

PICTURE COVERS – REAL CAVES

SWITZERLAND

Beatushöhle

Interlaken, Berne

PC-RE-CH1 France 1965

LP: J.N. HUMMEL & N.C. BOCHSA – Concertos

Label: 1. Erato STU 70268 (stereo) (Gatefold cover)
2. Erato LDE 3368 (mono)
Erato STE 50268 (stereo)
3. Erato 1c 063-28 256

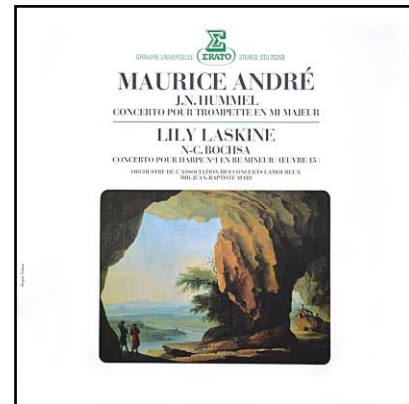
Perf: Maurice Andre & Lily Laskine (Classical)

Artist: Caspar Wolf (1735-1783)

Title: Grotte de l'ours (Das Bärenloch) –
(Erroneous title – Should be "Beatushöhle")
(Oil on canvas, 28 x 36)
Basel, Switzerland; Kunstmuseum

Photo: Giraudon

Notes: As for the erroneous title of this painting, the Bärenloch (Bear Cave) in the cliffs north of Welschenrohr (north of Solothurn) has several entrances where three skylight pit entrances pierce the ceiling. Looking out of the main entrance one cannot see any streams or lakes and no high mountains in the distance. The recent photo of Bärenloch is by [Digidinu](#).



Casper Wolf, the great pioneer Swiss painter of mountains and caves, did many paintings of Beatushöhle and in several he took some liberty with reality and added a few fantasy touches. The cave has two entrances but the rock pillar between them is much wider. The entrance does look out onto the Thuner See (Lake) and the distant Alps, as we see here. The Simmenbach (Stream) empties into the lake further east. On the left we see two men with walking sticks, one is looking through a spyglass. Over under the second entrance on the right, the painter has included himself sitting on a boulder sketching while a goat butts him

from behind and another man looks on. A small cave stream flows out of this entrance as it has always done at Beatushöhle.

This Erato LP album comes with two slightly different covers: one has the painting and lettering on a white field and the other has them on a blue sapphire field.

Ref: Bärenloch, Welschenrohr, (in German), lochstein.de

Beatushöhlen, Official site, (in English, German, & French), beatushoehlen

Caspar Wolf, Biography, (in German) Wikipedia & (in English) Wikipedia

Lindenmayr, Franz n.d., Die Beatushöhle, History & Photos, lochstein.de

Maurice Andre & Lily Laskine, J. N. Hummel & N. C. Bochsa LP, Discogs & hive.no

Poiatti, Myriam (Ed.) 2003, *Caspar Wolf: Un peintre à la découverte des Alpes*, Musée d'art et d'histoire, Geneva

PC-RE-CH2 France 1967

LP: Ludwig van BEETHOVEN – Concerto en Ré pour violon

Label: RCA Victor 644.502

Perf: Jascha Heifetz & Orchestre Symphonique de Boston
(Classical)

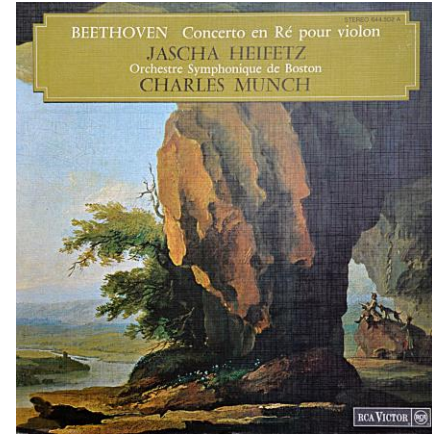
Artist: Caspar **Wolf** (1735-1783)

Title: Beatushöhle

(Oil on canvas, 28 x 36)

Basel, Switzerland; Kunstmuseum

Notes: A detail of Wolf's painting showing only the right half where the painter has included himself sitting on a boulder sketching while a goat butts him from behind and another man looks on. A small cave stream flows out of this entrance as it has always done at Beatushöhle.



PC-RE-CH3 France 1970

LP: J. BRAHMS – Concerto N° 2

Label: La voix de son maître (EMI) 2C 053-01973

Perf: Hans Richter-Haaser & Orchestre Philharmonique
de Berlin (Classical)

Artist: Caspar **Wolf** (1735-1783)

Title: Beatushöhle

(Oil on canvas, 28 x 36)

Basel, Switzerland; Kunstmuseum

Notes: Only a detail of the left portion of this Wolf painting, which has been printed backwards.



