

8 November 1923: So-called patriotic associations have gathered in the overcrowded 'Bürgerbräukeller' beer hall (now 'Gasteig'). The most powerful man in Bavaria, the State Commissioner General Dr. von Kahr, is speaking. Suddenly there is a commotion. Adolf Hitler elbows his way through the crowd, a loaded pistol in his hand. Behind him is his 'Stoßtrupp' – his 'shock troop' with guns. To make himself heard, Hitler climbs onto a chair and fires a shot at the ceiling. He shouts: "The national revolution has broken out. The Bavarian government has been deposed. The government of the German 'Reich' has been deposed". Half of Bavaria's ministers are arrested. The coup, however, is unsuccessful.

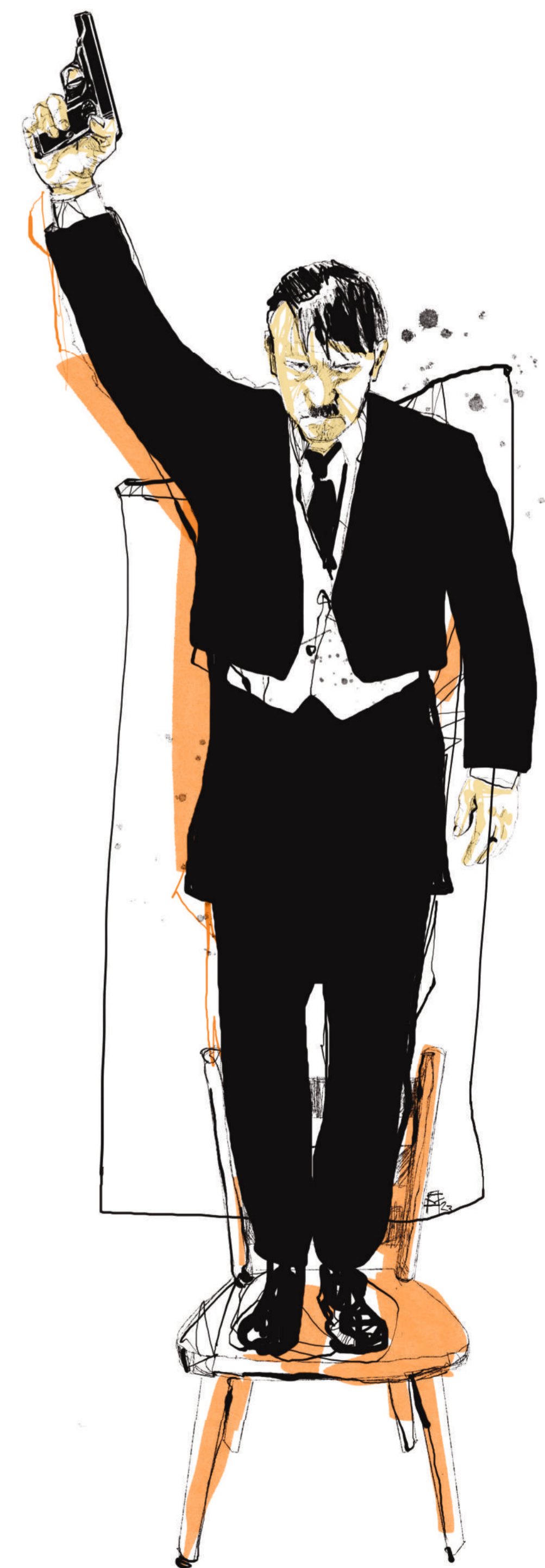
Ten years lie between the events of 100 years ago and Hitler's seizure of power on 30 January 1933. The putsch fails but Hitler is only sentenced to a short prison term by a 'völkisch' – nationalistic – justice system sympathetic to his aims. Under comfortable prison conditions Hitler is to go on to write 'Mein Kampf' and prepare what is to end in dictatorship, war and concentration camps.

On the night of 8 to 9 November 1923, the Bavarian State Government moves its headquarters to Regensburg; neither the police nor the 'Reichswehr' side with Hitler. In the morning, Hitler and his most important comrade-in-arms, General Erich Ludendorff, decide to march into the centre of Munich with several thousand armed men. The putschists overrun the 'Reichswehr' armed forces at Ludwigsbrücke and march through the Isartor to Marienplatz. **»Everyone was shouting Heil«.**

The installation in front of the Isartor symbolically represents the beginning of Hitler's Beer Hall Putsch. Hitler's climbing onto a chair in the 'Bürgerbräukeller' on the evening of 8 November 1923 marked the beginning of the abolition of democracy through the use of violence, propaganda and intimidation. The chair is an artistic plea to society to demonstrate its resolute opposition to present-day right-wing extremist, antisemitic and inhumane leanings.

# »Everyone was shouting Heil«

**100 Years Munich,  
Beer Hall 8 & 9 November  
Putsch 1923**



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