

## PRESS INFORMATION

### **1st Berlin CSD Gala: CSD e.V. and Friedrichstadt-Palast join forces to promote tolerance and to fight social exclusion**

Berlin, March 15, 2011

Berlin is a tolerant city, so it was finally time for Germany's capital to join cities like Cologne and Stuttgart and also get its own gala for Christopher Street Day (CSD). On June 17, 2011, starting at 7:30 p.m., the biggest theater stage in the world will shine in all the colors of the rainbow, and the organizers behind it – CSD e.V. and Friedrichstadt-Palast – are inviting you to attend a special presentation of the current show 'Yma – too beautiful to be true' – and to experience it in its glamorous gala version. The gala marks the start of Berlin's annual Pride Week, which culminates one week later in Christopher Street Day.

CSD Managing Director Robert Kastl is looking forward to the first gala in the history of Berlin's CSD celebrations: "The gala gives us the opportunity to work with a strong partner like Friedrichstadt-Palast and to set another milestone – apart from the fact that a fantastic evening is awaiting all guests."

"The character of Yma itself is already an appeal for tolerance," explains Dr. Berndt Schmidt, the managing director of Friedrichstadt-Palast, commenting on the theater's commitment to the cause. "With the CSD version of this show, we would like to make our contribution to the fight against social exclusion. Our cultural landscape can only survive if there is diversity in the persons that shape culture and in those who attend cultural events. There's no place for intolerance in that."

This exclusive version of 'Yma' will incorporate gala appearances by prominent guests. Schmidt comments: "About 80 percent of the performance will be Yma, the remaining 20 percent will feature prominent guests whose contributions will also reflect the many facets of our colorful life together: At times, serious or funny. At times, parodied or political."

After the gala, CSD e.V. and Friedrichstadt-Palast would like to invite guests to attend a party in the foyer. Tickets can already be purchased for €26.90 at <http://www.show-palace.eu/de/tickets>.

Note to media representatives: The poster is available as a print-quality download at: <http://www.show-palace.eu/de/presse/bildmaterial-logos/csd-gala>.