

PRESS INFORMATION

Friedrichstadt-Palast Berlin celebrates a magnificent comeback with the World Premiere of the ARISE Grand Show

Berlin, 22 September 2021



Pure elation: endless applause and praise for the new ARISE Grand Show | Photo: Eventpress

An audience of 1,267, which included countless high-profile guests from society and politics, celebrated the World Premiere of the ARISE Grand Show at the Palast today with lengthy ovations. The limited seating with only two thirds of the seats occupied did not dampen the mood – the audience was electrified from the moment the curtain went up. With a production budget of 11 million euros, the ARISE Grand Show is the most elaborate World Premiere in terms of personnel and technology since March 2020.

The photographer Cameron takes centre stage in ARISE. He travels the world accompanied by his beloved muse. When he loses her, his happiness is destroyed. Plunged into darkness, Cameron is staring glumly at the photos on his wall when they suddenly return to life. Light magically draws him into his most emotional and sentimental memories of their time together.

The creative team behind the show is as diverse as ARISE itself: director and author Oliver Hoppmann takes the audience on an emotional rollercoaster ride. Eurovision Song Contest set designer Frida Arvidsson has created a stunning stage set and the creative dream team of Kristian and Peggy Schuller have brought the photographic visions of the fictional protagonist Cameron and his muse to life. ARISE also sets phenomenal choreographic accents: the international team of choreographers includes luminaries of the likes of the 'godfather of modern dance' Ohad Naharin, 'The

PRESS CONTACT:

Josephine Dörfler
Team Lead PR

T +49 30 2326 2-201
M +49 172 2079 138
doerfler@palast.berlin

Natascha Lecki
Director of Marketing, Sales & PR

T +49 30 2326 2-230
M +49 152 5633 7101
lecki@palast.berlin

www.palast.berlin



Friedrichstadt-Palast Berlin

Friedrichstraße 107
10117 Berlin-Mitte
Germany

General Director:
Dr. Berndt Schmidt

Chairman of the Supervisory Board:
Dr. Klaus Lederer
Senator for Culture and Europe



The Friedrichstadt-Palast is owned by the City of Berlin.

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Greatest Showman' choreographer Ashley Wallen, Nikeata Thompson and Eric Gauthier. The gorgeous costumes are by Paris-based fashion designer, illustrator and art director Stefano Canulli. Tom Neuwirth aka Conchita Wurst and Jasmin Shakeri are the musical masterminds behind the show's poignant song lyrics. The song 'Bodymorphia', which is one of the two composed by Neuwirth exclusively for ARISE, was released as a single on 24 September, sung by Conchita Wurst. 'Bodymorphia' encourages self-love and challenges people to push the boundaries of their perception.

A number of changes had to be made to the lead roles for the premiere due to injury and illness (not COVID-19!): the premiere cast therefore included Dimitri Genco as Cameron (voiced and sung by first cast member Frank Winkels), Olivier St. Louis as Time, Kediesha McPherson as the Muse and Jaqueline Bergrós Reinhold as Light.

Dr. Berndt Schmidt, General Director and Producer for the ARISE Grand Show: "The word 'arise' means to stand up, not to give up and to trust that the saviour of light will prevail over all darkness. Putting together a new Grand Show in the midst of a pandemic has really tested our optimism – frequently in the truest sense of the word during the rehearsals that began back in February. The theatre gods even tested us during the premiere, when the first and second cast members playing the lead role of Cameron fell ill at the same time. 'Arise' also means not letting setbacks get you down, though. With the premiere that garnered almost euphoric praise, we have today shown that this is not just an empty ambition."

Among the guests to attend the World Premiere of the ARISE Grand Show were: Mariella Ahrens, Maximilian Arland, Wolfgang Bahro, Inka Bause, Senator Dr. Dirk Behrendt, Louise Befort, Philipp Boy, Bettina Cramer, Sebastian Czaja, Uli Edel, Isabel Edvardsson, Kim Fisher, Ulrike Frank, Margot Friedländer, Jean Paul Gaultier, Klaudia Giez, Franziska Giffey, Dieter Hallervorden, Fabian Hinrichs, Anna Hofbauer, Bettina Jarasch, Svenja Jung, Roman Kniska, Marion Kracht, Eva Imhoff, Mayor and Senator Dr. Klaus Lederer, Wolfgang Lippert, Sven Marquardt, Barbara Meier, Walter Momper, René Pollesch, Renata and Valentin Lusin, Eva Mona Rodekirchen, Tina Ruland, Kool Savas, Detlef Soost, Nico Stank, Simone Thomalla, Kai Wegner, Madeleine Wehle, Egon Werler, Klaus Wowereit and Anastasia Zampounidis.

Show details:

The show is scheduled to run for at least 12 months. Tickets cost from €19.80 and can be purchased online at www.palast.berlin or via the ticket hotline (+49-30-2326-2326). Recommended from 8 years. Please note that revue shows are not musicals. Coherence is primarily achieved through visual imagery, rather than narrative storytelling. Meaning the show is also suitable for guests with no knowledge of German.

For more information on the ARISE Grand Show, see: www.palast.berlin/en/arise

Show images to download: www.palast.berlin/en/arise-press

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