

Berlin, 14.10.2014

25 Years after the Fall of the Wall: Looking Back, Looking Forward A joint initiative of the residents and neighbours of Pariser Platz Series of events on 2 November 2014

On 2 November the residents and neighbours of Pariser Platz will commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall with a series of events. The initiative aims to draw attention to the historic renaissance of Pariser Platz after 1989 and highlight the importance of the location as a symbol of freedom. Ten events on the afternoon of Sunday, 2 November 2014, will address the topic “25 years after the Fall of the Wall” in a variety of ways. The history of Pariser Platz as a place of division and unity will be the subject of lectures, readings and discussions. Events on European and foreign policy and on overcoming new “walls” in politics and society will shine a light on the present day and the future. The institutions involved will invite Berliners and visitors to gain new impressions and enter into discussion with each other.

The programme of events is the first initiative of the residents and neighbours of Pariser Platz. Further information can be found on: www.pariserplatz-berlin.de

The community of residents and neighbours comprises: Akademie der Künste, Allianz Kulturforum, Allianz Stiftungsforum, Embassy of the Republic of France, Embassy of the United States of America, Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Commerzbank, Information Office of the European Parliament, the Genisis Institute for Social Innovation, Hotel Adlon Kempinski Berlin, Körber Foundation, Foundation *Brandenburger Tor*, Representation of the European Commission, Vodafone Foundation.

In addition to the Ambassadors of France, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and others, the events on 2 November will be attended by: Michael Cramer, Leonie Baumann, Eugen Blume, Marianne Birthler, Marion Brasch, Friedrich Dieckmann, Tanja Dückers, Eckehard Gillen, Christoph Hein, Jörg Herold, Ilko-Sascha Kowalczyk, Marie-Luise Scherer and Christoph Tannert. Berlin Senator for Urban Development and Environment Michael Müller has also been invited to participate.

Further information: Dr. Pascal Decker, Claudia Lück, Tel. 030/22633017, claudia.lueck@stiftungbrandenburgertor.de

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>> Programme

For more information on the individual events, please contact the press office of the organiser.

13.30 – 14.00: 25 Years after the Fall of the Wall: Looking Back, Looking Forward

Official welcome to the joint programme of events organised by the residents and neighbours of Pariser Platz given by Dr. Pascal Decker, Foundation *Brandenburger Tor*, on behalf of the community.

Venue: Hotel Adlon Kempinski Berlin, Unter den Linden 77, 10117 Berlin
By invitation

14.15 – 15.45: The transatlantic partnership and European integration in a closely interconnected world

In commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Fall of the Wall, the Ambassadors of the Republic of France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America will discuss the transatlantic partnership and European integration in a closely interconnected world. Introductory speeches by the three Ambassadors will be followed by a joint discussion.

Venue: Hotel Adlon Kempinski Berlin, Unter den Linden 77, 10117 Berlin
Please register via: anmeldung@pariserplatz-berlin.de

14.15 – 15.45: Pariser Platz for all! How can Berliners assume responsibility for their city?

Pariser Platz is a place of representation where countries, companies and political organisations have their embassies and offices. But what about everyday citizens? What possibilities do they have to get involved in important decisions and assume responsibility for the local community? This discussion attended by Berlin Senator for Urban Development and Environment Michael Müller (tbc) aims to address this question. Organised by Commerzbank AG, in cooperation with the Zukunft Berlin Foundation.

Venue: Commerzbank, Pariser Platz 1, 10117 Berlin
Please register via: anmeldung@stiftungzukunftberlin.eu

14.15 – 15.45: Before, during and after the Wall: Art in Germany

What was the significance of the Wall for the arts in Germany? What did painters, sculptors, designers, media-based and performance artists in the East and West know about each other and did this change dramatically after the Fall of the Wall? What friendships between artists and what strategies for bringing together people, galleries and institutions were formed and what became of them? And is the Fall of the Wall the reason for Berlin's rise as an international

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centre for contemporary art? These and other questions will be discussed by artists, art historians, curators, critics and authors: Leonie Baumann, Eugen Blume, Friedrich Dieckmann, Tanja Dückers, Eckehard Gillen, Jörg Herold, Christoph Tannert; Moderation: Hans-Jürgen Müller, Art Critic for “Die Welt”.

