

CAVALLUNA

PASSION FOR HORSES



CELEBRATION!

PRESS KIT

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PRESS RELEASE

CAVALLUNA - „CELEBRATION!“: Europe's most popular horse show is back

For many years, APASSIONATA has thrilled hundreds of thousands of spectators with its ever-popular horse shows and unforgettable scenery. Now the unique show will finally be back in Prague and not only with a new programme, but also with a new brand name: APASSIONATA has become CAVALLUNA, a brand that reflects the new quality and presentation of the shows and is already established in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The core of the format remains the same: the audience gets to see beautiful horses, high-class choreography, emotionally charged music and breathtaking effects, framed by a wonderful story. With the programme CAVALLUNA - „CELEBRATION!“, the show also celebrates its return after the forced break due to the worldwide pandemic and invites young and old to marvel and dream!

The format of the show is very special for this occasion: the stories penned by Emmy-nominated creative director Klaus Hillebrecht have enchanted audiences in recent years - a compilation of the most beautiful scenic and equestrian highlights of past programmes, which have not yet been seen in Prague, will now be brought to life in a high-quality show, thus duly celebrating the return of CAVALLUNA! With „CELEBRATION!“, the audience will have the opportunity to experience the most popular equestrian teams and riding styles up close again and thus admire unforgettable performances. From magical liberty dressage and action-packed trick riding to harmonious dressage, light-hearted comedy and breathtaking LED acts: CAVALLUNA is the continuation of the ever-popular show format and will captivate the audience.

„Due to Corona, our show business has come to a standstill for a good year and a half for the first time in its almost 20-year existence - a difficult time, both for our company, our performers and of course our audience. To appropriately celebrate the new beginning and the end of this dark period, we will present an unprecedented show from October 2021 to March 2022: „CELEBRATION!““ explains Johannes Mock-O'Hara, Managing Director of Apassionata World GmbH. „The breathtaking compilation of technically elaborate and above all beautiful scenes, all together in just one show, is a gift to our audience, but also to ourselves. That's why we as a team are incredibly excited about this brilliant show, which duly celebrates our return to the stages of Europe,“ says Mock-O'Hara.

As always, CAVALLUNA delights with unparalleled horsemanship and diversity: The big stars of the shows like Bartolo Messina with breathtaking moments of freedom dressage, the teams around Luis Valença with the high school and Sebastián Fernández as master of Doma Vaquera, Sylvie Willms with her great freedom with 14 horses but also the trick riders of the Equipe Hasta Luego with their action-packed stunts, the versatile Giona family with Hungarian Post and many others finally come together again to offer the audience an unprecedented spectacle and make them forget the hard times of the last months. From imposing Friesians to elegant Arabians and cute mini ponies - there is something for everyone! And whether big or small: CAVALLUNA - „CELEBRATION!“ offers every spectator unique and unforgettable moments!

Tickets and further information about the show at www.cavalluna.com.

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PRESS PICTURES

The following press images are available for download (thumbnails are linked to the high-resolution material). You can find all press material for download [here](#). (Copyright: CAVALLUNA //resolution: 300 dpi)



Hungarian Post by Laury Tisseur



Garrocha by equipe Sebastián Fernández



Freedom by Sylvie Willms



Dajana Pfeifer as Amazon of Water Waters



Giulia Giona as Amazon of Wind



Sofia Bacioia as Amazon of Fire



Mini ponies by Bartolo Messina



Trickrider of Hasta Luego Academy



Dressage by Filipe Fernandes and violinist



Trickrider of Hasta Luego Academy



Sebastián Fernández with tango dancer



Liberty by Sylvie Willms

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Freedom by Bartolo Messina



Amalia Ruscone as Amazon of Earth



Capriole by equipe Luis Valença



*Naia shows Tahin her country –
equipe Fernández*



*Quadrille of equipes
Valença & Fernandes*



*Walking pasage by equipe
Sebastián Fernández*



*Pyramid by Hasta Luego
Academy*

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ARTWORK + LOGO

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Artwork portrait



Artwork landscape



CAVALLUNA Logo as PNG

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STARS



Equipe Bartolo Messina

When Bartolo Messina and his four-legged companions enter the arena, it suddenly becomes quiet. Quite naturally and full of trust, his animals follow him wherever he goes. In the current show, the Italian rider presents himself with two of his beautiful freedom horses Lusitano "Gorgorito" and KWPN "Keino", and creates unforgettable and emotional moments with them. The little stars also make it big at "CELEBRATION!": The audience can look forward to the cute performances of six mini Shetland ponies, who are in no way inferior to their two big colleagues!



Equipe Luis Valença

Beautiful Lusitanos and dressage art at the highest level - that is what the team around Luis Valença from Portugal promises! The horses, trained by the old master of the high school himself, present the most demanding lessons in perfection and are thus a guarantee for dreamlike scenes of baroque riding. In "CELEBRATION!" this equipe enchants the audience not only with their beautiful, graceful animals, but also with sophisticated quadrilles. Whether pirouettes, piaffe or the impressive capriole: no other team masters classical dressage lessons with such inimitable precision!