PC-RE-CH4 France 1976

LP: LISZT, REGER, FRANCK, & SAINT-SAËNS –
Romantic Organ Works

Label: CBS Masterworks 76514

Perf: Nicholas Danby (Classical)

Artist: Caspar **Wolf** (1735-1783)

Title: Grotte de l'ours (Das Bärenloch) –
(Erroneous title – Should be Beatushöhle)

(Oil on canvas, 28 x 36)

Basel, Switzerland; Kunstmuseum

Notes: Only a detail of the left portion of this Wolf painting, showing on the bottom left the two men with walking sticks, where one is looking through a spyglass. In the distance is the Thuner See (Lake) and the Alps,



PC-RE-CH5 Switzerland ca. Early 1970s

LP: ORATORIO SPELAEOLOGICO

Label: Jecklin ML-K-148

Perf: Chor des Berner Gymnasiums Neufeld; Kammerensemble von Radiostudio Bern; Kurt Weibel (Classical)

Photo: (B&W)

Notes: Printed upside down, a cluster of draperies in this cave called, Tropfsteinwand (Dripstone Wall).

Ref: Klaus Cornell, Oratorio Spelaeologico LP, [Discogs](#)
Klaus Cornell, Oratorio Spelaeologico LP, [worldcat](#)



PC-RE-CH6 Belgium 1980

LP: DVORAK – Symphonie du Nouveau Monde

Label: Forlane UM 3510

Perf: Jan Valach & Philharmonia Hungarica (Classical)

Artist: Caspar **Wolf** (1735-1783)

Title: Das Bärenloch –

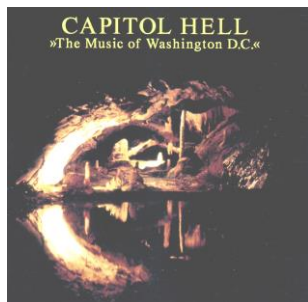
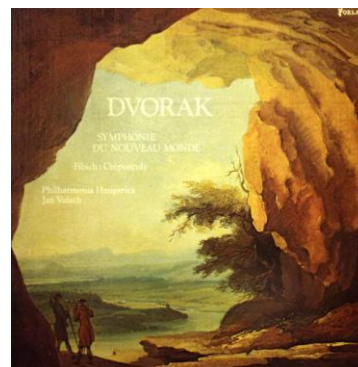
(Erroneous title – Should be Beatushöhle)

(Oil on canvas, 28 x 36)

Basel, Switzerland; Kunstmuseum

Notes: Only a detail of the left portion of this Wolf painting. The same detail as the 1976 CBS Masterworks LP (see [PC-RE-CH4](#)).

Ref: Philharmonia Hungarica, Dvorak – Symphonie du Nouveau Monde LP, [Discogs](#)



PC-RE-CH7 Germany 1991

Compilation **CD:** CAPITOL HELL (The Music of Washington, D.C.)

Perf: (12 Various Rock Groups) (Rock)

Label: Dossier DCD 9032

Photo: Klaus **Tröster**

Notes: A postcard photo of the "Spiegelsee" (Mirror Lake) in this Swiss show cave. A strange case of a German production that uses a Swiss cave to illustrate a compilation of American rock music.

Ref: Capitol Hell CD, [Allmusic](#)
Capitol Hell CD, [Discogs](#)

PC-RE-CH8 Russia 2005

CD: F. SCHUBERT – Symphony 1 & 2

Label: Melodin MEL CD 10 01017

Perf: Alexander Dmitriev & The Leningrad Symphony Orchestra (Classical)

Artist: Caspar **Wolf** (1735-1783)

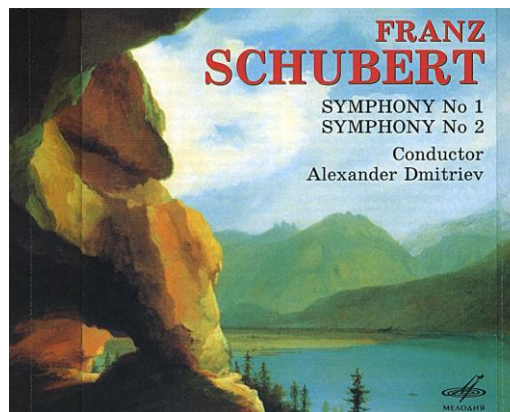
Title: Caverne de St. Beat, ca. 1776

(Oil on canvas, 54 x 82)

Aarau, Switzerland; Aargauer Kunsthau

Notes: Looking east from the ledge in front of the entrance. The small natural arch on the left greatly distorts reality. The cave does have two entrances more or less on the same level but the rock pillar between them is much wider. The entrance looks out onto the Thuner See (Lake) and the distant Alps.

