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We ask you to dance

Wir Bitte zum Tanz is a German comedy film and a typical Viennese film from 1941.

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Storyline

Karl Hofeneder is the owner of a renowned Viennese dance school where daughters and sons from respected families take lessons. One day Hofeneder learns that Georges Roublé is opening a dance school in the same district and is competing with him. Twenty-two years ago, Roublé and Hofeneder, then friends, had been in love with the same woman. Hofeneder was left behind and has been angry with Roublé ever since. Roublé's daughter, Sylvia, who is not allowed to dance at her father's school because of her poor academic performance, secretly takes lessons from Hofeneder, who does not know who Sylvia is. After Sylvia accidentally bumps into the wealthy Alexander Hartenau on the street when he is running away from an arranged engagement,

Roublé invites Hofeneder to his costume party "So tanzt Wien". Before attending this event, Hofeneder accidentally locks Sylvia and Xandl in the school premises when leaving his own dance school. At the costume party, Roublé reconciles with the reluctant Hofeneder. In the middle of the night, Hofeneder persuaded the already considerably tipsy company to come with him to his dance school. There, the group surprises Sylvia

Movie

original title	We ask you to dance
production country	<u>Germany</u>
original language	<u>German</u>
Publishing year	<u>1941</u>
length	88 minutes
	<u>Rod</u>
directing	<u>Hubert Marischka</u>
script	<u>Fritz Koselka</u>
production	<u>Vienna Film</u> (<u>Heinrich Haas</u>)
Music	<u>Anton Profes</u>
camera	<u>Karl Kurzmeyer</u>
	occupation

- Hans Moser : Karl Hofeneder, dance teacher
- Paul Hörbiger : Georges Roublé aka Georg Rumpelmayr, dance teacher
- Elfie Mayerhofer : Sylvia Rumpelmayr
- Hans Holt : Alexander "Xandl" Hartenau
- Richard Eybner : Neufingerl
- Theodor Danegger : Commercial Counselor Hartenau
- Thea Weis : Trude Gradaus
- Helli Servi : Fannerl
- Auguste Pünkosdy : Mrs. Seewald
- Paul Bürks : Theo Fröhlich
- Josefine Kramer-Glöckner : Mrs. Simmerl

and Xandl. Roublé rages about Hofeneder's alleged meanness; he assumes that Hofeneder deliberately arranged for the two young people to be together. For his part, Hofeneder accuses Roublé of deliberately foisting his daughter on him in order to discredit his dance school.

When Roublé wants to put Sylvia in boarding school, she takes refuge in Hofeneder's apartment and begs him to find Xandl, which Hofeneder reluctantly does. Xandl is about to be engaged against his will once again. There is a dispute between Hofeneder and the old Count Hartenau, in which Hofeneder tries to prevent Xandl's engagement. When Xandl finds out about this, however, he leaves the party with the consent of his intended fiancé and goes to Hofeneder's apartment, where he finds Sylvia alone. Hofeneder has meanwhile gone to the desperate Roublé, who doesn't know where his daughter is. Both go to Hofeneder's apartment, where the story is cleared up and Xandl asks for Sylvia's hand. The scandal is thus averted; From now on, Roublé and Hofeneder run a dance school together, and Sylvia and Xandl's engagement is announced at a glittering ball.

Background

The film is one of the highlights of Hans Moser's work. In it he sings – together with Paul Hörbiger – one of the most beautiful songs he has performed: “I carry a piece of old Vienna in my heart”, composed by Anton Profes , texted by Josef Petrak .

Awards

- The film inspection authority awarded *We ask you to dance* with the rating “popularly valuable”

Reviews

- *"Competition between two dancing masters in a dance-loving Vienna dripping with sentimentality and "spirit". Cheap amusement."* – *6000 movies. Critical Notes from the Cinema Years 1945 to 1958* . Handbook V of Catholic Film Criticism, 3rd edition, Verlag Haus Altenberg, Düsseldorf 1963, p. 490
- *"(...) sentimental waltz film."* (*Rating: 2 stars = average*) - Adolf Heinzlmeier and Berndt Schulz in *the lexicon "Films on TV"* (extended new edition). Rasch and Röhring, Hamburg 1990, ISBN 3-89136-392-3 , p. 934
- *"The flight of film producers into the past cannot be overlooked. Once again Vienna is shown around the turn of the century."* – Karlheinz Wendtland in *Geliebter Kintopp , Born 1941 and 1942* , Berlin, second edition 1989-1996, ISBN 3-926945-04-4

See also

- List of German feature films premiered in the German Reich during the Nazi era

Web Links

- *We ask you to dance* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0034396/>) in the Internet Movie Database (English)

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