



PRESS RELEASE

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Outdoor furniture, banners, domed figures: visible changes at the Humboldt Forum

More seating, more colour, more visibility: the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss is further developing the open space design in the courtyards and outdoor areas. From mid-March, recyclable outdoor furniture of the Viena model, already familiar from the Museumsquartier Wien, will invite visitors to relax, read or meet up with friends. In terms of colour, they pick up on the design of the umbrella brand and appear in the context of new banners on the north and south façades. In future, they will make the Humboldt Forum even more visible as a cultural institution. As part of the final reconstruction work, eight prophet sculptures will also be installed on the dome balustrade from mid-March.

Since the Humboldt Forum opened, the Schlüterhof and the Spreeterrassen have become a new meeting place for Berliners and tourists. With the new Viena seating furniture from MQ Hofmöbel, the Humboldt Forum aims to provide even more quality of stay and further develop the Forum as a place for encounters and culture. The award-winning seating, loungers, chill-out and climbing objects from the Museumsquartier Wien will also be installed in the Schlüterhof and in the outdoor areas surrounding the Humboldt Forum in the future. As design objects and colour accents in front of the baroque façade, they invite people to linger and serve as meeting points. The Vienas are made of recycled polyethylene and can be 100 per cent recycled at the end of their service life. The first 30 red Vienas will be installed in mid-March, with 30 more pieces of furniture in pink to follow in the spring.

Banners on the south and north façades also attract additional attention to the Forum. Designed in the corporate colours of red, pink, blue and white, they form a visual link to the outdoor furniture together with the flags already erected on the castle bridge in 2023.

Assembly of the domed figures

Changes are also planned for the west side: As part of the final reconstruction work, eight statues of prophets will be mounted on the dome balustrade in mid-March. The figures, each 3.30 metres high and weighing three tonnes, are part of the extensive historical ensemble of freestanding figures. They are the eight prophets Isaiah, Hosea, Zephaniah, Zechariah, Jonah, Daniel, Jeremiah and Ezekiel. They will be delivered in the next few days and then finalized on-site by the middle of March. They will then be placed in their historical locations around the castle dome by a specialised Bamberg company.

The installation of the dome figures marks one of the final steps in the partial reconstruction of the historic building, which was approved by the Bundestag in 2002. The reconstruction work will be completed in 2025 with the balustrade figures on the north and south sides of the Humboldt Forum.

One building, four partners: This 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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