

Diplomatic Life: Independence Day Celebrations



Written by Jutta Höflich

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At the famous confectionery of Niederegger, Dr. Pannwitz (l.) (German Ibero America Society in Lübeck Chair), Swantje Rehse (Export Assistant of Niederegger) and Honorary Consul General, Dr. h.c. Andreas Maske (r.) were happy to hand over a sweet surprise to H. E. Raúl A. Florentín (centre) and his spouse: a tarte of almond paste with the emblem of 200 years of independence

While the *US-Consulate-General* celebrated the "laying of the foundation of democracy" on July 4, 1776 already on Friday (July 1, 2011) at the "Little White House" with more than 500 attendees, the Consul-General of *Venezuela*, Jaidys Briceno, celebrated 200 years of independence at the *Atlantik Haus* with music from Latin America, excellent fingerfood and a wonderful view of the harbour. Another country in South America which is celebrating 200 years of independence is *Paraguay*, and its Honorary Consul-General, Dr. h.c. Andreas Maske, doesn't tire of representing that country at its best.

In collaboration with the *German-Ibero-American Society in Lübeck*, he invited to a concert with Ismael Ledesma, an internationally well-known harp player from *Paraguay*.

Good reason for Raúl Florentin, Ambassador of *Paraguay to Berlin*, to visit the Hanseatic city, sign the Golden Book and do some sightseeing.

Before the concert at the *Colosseum* the diplomat and Dr Ulrich Pannwitz from the *German-Ibero-American Society in Lübeck* welcomed the guests of the reception at the town hall.

Among the guests were Jorge Schott, Consul-General of *Chile*, Howard S. Kroch, Honorary Consul of *Trinidad and Tobago*, and Jürgen Abel, president of the *American International Society in Hamburg*, who came all the way from Hamburg.

Afterwards the guests were driven to the *Colosseum* in order to listen to music from the national Paraguayan music instrument: the harp. Ismael Ledesma, who lives in *Normandy (France)*, played some pieces from the time of independence and some compositions of his own.



H.E. Raúl A. Florentin, Ambassador of Paraguay to Berlin, was very grateful to be able to introduce the guests to one of the most famous musicians of Paraguay, Ismael Ledesma.

Photos: Jutta Höflich

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