Equipe Giona

Equipe Giona stands for versatility and equestrian quality! The Italian family has been thrilling audiences for years and will enchant them with breathtaking show numbers in "CELEBRATION!": Whether the harmoniously presented dressage interludes of Giulia with her three majestic Friesians, who embodies one of the four Amazons of the Elements, or the skill of her brother Diego in the Hungarian Post - the Italians know how to showcase their passion for horses. Whether daredevil gallop maneuvers, imposing jumps or the Pas de Deux - the Equipe Giona is an absolute highlight and crowd puller!

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STARS



Sylvie Willms

In the vast steppes of Africa, a dervish dancer together with her free-roaming herd of horses inspires all spectators! Freedom artist Sylvie Willms was born with a passion for horses, as her family has been devoted to the noble four-legged friends for more than 300 years. It is obvious that she was already sitting on a horse before she could even walk. Sylvie lost her heart to liberty dressage as a child. She likes to have a lot of animals around her and so in CAVALLUNA - "CELEBRATION!" she has a total of 12 horses of different breeds perform incredible lessons, guided only by her voice and body language.



Hasta Luego Academy

The trickriders of the Hasta Luego Academy have been part of the CAVALLUNA team for many years and convince with unique stunts and fast-paced action! With their spectacular performances, they amaze the audience and leave them breathless with fast-paced maneuvers. In the current show "CELEBRATION!" the audience can again expect new, grandiose tricks on, next to and under the horse. In the show, Europe's best trickriders show how much courage and energy they muster to completely thrill young and old alike, both as wild Indians and brave fighters in the jungle!



Equipe Sebastián Fernández

The talented family around the Equipe Sebastián Fernández has always excelled in the imposing riding style of the Doma Vaquera. With an approximately three-meter-long wooden pole, the so-called "Garrocha", the talented riders twist and turn with great skill at high speed around obstacles or their own axis! In "CELEBRATION!" the equipe presents the spirited riding style from Southern Europe in a unique way, as the fiery riders enter the deep dark arena with glowing costumes. A moment that remains unforgettable and makes the hearts of all spectators beat faster! In their fiery, spirited flamenco number, the team from Andalusia also brilliantly showcases the diversity of Spanish tradition.

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STARS



Equipe Filipe Fernandes

For more than ten years, the Portuguese Filipe Fernandes has enriched the team of Europe's most popular horse show. At "CELEBRATION!" Filipe now presents himself for the third time with his own equipe. Trained at the yard of the old master of the High School Luis Valença, he specialized in classical dressage. This time, too, he and his team, together with five beautiful Friesians with flowing manes and powerful gaits, take the hearts of the audience by storm! In the new show, the equipe fascinates with difficult lessons of classical dressage as well as beautiful quadrilles in complete harmony and at the highest level.



Laury Tisseur

With his spectacular Hungarian Post, Laury Tisseur always leaves the audience at CAVALLUNA breathless: Standing on two horses and directing other four-legged friends in front of him on long reins, the exceptional talent performs daredevil maneuvers, overcomes obstacles and completes demanding courses. At "CELEBRATION!", young and old alike can experience the ambitious Frenchman, who is taking part for the first time this year with his own equipe, not only in action-packed show interludes, but also in a soulful production of playful dressage paired with wonderful elements of freedom. The performances of the CAVALLUNA star are unforgettable!



Dajana Pfeifer

They have been an unbeatable dream team for many years: show rider Dajana Pfeifer and her P.R.E "Lenny". At "CELEBRATION!" they once again present their skills to the CAVALLUNA audience: In complete harmony, Dajana as the Amazon of Water and her gelding float over a huge sea of cloth, leaving the audience in awe. The most important thing for the experienced show rider when working with the noble animals is always a respectful interaction based on trust and the independent training of her horses. She has also trained and schooled "Lenny" completely herself. In the arena, they therefore inspire not only with demanding dressage lessons, but also with their deep bond to each other.

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STARS



Equipe Sofia Bacioia

The Italian Sofia Bacioia presents at "CELEBRATION!" the relatively young and highly demanding riding discipline of working equitation, which has traditional origins: Derived from the Spanish riding style of the shepherds, this dynamic and concentration-demanding work with the horse is becoming more and more popular and, of course, may not be missing at Europe's most popular horse show! As the Amazon of Fire, the talented Sofia inspires with fast maneuvers through an obstacle course: Whether tight turns, zigzags or jumps - the virtuoso of Working Equitation masters all lessons with ease and is one of the highlights of the CAVALLUNA show "CELEBRATION!".



Equipe Amalia Ruscone

The Italian Amalia Ruscone discovered her passion for riding sidesaddle at a young age. As an amazon of the element earth, she presents in the current show "CELEBRATION!" this almost forgotten, traditional riding style together with her mare "Atrevida", which she has specially trained. Even in her demanding performance of classical dressage, the talented rider and her Tres Sangres mare appear buoyant as well as light and fascinate with an incredible presence on stage. The visitors can look forward to touching moments paired with pure elegance and harmony at "CELEBRATION!"

