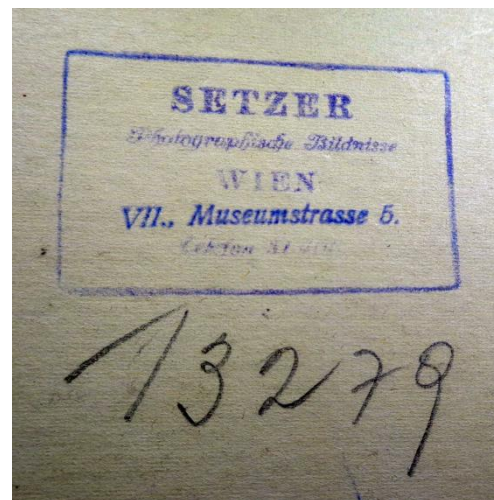
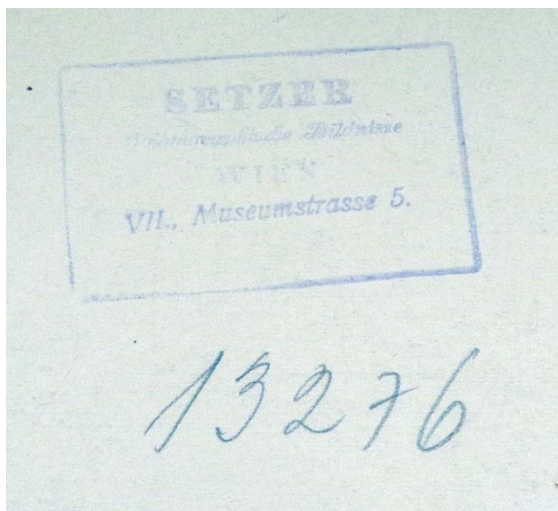


A Jewish Viennese Photo Story

Preparing my first documentary film on the history of my family in Galicia and Vienna – which will provide the occasion to comment on both the history of the oil exploitation in Galicia and on the Jewish identity –, I received on Monday 19 January 2015 a dozen of old photos from my uncle in Paris: many portraits of my family, from the time they lived in Vienna (1916-1938).



I already knew all the photos, apart from the two which are above on the right. On the back of the photo of my granduncle, the one with the tennis racket, I noticed first a stamp a bit faded and a number. On the one of my grandaunt, smiling, the same stamp, easier to read, with another number.



Sure, you would have had the same thought: “**What about 13277 and 13278?**”

I [googled](#) Setzer “Museumstrasse 5” and arrived to the Facebook page of the Photoatelier Setzer – Tschiedel. I also read on the photographer, [Franz Xaver Setzer](#) (1886-1939). He is the one who shot the portraits of the whole Viennese bourgeoisie and all of the important actors of this interwar period: Enrico Caruso, the Ephrussi family, Giacomo Puccini, Maurice Ravel, Max Reinhardt, Felix Salten, Arthur Schnitzler and his family, Richard Strauss, and of course Stefan Zweig (see [these portraits](#)). By the way, most of the existing portraits of Zweig were made by Setzer (they have 28 of them). The most amazing fact is that almost all of the glass plates still exist, perfectly conserved in an atelier at the same address, just 10 meters further from the original atelier! The atelier is furthermore very Parisian, with a big window offering an outstanding view over the roofs.

When I found the Facebook page I sent a quick note saying I was the descendant of two of the people portrayed by Setzer. Of course I asked if there would be any possibility to know if they have the missing photos, 13277 and 13278. Within a few hours I received a very nice message from Gerald Piffel (in charge of the exploitation and conservation of this collection) saying “Yes, we do have archives, please give us your email address”. Immediately after I gave it, I found in my mailbox this Excel file

Platte	Beschreibung	Jahr
13274	Frl. Segall im Reitdress, aufgestützt, e.f. lachend	1925
13275	Frl. Segall im Reitdress, stehend, lachend	1925
13276	Frl. Segall im Reitdress, sitzend, e.f. mit Hund	1925
13277	Frl. Segall im Reitdress, ganze Figur, sitzend, Profil mit Hund	1925
13278	älterer Junge Segall, e.f. mit Rackett	1925
13279	älterer Junge Segall, Profil mit Rackett	1925
13280	jüngerer Junge, im Sweater gewendet, mit Rackett	1925
13281	jüngerer Junge, im Sporthemd, sitzend, mit Rackett	1925

They have 8 photos of my family, two of my grandfather that I have never seen. And the year, 1925, all this took place for 90 years! A meeting was arranged for Friday 23 January at 11am at the original address, Museumstrasse 5, “just behind the Volkstheater” as they wrote in their ads for about a century (the “Setzer Fotoatelier” started in 1909, see [this history](#)). You can follow me as I visited this place, with a few photos I took.

