

PRESS INFORMATION

Already almost sold out by the World Premiere! The Young Show 'Frida & Frida' celebrates its World Premiere on the world's biggest theatre stage before a captivated audience

Berlin, 27 November 2024



The Young Ensemble of the Friedrichstadt-Palast Berlin | Photo: Markus Nass

This afternoon, the new Young Show 'Frida & Frida' celebrated its spectacular and emotional World Premiere during a sold-out performance. The audience of 1,900 acknowledged the Young Ensemble with standing ovations that went on for several minutes. Not only the premiere was hugely popular and entirely sold out though. Almost all of the tickets for all performances through until January are also already sold out. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the production is the first Young Show to premiere at the Palast since 2019. It's a stirring tale of trusting in oneself, the power of imagination and optimism that even difficult situations can be overcome.

The Young Show 'Frida & Frida' is a flamboyant, colourful and visually impressive Young Show featuring captivating South American motifs and compositions. The international creative team includes Mexican and Latin American artists, who helped put together an authentic production.

The production will run until 31 January 2025 and was already almost sold out on the day of its World Premiere – an absolute first! The occupancy rate is currently 98.8 percent; only the odd seat is still available here or there. There's no need for disappointment though: advance sales for the 2025/26 winter season start today. We

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Friedrichstadt-Palast Berlin

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General Director:
Dr. Berndt Schmidt

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



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also expect sold-out performances in the upcoming season, so it's worth being quick to avoid disappointed children.

More than 100 Berlin children aged 7 to 18 years assume all of the lead and supporting roles in each performance. The maxim of "Children performing for children" has been taken entirely literally since Berndt Schmidt took over as General Director. Professional adult actors no longer perform in the Young Shows.

Even the breathtaking circus acts on the ground and in the air are performed by six young Ukrainians between the ages of 18 and 20. They obtained their diplomas at the renowned Kyiv Municipal Academy of Performing and Circus Arts, before fleeing to Budapest and Berlin after the war broke out.

Berndt Schmidt, General Director and producer of the Young Show: "What our young performers achieve in their free time is incredible. After all, they all still go to school. I am tremendously impressed by the Young Ensemble and proud of its almost 80-year history, which goes back to the summer of 1945. State politicians will hopefully also recognise the value of the Young Ensemble. For the cold, cruel axe that the Senate is currently taking to culture will sooner or later threaten such important cultural institutions for children and young people, too."

Having performed two eagerly anticipated revivals in 2022 and 2023 after a long break due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the 250 children and young people in the Palast's Young Ensemble are now finally back on stage with a story that the world has never seen before – a World Premiere.

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. Jouana Samia and Corinna Druve directed the show.

The guests welcomed on the red carpet included: Joe Chialo (State Minister for Culture and Social Cohesion), Francisco Jose Quiroga Fernandez (Ambassador of the United States of Mexico) and Katrin Budde (Chairwoman of the Committee on Cultural and Media Affairs), along with members of the Berlin House of Representatives.

Others on the red carpet: Seyran Ates, Luise Befort, Susanne Bormann, Philipp Boy, Bettina Cramer, Thomas Drechsel, Daniel Fehlow, Leonard Freier, Trixi Giese, Klaudia Giez, Jessica Ginkel, Nathan Goldblat, Nadine Heidenreich, Vera Int-Veen, Pia Lorena and Xenia Karen, Chantal and Kassandra Kaven, Ellice Klawon, Alina Levshin, Kerstin Linnarzt, Papis Loveday, Heike Makatsch, Noella Mbomba, Amy Mußul, Maxine Reuker, Julia Richter, Eva Mona Rodekirchen, Jascha Rust, Jouana Samia, Kristian Schuller, Paula Senfkorn, Benjamin Trink, Enie van de Meiklokjes, Raphael Vogt, Nadine Warmuth, Lion Wasczyk, Linus Weber, Jerome Weinert, Sheila Wolf, Esther Zimmering, Bounty & Cocoa.

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The Young Shows at the Palast set the standard throughout Europe. The largest of its kind in Europe, the Young Ensemble at the Palast comprises around 250 children and teenagers from over 20 different nations aged 6 to 18 years.

Additional information:

Advance ticket sales for the 2025/26 season from 20 November 2025 to 31 January 2026 are now open.

Tickets cost from €9.80 for children and from €19.80 for adults and are available on 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).

Show idea: Berndt Schmidt | Script: Bettina Börgerding and Wenka von Mikulicz | Direction: Jovana Samia and Corinna Druve | Costumes and stage set design: José Luna | Musical direction: Sebastian Brandmeir.

Link to the trailer: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kdq1lRH06CU

Digital press kit: www.palast.berlin/youngshow-pressemappe

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

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