

The dream of a white Christmas comes true: "berlin ILLUMINATED" celebrates a breathtaking world premiere and sets off thunderous applause in the snow-covered theater

Already practically sold out by the time of the premiere, the show wows celebrity guests: "superb," "great," "indescribable" and "very, very beautiful"

Berlin, November 24, 2011

Visitors experienced a white wonder today at the world premiere of "berlin ILLUMINATED" at Friedrichstadt-Palast. Not only was this evident in the announcement made by Dr. Berndt Schmidt, the theater's managing director and the Christmas show's producer, that over 94 percent of the 79,500 seats for all 42 performances have already been sold, something he called "an overwhelming display of trust on behalf of our guests." Indeed, the dream of a white Christmas also came true today: at the end of the show, snow gently fell from the theater's ceiling, and the audience expressed its delight with thunderous applause.

Numerous celebrities from the worlds of film and television accompanied the child (in all of us) on its journey in search of a white Christmas. Cosima von Borsody especially praised the stunning costumes, including the Snow Fairy's dress, whose corsage is adorned with over 2,000 Swarovski crystals. "They're sensational! This show is a truly fabulous family event." Natascha Ochsenknecht added, "This show is an absolute dream. Friedrichstadt-Palast brings a Berlin attitude to the big American show, and it is all done very professionally." Anouschka Renzi joined in singing the praises, stating, "The show is great, simply very, very beautiful!" Anthony Ross Catterall concurred: "A family show which leaves everybody laughing. You just forget all your worries here." Katy Karrenbauer offered special praise for the Ballet Ensemble: "The dancers are all sensational. It's the kind of thing you only see at Friedrichstadt-Palast." Nikola Kastner was also a big fan of the most elaborate Christmas production ever to grace the stage at Friedrichstadt-Palast: "It is very impressive, utterly indescribable, and performed with a lot of love for detail." Peer Kusmagk summed it up: "Simply put, it's exactly what I expect from a family-oriented Christmas show, and at the same time you get the feeling you're at a rock concert or a Lady Gaga show. My absolute favorite part is the fir tree made of beautiful women."

Through December 26, 2011, the more than 100 artists – soloists, performers, ballet companies and musicians – will warm the hearts of 1,895 guests with their presentation of "berlin ILLUMINATED."

Royalty-free images for media representatives: Show photos and other images from today's premiere can be found in the press section at <http://www.show-palace.eu/de/presse/bildmaterial-logos/berlin-erleuchtet-die-herzerwaermende-weihnachtsshow>. You are free to use the photos royalty free, as long as the photographer is properly credited.

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Please note the new official spelling for **Friedrichstadt-Palast** (formerly Friedrichstadtpalast), which has been entered into the commercial registry. Thank you.