Venue: Foundation *Brandenburger Tor*, Pariser Platz 7, 10117 Berlin

Please register via: info@stiftungbrandenburgertor.de

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14.30 – 18.00: Walls to fall – Germany discovers the value of its social innovators

The Fall of the Wall has also become a symbol across the world for overcoming “walls in the mind” – walls which prevent us from addressing existing social challenges in a creative way. Pioneers in overcoming such mental barriers are referred to as social innovators. At this event, twelve outstanding pioneers in social innovation representing the areas of education, urban living, health and culture will discuss their “wall breaking” ideas with the public in a coffee house atmosphere. Organised by the Genisis Institute, Allianz Stiftungsforum and others.

Venue: Allianz Forum, Pariser Platz 6, 10117 Berlin

No registration necessary

15.30 – 17.00: My Europe in 1989, today and tomorrow: The Europe I want!

At this event in the Europäisches Haus, Europeans born in the year the Wall fell, as well as people who turned 25 in that historic year, will discuss Europe’s future. Today’s 25 and 50 year-olds and others will share personal impressions from their countries since the Fall of the Wall and share their ideas for the future of the continent. A European manifesto will be drawn up based on the discussion. The event will be attended by Michael Cramer, Member of the European Parliament.

Venue: Representation of the European Commission and Information Office of the European Parliament. Unter den Linden 78, 10117 Berlin

Please register via: veranstaltungen-berlin@europarl.europa.eu

16.15 – 17.45: Surfing the Wall

Despite walls and barbed wire, authors managed to ensure that the “other Germany”, the other part of Berlin, did not remain hidden to their readers. Their texts were smuggled back and forth, couched in secret code or historical allegory, or carried their important messages between the lines. Readings and discussions with: Marion Brasch (1961), Christoph Hein (1944), Peter Schneider (1940), Moderation: Barbara Wahlster (DR-Kultur). In cooperation with the Literaturwerkstatt Berlin.

Venue: Foundation *Brandenburger Tor*, Pariser Platz 7, 10117 Berlin

Please register via: info@stiftungbrandenburgertor.de

17.00 Uhr: Reading: Marie-Luise Scherer “Die Hundegrenze”

Marie-Luise Scherer’s “Die Hundegrenze” (lit: The Dogs’ Border) is a triumph of literary reportage. The main protagonists are not only refugees and sharpshooters, but also the guard dogs patrolling the border. From the perspective of collie mongrel Alf, the realities and absurdities of the German-German border with its minefields, guard towers, shooting ranges and dog runs are brought to life in a precise and evocative way. Marie-Luise Scherer, winner of the 2011 Heinrich Mann Prize of the Akademie der Künste, will conduct the reading.

Venue: Akademie der Künste, Pariser Platz 4, 10117 Berlin

No registration required

17.00 – 18.30: History@Debate: Autumn 1989. What remains of the Peaceful Revolution?

Marianne Birthler has played an influential role in Germany’s recent history as a civil rights activist, party leader and government minister. She gained a major public profile during her ten-year term as Commissioner for the Stasi Records. In a webtalk organised by the Gerda Henkel Foundation and the Körber Foundation, she will discuss the events of autumn 1989 and the legacy of the Peaceful Revolution with the historian Ilko-Sascha Kowalczyk. The discussion will be streamed live from the Hotel Adlon. Questions and comments are invited under the Twitter hashtag #hist89.

Moderation: Birgit Wentzien (Deutschlandfunk radio)

Organiser: Körber Foundation and Gerda Henkel Foundation.

Venue: Hotel Adlon Kempinski Berlin, Unter den Linden 77, 10117 Berlin

No registration required

14.15 – 18.00: 4 November 1989, Demonstration at Alexanderplatz

Documentary film from the GDR: Live coverage of the demonstration held by artists and other cultural professionals on 4 November 1989.

The film will be screened several times.

Venue: Foundation *Brandenburger Tor*, Pariser Platz 7, 10117 Berlin

No registration required

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