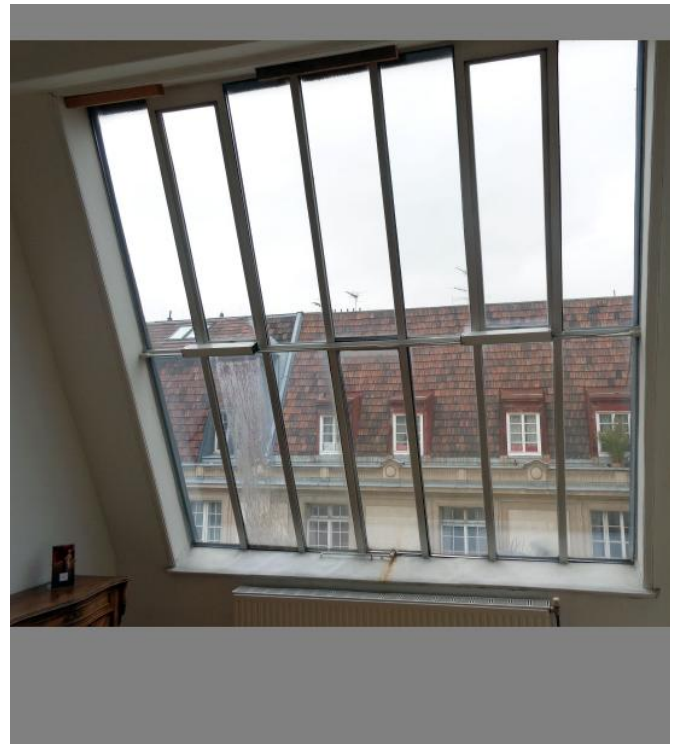


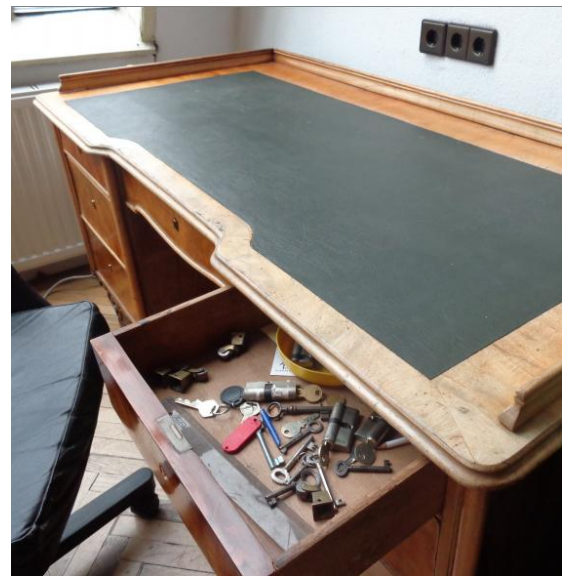


There I am, at the 5th floor

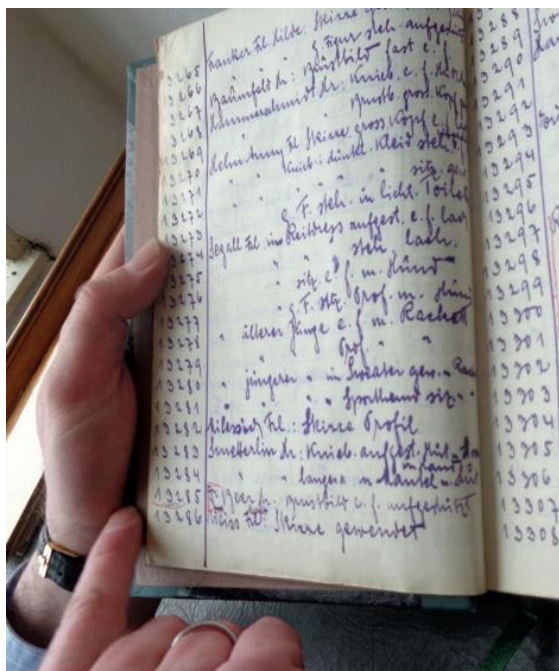


The camera that portrayed my family and the view on the roofs.





Found!



Meet my grandfather!



The other camera used in the atelier... and the original stamp I saw on my photos when I received them.



A big **THANK YOU** to Gerald Piffl and his company [IMAGNO!](#)
I could already order a scan and I plan to use the photos in my film.