

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Friedrichstadt-Palast premiere: Europe's largest children's ensemble storms the world's biggest theater stage in a new production of "The Snow Queen – Reloaded"**

**A total of 54,000 of 80,000 tickets have already been sold or reserved. Guests at the premiere will include Tom Schilling, Heike Kloss, Jonas Hämmerle and Alina Freund.**

Berlin, October 25, 2011

Prepare for screams of delight at Friedrichstadt-Palast starting October 30! This coming Sunday, the largest children and youth ensemble in Europe celebrates the premiere of "The Snow Queen – Reloaded," the 2011 version. Over 200 kids between the ages of six and 16 will take to the world's largest theater stage at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. To conform with child labor laws, two different but equally talented groups of children will perform.

Until January 27, 2012, five times each week, the character Leyla is confronted with all kinds of strange happenings and manages to escape several harrowing situations, all while searching for her friend Kay. She navigates the Whirlwurm River and through the "fart worms" to find balance and inner strength in Origamia, the land of the "paperlings." Her adventure continues together with Mito, the paper crane. Though she is showered with gifts and sweets by Princess Super and Prince Duper, she never loses her focus on freeing her dear friend Kay from the icy clutches of the Snow Queen. This version of the Hans Christian Anderson fairytale has updated the story, costumes, and set design in order to reflect current attitudes and to appeal to the audio and visual expectations of today's young audience.

The appeal is working, as can be seen in the numbers: six days before the premiere, over 54,000 of the 80,000 tickets have already been reserved or sold, which means this year's performances are also soon to be sold out. Dr. Berndt Schmidt, the managing director of Friedrichstadt-Palast, understands the significance of children's programming: "For many schools and families, the shows presented by our youth ensembles are an essential part of their wintertime culture. For some of our performances, there are only a few scattered seats remaining. It's a good idea to buy tickets early if you don't want to be disappointed." Friedrichstadt-Palast recommends that ticketholders be at least five years old.

Note to media representatives: For the first premiere day performance at 11:30 a.m. (doors open at 10:30 a.m.), several special guests have confirmed their appearance, including the actors Tom Schilling, Jonas Hämmerle, Alina Freund, and Ulrike Frank, as well as performers from the well-loved youth productions "Einstein Castle," "Lilli the Witch," and "The Wild Chicks."

We would be happy to provide you with accreditation for the foyer of Friedrichstadt-Palast (does not include ticket to theater), in order to take photos or videotape before or after the morning performance. Please send inquiries to [presse@show-palace.eu](mailto:presse@show-palace.eu). Your accreditation can be picked up by presenting a copy of the confirmation e-mail on the day of the event starting at 10:30 a.m. at the main entrance.

Photos from "The Snow Queen" can be found in the press section at [www.show-palace.eu/de/presse](http://www.show-palace.eu/de/presse). You are free to use the photos royalty free, as long as the photographer is properly credited.

Please note the new official spelling for **Friedrichstadt-Palast** (formerly Friedrichstadtpalast). The name has been legally changed and is officially filed in the commercial registry. The change was made to improve readability.