

PRESS RELEASE

18. FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS, 07. – 16. October 2022

Festival of Lights Berlin with a new concept: Diverse, international light art in the name of the freedom and 75 % less power consumption

- "New Edition" under the motto "Vision of our Future". With a responsible, sustainable and innovative concept.
- 75% less electricity consumption, 100% from renewable energies.
- Ukrainian artists and children show their visions of the future
- Exceptional artist Leon Löwentraut presents his artistic interpretation of the UN's 17 sustainability goals.

Berlin, October 4th, 2022.

From October 7th to 16th, 2022 over the period of 10 evenings, the FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS 2022 will show around 70 light artworks by international artists from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at 35 locations *. Popular festival venues such as the Brandenburg Gate, Potsdamer Platz, Charlottenburg Palace, Bebelplatz, the Berlin TV Tower and the Nikolai Quarter. This year's motto VISION OF OUR FUTURE was implemented in a New Edition which is sustainable, innovative and responsible.

Since 2005, the festival has been an inherent part of Berlin's cultural calendar and the people look forward to it. The organizers also drew this conclusion after two pandemic years, in which they put a lot of effort into transforming the event which fascinated Berliners and guests from all over the world. That is why a cancellation is out of question this year. "We are very aware of our responsibility in this time. That is why we have made the concept of the event much more sustainable and innovative. The result is a new programme with which we will once again be presenting fascinating light art from international top-class artists, but at the same time we will reduce our power requirement by more than 75 percent," says Birgit Zander, director of the FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS.

Part of the new concept is the focus on meaningful light art sculptures by internationally renowned artists during the festival. These installations, which are based on LED technology, consume very low-energy but at the same time enormously effective, impressive and touching. For the first time in Berlin there will be shown (among others): The floating luminous fish "Lumineoles" in the Lustgarten by the French artist group Porte par le Vent. At Potsdamer Platz, no less than 11 of these special light art objects can be experienced. Among others also the "Lightbattle III", where you can create interactively the light effects by pedaling.

Another new feature is the bundling of different artworks at the respective venues, so that several installations can be seen at the same time at one location. "This saves considerable resources" says Birgit Zander and adds "We use the latest, most economical lighting technology, shorten the show time by an hour each day and we consistently use electricity that comes 100% from renewable energies."

In total, the 18th FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS will present around **70 artworks at 35 locations**, two of which are temporary on each festival evening.



Programme 2022

- No less than seven artists* will be showing their artistic interpretations of the festival motto "Vision of our Future" on the Berlin TV tower. These are personal perspectives from different nationalities on global issues of the future. There you can see bees taking selfies in an imaginary colorful garden, there will be purple-illuminated butterflies, which are forming the word PEACE with their bodies, or a robot spaceship, that takes our life's treasure, the ecosystem to a safe and secure place. A special highlight is the interpretation of the 17 sustainability goals for the development of the world community of the United Nations by the exceptional artist Leon Löwentraut.
- "Simply magical" will be the staging of the historic Nikolai quarter with its small romantic alleys full of interesting shops, cafes and stores, cafés and restaurants at different venues this year. Around the Nikolai Church fairy tale characters as well as animals and angel figures almost like ghosts come to life in a black light. The stagings are presented by the WBM Wohnungsbaugesellschaft Berlin-Mitte. The Fischer & Lustig restaurant sends the message "With L.O.V.E from Nikolaiviertel" and invites people to send selfies with an oversized heart as a background to the world.
- The Berlin Cathedral is this year's atmospheric backdrop for the LUMINÉOLES, imaginary blue birds with long, elegant wings. These delicate creatures dance above the meadow of the Lustgarten in the evening breeze.
- At Potsdamer Platz, oversized flowers entwine, displaying magical shades of light. There are almost three-meter-high figures of a snail and a caterpillar that seem to have settled down cozily for an urban chat. Also, the poetic water ballet of LED swans on Lake Piano can be seen there. The installation "LIGHTBATTLE III" invites you to join in and pedal along interactively. Festival guests can take a seat on one of the six bikes and create the most beautiful light impulses by pedaling strongly.
- Also, at Potsdamer Platz, the company building of the pharmaceutical company Pfizer will once again be taking part and will be showing the faces of its committed employees.
- Highlights worth seeing this year are also light art sculptures at various locations, e.g. in front of St. Mary's Church, such as "MY LIGHT IS YOUR LIGHT," a tribute to refugees. Or at the PalaisPopulaire the work ABSORBED BY LIGHT, which wants to encourage people, to deal more with the real world again.
- The St. Hedwig Cathedral and the law faculty are integrated into the staging of Bebelplatz with colorful architectural stagings. On the facade of the State Opera, you can see the gathering of wishes for the future from children in a WISHING TREE. There will be a legendary moment in a 3D video show TWO COUNTRIES CELEBRATING PEACE on the facade of the Hotel de Rome: The embassies of the United Arab Emirates and the State of Israel will jointly set a sign for peace and international understanding.
- The Dussmann KulturKaufhaus celebrates its 25th anniversary and brings, marking the occasion, collected love notes from its customers and employees onto the store's facade.
- The preservation of species in an intact environment can only succeed when people of all ages know the beauty of nature and are sensitized for its growing endangerment. The show of the GREEN SCREEN nature festival on the Lindencorso combines breathtaking recordings in which especially the eyes of people and animals impress with strong emotions.



