CONTE KUENBURG
Castel Sallegg

Line: Serenis

Marei

Alto Adige Chardonnay DOC

Maria Raineria Princess of Campofranco (1872 – 1936)

Developer, seed, creator, wayfinder

Shaping life

Maria Raineria is a child of love when she comes into the world in Lucerne four years after the morganatic marriage of her parents Archduke Heinrich and Leopoldine Hofmann in 1872.

At the early age of 19, she loses her father and mother in a single night in 1891. In 1892 she is elevated to the rank of Countess by the Emperor and shortly afterwards married to Enrico Count Lucchesi Palli, Prince of Campofranco. She fills her role in life and accompanies her husband in his public engagements.

The family lives in Bolzano in the palace in Mustergasse, where their daughter Maria Renata is born in 1895. Maria Raineria is particularly taken with the “Caldaran” estates and Sallegg Castle. She buys adjacent land and buildings and is the first in Caldaro to have the Preyhof, Leisenhof and Seehof vineyards entered in the land register. The princess also invests her energies in a major refurbishment and extensions to the castle starting in 1898.

Anton Weber, a prominent Vienna architect, is entrusted with the work on the extensions. Maria Raineria keeps herself well informed: She discusses plans, selects specific materials and insists on the best craftsmanship. She is often to be seen on the building site during the phase of construction. That lasts a total of four years, interrupted only in the fall to bring in the harvest and press the grapes.

“By the autumn of 1902, the construction work was finished and the building immediately occupied, with the furnishings finalized according to the Princess’ specifications and the decorations executed on her personal initiative in the most tasteful and accommodating style,” says Architect Anton Weber in his documentation of the works. It is thus Maria Raineria who gives Sallegg Castle its present-day appearance.

Maria Raineria Princess of Campofranco is the great-grandmother of the current owner Georg Count Kuenburg.

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WINE CULTURE SINCE 1851