

PRESS INFORMATION

World Premiere: With its new Young Show 'Frida & Frida', the Young Ensemble at the Friedrichstadt-Palast Berlin brings Mexican flair to the world's biggest theatre stage

Berlin, 14 March 2024



Key visual for the Young Show 'Frida & Frida': Friedrichstadt-Palast Berlin

From November 2024, a new Young Show 'Frida & Frida' will run at the Friedrichstadt-Palast Berlin. It's a stirring tale of trusting in oneself, the power of imagination and optimism that even difficult situations can be overcome. After a long break due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Palast's Young Ensemble brought two eagerly anticipated revivals to the world's biggest theatre stage. They're now working intensively on a brand-new World Premiere for and by kids.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, 'Frida & Frida' is the first Young Show to premiere at the Palast since 2019. The creative team led by producer Berndt Schmidt, who provided the idea for the show, stage director Jouana Samia and creative director Oliver Hoppmann is working intensively on an impressive set design as well as rousing songs and choreographies. Berlin dancer and choreographer Jouana Samia is making her directorial debut in this new production for kids.

The stage show is flamboyant and colourful, with captivating South American motifs and compositions, which were of course produced in collaboration with Mexican artists. 'Frida & Frida' is a visually impressive Young Show that celebrates the joys of life and explores themes such as illness and worries in a sensitive and child-friendly way. Together with the 100 young performers on stage, the children in the audience

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General Director:
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Sarah Wedl-Wilson,
Permanent Secretary for Culture



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learn that they too can overcome challenges and possess hidden superpowers: trust in themselves, imagination, humour and optimism.

So what's the show about? Frida is as she is and does what she wants. When she falls ill and has to go into hospital for some time, she is mocked by her classmates. All alone in her hospital room, she brings a magical best friend to life in her imagination – and names her bestie Frida, too. This made-up Frida is actually a version of herself, who is free from constraints and always cheerful. Soon, the boundaries between reality, hospital and daydreams blur in Frida's vivid imagination. Together with other young patients on her ward, the resilient 'Medi-Kids', Frida embarks on adventure-filled imaginary journeys. And with each step, she learns more and more about the superpowers she has inside her.

The new production is inspired by the young Frida Kahlo, who suffered from a severe illness (polio) from a young age. She didn't let this hold her back though and went on to become a world-famous Mexican icon. The show is a tribute that Frida Kahlo herself would almost certainly have loved: everything is made-up, yet relates to real life. And it is full of a joy for life and unwavering strength.

The Young Shows at the Palast set the standard throughout Europe. Over 100 young talents aged between 6 and 18 years are artistically involved in each performance. The largest of its kind in Europe, the Young Ensemble comprises around 240 children and teenagers from more than 20 different nations.

Additional information:

Tickets cost from €9.80 for children and from €19.80 for adults and are available at www.palast.berlin. Prices for school classes are available upon request. The recommended minimum age is 5 years. Children under 3 years will not be admitted. 'Frida & Frida' lasts around 90 minutes (no interval) and will run from 21 November to 31 January.

Show idea: Berndt Schmidt | Script: Bettina Börgerding and Wenka von Mikulicz | Direction: Jouana Samia

Images to download: picdrop.com/friedrichstadt-palast/fridaundfrida

More information about 'Frida & Frida': www.palast.berlin/frida

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