- Further meaningful videos on this year's motto can be seen on the most famous of Berlin's landmarks, the Brandenburg Gate. Exclusively for the festival, four international artist collectives created their respective visions of the future. Among them were three renowned Ukrainian video studios. In another presentation festival partner Lavazza presents impressively their sustainable products Tierra! to the world, which stand for the holistic sustainability approach of the Italian coffee roasters.
- Charlottenburg Palace will also be staged again. With its baroque facade, it will be the canvas for several shows this year: Dreams for the future of German and Ukrainian children are shown in colorful paintings that were painted in a joint afternoon together. The partner "Tourism Destination Tenerife" reveals the extraordinary charm of the island with beautiful pictures to the viewers. The 3D show THE CONSCIOUS MASHINE by the artist collective re:sorb from Berlin wraps the façade of the castle in a futuristic design and invites you on a hypnotic journey into the future.
- The Pirates Berlin in the historic Mühlenspeicher at the river Spree is not only a striking event location, but also facade with an artistically inspired video show.
- Just outside the center of Berlin lies the town hall of Pankow, whose tower facade is transformed from a floral pattern to an architectural staging. For just one day, the Rathauspark Lichtenberg and the facade of the ruins of the Franciscan monastery church will shine on the Klosterstraße.

This year, the festival app can be again a firm companion on the evening walks. It provides everything exciting about the individual venues, artists, information about the programme and the latest news.

For initiator Birgit Zander, the FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS is a project close to her heart and a declaration of love to her hometown Berlin. "I wish that we can enjoy a harmonious, relaxed and trouble-free festival time, especially this year. Delight in what countless people created and put together with love, heart blood and enthusiasm in the last months!"

The FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS organizers would like to thank all their partners, all the creative people and artists, all technical and other service providers and all the helping hands and heads, because only together all of this could be made possible. "This year it was once again a particularly challenging journey. Nevertheless, we have managed to create something unique again. For art and culture in the public space, for the common good and the positive attitude to life of the people," says Birgit Zander.

As every year, the festival is free of charge for visitors. In addition, there are guided tours by many official LightSeeing partners. The entire programme, all information on partners and buildings as well as a clearly arranged illumination map can be found at www.festival-of-lights.de.

Press contact:

Zander & Partner Event-Marketing
GmbH

Savignyplatz 6, 10623 Berlin

E-Mail: presse@festival-of-lights.de

www.festival-of-lights.de

www.facebook.com/FestivalOfLights

www.twitter.com/LightsOnBerlin

www.youtube.com/LightsOnBerlin

www.flickr.com/photos/festivaloflights

™

