

## FALLING | IN LOVE Grand Show

All facts at a glance



The new **FALLING | IN LOVE** Grand Show opens at Berlin's Friedrichstadt-Palast on 21 September 2023. With a production budget of 14 million euros, it's the most expensive Grand Show to date. **FALLING | IN LOVE** is intoxicating beauty. An explosion of colour – curated by Parisian star designer Jean Paul GAULTIER. Berlin's new show jewel with the indescribable magic of 100 million Swarovski crystals. A new world record. The crowning glory of this crystal rush on the world's biggest theatre stage is the largest Swarovski crystal – in the world!

The word **FALLING** in the show title picks up on a feeling currently felt by many: the ground that we once thought to be so very firm beneath our feet seems to quake at times. At the Palast, we believe in the beauty of this world and in the good in people – despite everything. Hence our guests don't fall into a bottomless pit, but rather into a sea of colours – and love. The separating line in the show title reminds of this dual feeling: falling in the literal sense and the hope for a good outcome (falling in love).

### The story

You is young, passionate and full of yearning. In Diamond City, he fails to fulfill any of the predefined notions and finds no love in the expressionless faces around him. Void of hope, You wishes only to sink into the ground. And indeed the asphalt does break under his feet – and You falls into another reality.

Down in the slumbering Garden of Love, he sees what he has never seen before: that the eternal human dream of a better world lives on. But, walled in by traditional norms, it has lost all its splendid colours.

Will a young, deaf poet ultimately find the words to make beauty and love blossom anew in all their splendour?

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Friedrichstadt-Palast Berlin

Friedrichstraße 107  
10117 Berlin-Mitte  
Germany

General Director:  
Dr. Berndt Schmidt

Chair of the Supervisory Board:  
Sarah Wedl-Wilson,  
Permanent Secretary for Culture



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The new Grand Show is based on an idea by Berndt Schmidt and Oliver Hoppmann. Inspired by the poem 'The Garden of Love' by the English poet William Blake (1757–1827). Oliver Hoppmann, one of the most successful showmakers in Europe, is the show's author and director.

**Producer & Director**

Dr Berndt Schmidt is General Director and Producer of the spectacular new Grand Show. With FALLING | IN LOVE, Director and Author Oliver Hoppmann creates a finely tuned symbiosis of seductive joy for life and touching poetry.

**Visual Design Director**

Jean Paul GAULTIER adds his signature visionary style and touch to the show. For the Parisian star designer, returning to the Palast after THE ONE Grand Show in 2016 is like returning home, for he's a passionate revue fan.

**Costume Design**

As curator, Jean Paul GAULTIER also collaborates with up-and-coming fashion designers whose work he loves. These include the artists Hannah Rose and Steven Raj, who question gender boundaries and beauty ideals with their fashion under the name Fecal Matter. With over one million followers, they use social networks as a platform for their unique vision of beauty and reality. GAULTIER has also recruited the performance artist Sasha Frolova. With her striking aesthetic, the multidisciplinary artist not only designs spectacular inflatable latex costumes for the Grand Show, but also scenographic elements for the world's biggest theatre stage. The extraordinary cooperation with Swarovski allows the Palast's designers and creative team to draw on a wealth of resources. Hence 280 of GAULTIER's 550 costumes have been embellished with precision-cut crystals in a variety of sizes, colours and shapes.

**Stage design**

With a production budget of almost 14 million euros, this will not only be the most sparkling but also the most expensive Grand Show to date. As the stage architect and scenographer, Arthur Mamou-Mani and Yoko Seyama have worked together to create the stunning stage set for the new FALLING | IN LOVE Grand Show. 650 kilograms of crystals have also been incorporated into the stage set to create unprecedented magical effects. These include a crystal tree and sparkling branches in a Crystal Garden, a crystal pond and huge glittering flower elements. With a 9.5 m high waterfall and 25 m high rain wall, spectacular water elements also return to the Grand Show.

**Ballet Ensemble**

The international ballet ensemble under the direction of Alexandra Georgieva captivates with impressive choreographies by luminaries of the likes of Georges Momboye, Mark Smith, Sadeck Waff and 'The Greatest Showman' choreographer Ashley Wallen. The ballet company at the Palast comprising 60 members from 28 different nations is absolutely first-rate and unique the world over.

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**Soloists**

You	Callum Webdale Hearns Sebuado
Me	Laura Panzeri
Leon	Olivier St. Louis
Red   Understudy Leon	Marc Chardon
Green   Understudy Me	Floor Krijnen
Blue   Understudy Me	Jara Buczynski
Backing Vocal   Understudy Green   Understudy Blue	Sophie Alter
Backing Vocal   Understudy Red	Manuel Lopez

**Acrobatics**

Creator Sanddorn Balance Act	Mädir Rigolo
Choreographer Sanddorn Balance Act	Lara Rigolo
Sanddorn Balance Act	Andreis Jacobs Rigolo
Bungee Trapeze Act	Abdelkadir Airour Noemie Beauchamp Maritza Melo Marie-Élaine Mongeau Nicola Willis
Trampoline and High Bar Act	Anthony Brew Magnus Dahl Hansen Michael Hills Luis Moya-Sanchez Joel Ramseier Luke Schupp Aliaksandr Tsikhonovich Dillon Vance Lauren Yee

**Show details:**

Previews from 21 September, World Premiere on 11 October 2023

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](http://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.

More information on the FALLING | IN LOVE Grand Show:  
[www.palast.berlin/inlove](http://www.palast.berlin/inlove)

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