This CD cover has reproduced the same painting on both the liner notes cover and the inner tray card and all has been designed so that when the cover is closed the liner notes portion of the painting overlaps the inner tray card revealing more of the painting on the left; the way all is shown here.



The title of the painting given by the liner notes – “View of the Lake of Thun and Mt. Niesen from the Grotto of St. Beat.”

Ref: The Leningrad Symphony Orch., Schubert – Symphony 1 & 2 CD, [Amazon.uk](https://www.amazon.com)

Leningrad Symphony Orch., Schubert – Symphony 1 & 2 CD, (in Russian), [skupimusic.ru](https://www.skupimusic.ru)

Poiatti, Myriam (Ed.) 2003, *Casper Wolf: Un peintre à la découverte des Alpes*, Musée d'art et d'histoire, Geneva, p. 32

Grotte de Réclère

Réclère, Jura

PC-RE-CH9 Switzerland 1973

45: VENUS

Label: ML 17-241

Perf: Venus (Rock)

Prod. Co: "La Voute" Mobile Studio

Photo: (Color) A. Geiser

Notes: The three members of this Swiss rock group, dressed in European hippy fashion, stand behind the set of drums as the performer on the left points off camera left. Nice column and stalagmite formations are just behind the group in the chamber called the Salle de Danse (Dance Hall) in this Swiss show cave.

See also under Recorded in Natural Caves – Switzerland.

Ref: Anon. 2011, Bernard er sa scie musicale, [sciemusicale.ch](https://www.sciemusicale.ch)

Erard, Victor; Fleury, Robert et al. 1986, *Les Grottes de Réclère*, Imprimerie du Pays, Porrentruy, p. 49-51

Gigandet, Denis 1994, Personal communication, June 1994, Grotte de Réclère

Grotte de Réclère, Info (in French), [swisshoehlen.ch](https://www.swisshoehlen.ch)



Untergrindelwaldgletscherhöhle

Grindelwald

PC-RE-CH10 Switzerland 1990

CD: MENDELSSOHN – SYMPHONIES FOR STRINGS

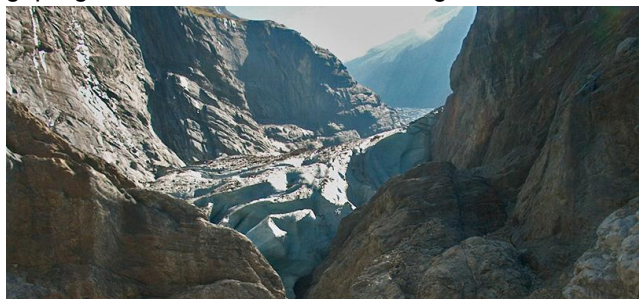
Cond: Johannes Goritzki (Classical)

Label: Claves CD 50-9002

Artist: Caspar **Wolf** – "Der untere Grindelwaldgletscher mit Lütshine and Mettenberg" (1780-82) (sic)

Notes: The celebrated early painter of cave landscapes, Caspar Wolf, has depicted here the snout of the Lower Grindelwald Glacier showing the ice cave entrance (visible also on old engravings) with the Lütshine Stream coming out and the Mättenberg (present spelling) in the distance. The Wikipedia site dates this painting at 1774.

"Gemalt wurde der Gletscher u.a. vom Schweizer Künstler Caspar Wolf 1774 und 1777. Diese Bilder zeigen eine Vorstossphase, die oftmals von einem Zerreißen der Zungenenden in Eistürme (Séracs) geprägt ist. Der Gletscher ist im Begriff, wieder annähernd so gross zu werden wie gegen 1600. Aus der



Perspektive dieser Bilder ist der Gletscher seit etwa 1900 nicht mehr zu sehen." (Anon. 2014)

[The glacier was painted among other things by Swiss artist Caspar Wolf in 1774 and 1777. This painting shows a thrust phase, which is often created by the tearing up of the snout end into ice towers (séracs). The glacier is in the process of becoming again approximately as large as in 1600. From the perspective of this painting the glacier has not be seen anymore since around 1900.]



At the end of the 18th Century the snout of the Lower Grindelwald Glacier extended well out from the mouth of the Lutschine gorge and there was a distinctly visible cave entrance. Since then the glacier has considerably retreated and today its snout is practically at the upper end of the gorge, 1.5 km (about a mile) to the south.

Ref: Anon. 2014, Unterer Grindelwaldgletscher, History & Data, (in German) [Wikipedia](#)

Deutsche Kammerakademie Neuss, Johannes Goritzki, Mendelssohn – Symphonies for Strings CD, [Allmusic](#)

Deutsche Kammerakademie Neuss, Mendelssohn – Symphonies for Strings CD, [emusic](#)

Poiatti, Myriam (Ed.) 2003, *Casper Wolf: Un peintre à la découverte des Alpes*, Musée d'art et d'histoire, Geneva

caveinspiredmusic.com