, gypsies and seers
- This novel's extra: numerous objects related to in the novel are included in the coloured picture part and can be seen in the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna

**THE AUTHORS**

DDr. **Anna Ehrlich**, a lawyer and historian, has been offering learned and exciting guided tours in Vienna for more than 30 years. This novel results from her speeches on the topic of "Magic and Eroticism at the Viennese Court" and from her preoccupation with the so-called "Kunst-kammer" of the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna. **Bernadette Mayr** has studied journalism and German language and literature.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Anna Ehrlich  
Bernadette Mayr  
**Szepter und Rose**  
14,6 x 22,0 cm  
400 pages with more than  
40 coloured illustrations  
ISBN 3-7844-2914-9  
**January 2004**  
**LANGEN MÜLLER**