



PRESS RELEASE

30.03.2022

The Palace of the Republic is Present

Themed weekend *Meet the Palace*: 30/04-01/05/2022

***WENDECIRCUS. The Palace Edition!*: 12/05-15/05/2022**

The Palace of the Republic is Present Themed weekend and WENDECIRCUS

A programme from the Stiftung Humboldt Forum, the Stiftung Stadtmuseum and the Humboldt-Universität, entitled *Meet the Palace*, will kick off with a weekend of events on 30/04 and 01/05/2022. Visitors are invited to explore various aspects of the Palace of the Republic and its history, and contribute their own memories and experiences. The Humboldt Forum will explore the Palace of the Republic chronologically in several phases over the next few years: it will look at architecture and its use from 1973 to 1989, the peaceful revolution in 1989/90, the Schlossplatz debate and its interim use until its demolition in 2008, and finally the memorial site and current debates. From 12/05 to 15/05/2022 WENDECIRCUS. The Palace Edition! Is presenting its show in the Schlüter Courtyard in the Humboldt Forum.

On the site now occupied by the Humboldt Forum, there once stood the Palace of the Republic. Despite its demolition, it still lives on in our consciousness. In a programme entitled *The Palace of the Republic is Present*, the Stiftung Humboldt Forum will explore the significance of both the Palace and other politically symbolic, identity-defining places, and also investigate power and participation.

The *The Palace of the Republic is Present* Programme will explore the theme chronologically in four phases over the next few years: it will look at architecture and its use from 1973 to 1989, the peaceful revolution in 1989/90, the Schlossplatz debate and its interim use until its demolition in 2008, and finally the memorial site and current debates. Responsibility for the programme will be taken on by a cross-departmental team, in conjunction with the Humboldt Forum's other stakeholders. One of the core anchors in the programme will be the Memorial Work at the Humboldt Forum project, which will include conversations and interviews conducted with contemporary eyewitnesses. The programme will be based on scientific research and investigations, and symposia with contributions from a wide range of experts. In the coming months, the programme will gradually gain public momentum, with events and performances, installations and calls,

discussion cafés, a blog and publications to look forward to. The high point of the programme will be a special exhibition.

Themed weekend Meet the Palace: 30/04-01/05/2022

On the themed weekend *Meet the Palace* end of April a memory machine installed by Chez Company, with performers and a live radio show, will appear in the Schlüter Courtyard. In a live painting session, street artist Russlan will create a 5 x 2 metre picture with input from the public; visitors will be able to listen to audio memories in the 'Voices' sound installation in the Berlin exhibition space, and see the Glass Flower from the Palace of the Republic on the Kosmograp. In *Palace Rendezvous*, the theme will be the physical site. Which rooms were here, how were they furnished, and what memories do they evoke of visiting or working at the Palace of the Republic?

Two bowling alleys in the Schlüter Courtyard will awaken memories of the bowling alleys at the Palace of the Republic. Children's events in the Picture-Book Cinema will use storytelling to tell tales of a divided country. Drop-in events will offer visitors the opportunity to design their own palaces and views from windows. Film programmes will be screening rare footage from film and TV archives of the construction of the Palace of the Republic, and on the debate over the planning and design of Berlin Mitte in the 1990s. Guided tours from curators will present objects from the Palace of the Republic's history, and offer insight into the working process and background to the presentation. Guided tours in the Berlin Global exhibition area will present legendary ceiling lamps, DJ Jimmy X's backstage pass for the January 1989 *Jugend im Palast* event and a protest sash from the Peaceful Revolution of November 1989.

Beginning at the themed weekend, the media guide will focus on the traces of the Palace of the Republic in the Humboldt Forum. In a further highlight of the weekend, poetry slammers and panel guests will gather for a 90-minute event focusing on how to address sites such as this. On Saturday evening, visitors can dance to music from DJ Pasi in the Schlüter Courtyard.

More information: humboldtforum.org

WENDECIRCUS. *The Palace Edition!*: 12/05-15/05/2022

From 12/05 to 15/05/2022, WENDECIRCUS. *The Palace Edition!* sets the scene for a revue presenting a vision of this site of revolution such as has never been seen before. Five full-length evening shows under a twelve-metre-high tent in the Schlüter Courtyard will present an artistic reflection on the negotiation processes of Germany's 'Wende'(change) – the transition period during 1989/90 – opening a window onto crumbling Utopias.

Circus and theatre, popular and high culture, the physical and the spiritual have long belonged together. Theatre groups glanz&krawall and KGI have succeeded in finding an example of the centuries-old tradition of the family travelling circus: Circus Magic from Zossen. During their rehearsal time together, they developed circus performances on the theme of German reunification. From the interplay of circus, theatre, theory and transformation, there emerged an extraordinary examination of this chapter in Germany's history.

Now they are coming to the centre of this city, to pitch their twelve-metre-high tent on the former site of the Palace of the Republic. Five full-length evening shows in the Schlüter Courtyard will present an artistic reflection on the negotiation processes of Germany's 'Wende'(change) – the transition period during 1989/90 – opening a window onto crumbling Utopias. Based on eyewitness accounts, WENDECIRCUS. *The Palace Edition!* sets the scene for a revue presenting a vision of this site of revolution such as has never been seen before.

Concept and artistic direction: Circus Magic, glanz&krawall and KGI with the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss.

WENDECIRCUS. The Palace Edition!

12.05., 13.05. 7 pm. 14.05., 2 and 7 pm; 15.05., 4 pm

Tickets

Presale: 16/8€;

at humboldtforum.org from 04/04/2022

Press images: humboldtforum.org/presse

One building, four partners: our diversity is founded on the collaboration of our partner institutions. The Humboldt Forum is a collaboration between the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss; the Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz for collections from the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin; the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin for the Humboldt Lab; and the Stadtmuseum Berlin for the *BERLIN GLOBAL* exhibition.

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