



BERLIN PRESS BALL – A TRADITION SINCE 1872

The BERLIN PRESS BALL, which took place for the first time on March 9, 1872, is one of the top social events in Germany. Personalities in politics, such as Walter Scheel, Karl Carstens, Franz Josef Strauss, Willy Brandt, Helmut Kohl, Gerhard Schröder, Joschka Fischer, Helmut Schmidt, the mayors of Berlin, Eberhard Diepgen, Walter Momper, Klaus Wowereit, from the culture and music scene such as Claudio Abbado, Gilbert Bècaud, Ray Charles, Marlene Dietrich, Engelbert Humperdinck, Wilhelm Furtwängler, Hildegard Knef, Gina Lollobrigida, Brigitte Nielsen, top athletes such as Max Schmeling, Arthur Abraham, and key figures in business and publishing, such as Friede Springer, Ferdinand Porsche, to name just a few - they all have contributed to the significance and popularity of the traditional BERLIN PRESS BALL.

The 116th Berlin Press Ball is held on January 14, 2017, at the MARITIM Hotel in Berlin, featuring celebrity guests in the areas of politics, business, science, art, culture, sports and media. Our guests are coming not only to experience a glamorous evening at the Ball but also to combine public relations with pleasure.

The ideal goal of the Press Ball is to promote and intensify the relationships between various social strata with each other on all levels.

By honoring the freedom of the press and international understanding in Europe, the Berlin Press Ball is associated with the **concrete aim of supporting journalists** in need.

History

HOW IT ALL STARTED ...

The first German Press Ball was held on March 9, 1872 as a benefit event for needy journalists at the Concerthaus on Dönhoffplatz, in Berlin, Leipziger Str. 45. The tradition of the ball event is continued by "Presseball Berlin" (or Berlin Press Ball). The express goal of the journalists was to increase their social position and improve their contact with politics and administration. The first film recordings of the Press Ball were made in 1897.

THE FIRST CHANCELLOR ...

The first chancellor to attend the Press Ball was Chlodwig zu Hohenlohe-Schillingfürst in 1895. Starting in 1909 with German Chancellor Bethmann Hollweg, the presence of top politicians became a rule. **Quote from the newspaper "BZ am Mittag" from February 5, 1934:** "The Press Event was entirely oriented towards redesigning grand social life." During the time of its founding, admission tickets were only given to members and friends; later they were sold to the public (up to 7000 guests in the Zoo halls).



BAREFOOT OR PATENT-LEATHER SHOE ...

Joie de vivre, help and bit of voyeurism... Whether it's a box seat or a promenade ticket - glamorous nights follow a certain order. That also applies to the Berlin Press Ball. Elegant, rustling chiffon dresses, distinguished dinner jackets and shoes polished to a gleam – an elitist breeze sweeps across the red carpet when the guests walk towards the ballroom or the festively decorated foyer. Etiquette and style are particularly welcome here. And those who don't attend are certainly missing out.

Location

In its 144-year history, the Press Ball Berlin has taken place in various historic buildings, including the Konzerthaus am Dönhoffplatz, Hotel de Rome, Alte Philharmonie, Berlin Reichstag, the ballrooms of the Zoological Garden, at the ICC, the State Opera Unter den Linden, Hotel Ritz Carlton and at the Maritim Hotel Berlin.

The exclusive Maritim Hotel Berlin is located in the center of the bustling capital in the embassy quarter of picturesque Tiergarten, between Kurfürstendamm and the Brandenburg Gate.

Along with the attractiveness of this prominent location in Berlin's center and furnishings in the style of the 1920s, the Maritim Hotel Berlin offers its guest all of the amenities of a luxurious superior 4-star hotel. The interplay of the classic ambiance and modern furnishings makes the upcoming ball event a unique experience for each one of our guests. The Berlin Press Ball has deliberately selected the uniqueness of the Maritim Hotel Berlin again, since it offers the ideal conditions for hosting an event of this magnitude and because the service and hospitality of the entire hotel staff are more than convincing.

Cooperation & Partners

For more than a hundred years, what has made the Berlin Press Ball possible are mainly its partners and sponsors, which feel committed to the capital and to people:

Without their engagement, the Berlin Press Ball would not be this successful. You too can become part of this tradition. We will be glad to inform you about current sponsoring, partnering and cooperation options.

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Tickets – Reservations for BERLIN PRESS BALL at the 14.01.2017

You can experience it live when the interactions between journalists, publishers, politicians, artists and living legends during a glamorous ball event create this exceptional state – one which eliminates the critical distance between all participants in such a charming way for one night. Our Ball guests can expect a festive gala with a great entertainment program, dancing, a raffle and a casino along with – of course – culinary masterpieces!

The official ticket sales start on March 9, 2016. But you already have the opportunity to make a non-binding reservation request.

Berlin Press Ball since 1872 – a tradition with commitment.

Your Press Ball Team