

PRESS RELEASE

28th TEDDY AWARD – The queer film award at the Berlinale

Awards ceremony line-up: 14 February 2014 at 9pm, Komische Oper Berlin

including Hedwig and the Angry Inch featuring Sven Ratzke, Dagmar Manzel, Günter Papendell, Base Berlin, Pierre Caesar, David Pereira and Jack Woodhead

Host: Jochen Schropp

23 January 2014

The line-up of artists taking part in the 28th TEDDY AWARD gala in the Komische Oper Berlin can now be revealed. Host for the evening is TV presenter and actor **Jochen Schropp**.

Sven Ratzke is the new Hedwig. **Hedwig and the Angry Inch** featuring **Sven Ratzke** is every inch as good as the original. Director and creator of 'Hedwig' John Cameron Mitchell (2001 TEDDY winner with his film of the same name) describes Ratzke as the best Hedwig he has ever seen.

Leading actress and singer **Dagmar Manzel** delights on stage with the **Orchestra of the Komische Oper Berlin**. This 55-year old star, one of Germany's most successful actresses, winner of numerous awards including the German Film Prize, German TV Prize and the Adolf Grimme Prize (a prestigious media award), to name but a few, was already an established artist before she began her career as a singer. Audiences love her.

Baritone soloist **Günter Papendell**, opera singer with the Komische Oper Berlin, is well-known for his powerful and stirring voice. With Papendell's performance of Tchaikovsky's *Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt* and images by Sergei M. Eisenstein, TEDDY will be reminding Russia that two of its leading cultural figures were also gay.

TEDDY pays homage this year to **Dusty Springfield** one of the most outstanding and successful women in music. Her career as a singer began with a political thunderbolt when in 1964 she refused to perform to racially segregated audiences in South Africa. In 1982, she married her girlfriend Teda Bracci in California. This year Dusty would have been celebrating her 75th birthday.

Base Berlin is a talent pool that brings together young new artists from all directions, developing spectacular and innovative performances. Initiator and creative director **Pierre Caesar** appears together with the Canadian newcomer songwriter **Lucien Dante**, the astonishing contortionist **Jade Lee Petersen**, and **David Pereira** and **Jack Woodhead** with their programme *Whipstick* in the TEDDY Midnight Special. A world-class performance from Berlin's talent hothouse.

After the awards ceremony, it's now traditional that TEDDY hosts the hottest party of the Berlinale. On stage, reliving the flair of the 1920s and 1930s, the show features the sensational burlesque dancer **Katharina Lebedew**, **Sigrid Grajek** mimes Claire Waldoff, **Joaquin la Habana** is Victor/Victoria ... and in true Berlin style the organ grinder churns out some tunes.

And for those who want to dance, creating the evening's soundtrack for our guests on the ground floor of the Komische Oper Berlin are DJs **K.Jell**, **Joey Hansom** and **Trust.The.Girl**.

If that's not enough, the party continues well beyond dawn. Our shuttle bus takes you from the Komische Oper Berlin straight to the **TEDDY AWARD Closing Party** in the SchwuZ nightclub, recently moved to Neukölln, featuring live act **Nuclear Family** and a great team of DJs. Gala tickets include admission to this after-party.

For an overview of all the TEDDY events in connection with the 64th Berlinale 2014 see: [LINK](#)

For more information on the artists and DJs see: [LINK](#)

For more information on the artists appearing at the TEDDY AWARD Grand Opening Night on 7 February 2014 see: [LINK](#)

Tickets for the TEDDY AWARD ceremony in the Komische Oper Berlin on 14 February 2014 are on sale now online at www.teddyaward.tv. Tickets can also be reserved by e-mail: tickets@papagena.de or by phone + 49 30 4799 7447 and at the ticket office of the Komische Oper Berlin. Tickets are also on sale without a booking fee at Prinz Eisenherz Buchladen, Motzstraße 23, 10777 Berlin.

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The TEDDY AWARD is the world's most prestigious queer film prize. As a symbol of political engagement, the award is presented in recognition of films and individuals involved in communicating queer issues to a wider audience and who, as a result, contribute to greater tolerance, acceptance, solidarity and equality throughout society.

The TEDDY is awarded during the Berlin International Film Festival in the categories: best feature film, best documentary and best short film and as a special TEDDY AWARD presented to exceptional individuals for their lifetime achievement. Films from all sections of the Berlin International Film Festival compete every year for the much coveted TEDDYs. Previous winners of the TEDDY AWARD include leading international directors such as Pedro Almodóvar, Gus Van Sant, Derek Jarman and Werner Schroeter and international screen stars such as Helmut Berger, Joe Dallesandro, John Hurt and Oscar-winning actress Tilda Swinton.

The theme of this year's TEDDY AWARD is *Celebrate Queer Icons*. This is a celebration of gay men, lesbians, bisexual men and women, transvestites, closet queens and raging queers. From Valeska Gert to Divine, from James Dean to Barbara Stanwyck, from Sergei M. Eisenstein to Virginia Woolf, we aim to commemorate talented queers who sought both to push back the frontiers of art and to live (or sometimes only to survive) as gay men, lesbians, bisexual men and women or as trans* in 'normal' society.

The TEDDY award is a not-for-profit event and is financed exclusively through the contributions and donations of the sponsors and benefactors of the TEDDY foundation, the hard work of its many volunteers and through sponsorship and ticket sales for the event itself.