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HORSE BREEDS



In the show:
Doma Vaquera –
Equipe Sebastián Fernández

P.R.E. (Pura Raza Española)

The Pura Raza Española (P.R.E.) originates from Spain and is one of the oldest horse breeds in Europe. By crossbreeding with Arabians and English thoroughbreds, the popular four-legged horses were refined and thus became the pride and joy of Spanish riders, as the noble animals have a long and pure pedigree. In 1912, the pure Spanish horses were then separated into an independent breeding line, which is strictly regulated to this day. Horses with full papers are called P.R.E., horses with half papers or without papers are called Andalusian. Typical for the warm-blooded horse is his intelligent, energetic and yet obedient nature as well as his great memory. Southern temperament meets mental balance - riders particularly appreciate this combination in them. At CAVALLUNA, the Spanish team around Sebastián Fernández will show their beautiful P.R.E. stallions in the traditional shepherd riding style - and will make the pulse of the audience beat faster, for example, with quick turns around their own axis!



In the show:
Liberty dressage –
Equipe Sylvie Willms

Arabian Horse

Quick as an arrow, enduring and loyal: these are attributes assigned to the Arabian horses. The very old thoroughbred breed is considered the noblest in the world and has been highly valued as a mount by desert dwellers for many centuries. As the pride of sheikhs and Bedouins, they brought the animals, „their sons of the desert,“ to Arabia 1500 years ago and admired them so much that they fed the good-natured four-legged friends by hand and let them sleep in their tents with them. For this reason, the people-oriented Arabians developed particularly pleasant characteristics, such as a lot of temperament, an excellent character, patience and devotion, as well as endurance and reliability. Due to their delicate appearance and character, the animals are popular leisure and sports partners. Their compact physique makes them not only ideal racehorses, but also highly concentrated as well as loyal partners in liberty dressage. At CAVALLUNA - „CELEBRATION!“ the fabulous companions show what grandiose lessons the clever four-legged friends can learn.



HORSE BREEDS



In the show:

**Classical Dressage –
Equipe Filipe Fernandes**

Friesian

Along with the Lusitanos, the „black pearls of Friesland“ also look back on a long history and belong to the oldest horse breeds in Europe. By crossbreeding with Iberian horses, a distinctive type was created in the 16th century, which exerts a great fascination above all through its beautiful, almost fairytale-like appearance. Particularly impressive are the shiny coat, the long mane and the majestic coat hangings on the legs. The Spanish influence gives the animals, which were formerly also increasingly used in agriculture, swinging and expressive gaits and makes them talented dressage horses. But the Friesian is not only a real eye-catcher, he is also versatile: Whether in dressage, circus or in the great outdoors - no other breed presents itself in the most diverse disciplines in such a majestic way as the Friesian. At „CELEBRATION!“, the equipe around Filipe Fernandes, among others, inspires the audience together with their beautiful animals.



In the show:

**Liberty dressage –
Equipe Bartolo Messina**

Mini Shetland Pony

They are small, cute and yet insanely strong: the Shetland ponies. As the name suggests, the small horse breed originates from the Shetlands, a group of islands belonging to Scotland. The small four-legged friends from the north are characterized primarily by their small size, enormous strength and resilience, which they owe to the harsh living conditions and the harsh climate of the region. Although these cute guys are also called „ants among horses“, they are great all-rounders! They are considered one of the strongest horse breeds and can sometimes pull twice their own weight. Their character traits include, in particular, their gentleness, intelligence and ability to learn. Just like their larger congeners, these smart ponies are capable of learning difficult lessons of the high school and circus skills. At CAVALLUNA, „Charly“, the smallest show stallion in the world, together with a herd of five other ponies, presents his skills full of self-confidence - and is an absolute highlight, especially for the little visitors of the show.



HORSE BREEDS



In the show:
Classical Dressage –
Equipe Valença

Lusitano

The Lusitano is considered the oldest horse breed in Europe and is closely related in origin to the Berber and Andalusian. However, breeding in Portugal developed quite differently than in Spain, which is why an independent studbook has been kept only since 1942. The Portuguese is a particularly courageous and intelligent horse. Due to its compact and muscular conformation, the Iberian breed is ideally suited for classical dressage up to the High School. Their expressive, noble head with large eyes is supported by an ideally curved neck that springs from a muscular shoulder, which is why they were considered especially valuable for horsemanship in the royal houses of Europe. Courage, strong nerves and a high degree of agility are also ideal prerequisites for herding and driving work. They are very willing to work and learn quickly. Today, the all-round talent is mainly ridden in classical dressage and High School. At „CELEBRATION!“ the equipe of Luis Valença together with their beautiful Lusitanos inspires with demanding lessons of classical dressage.



In the show:
Liberty Dressage –
Equipe Bartolo Messina

KWPN

The KWPN (Koninklijk Warmbloed Paard Nederland) is a Dutch warm-blood horse and is one of the youngest breeds in the world. Breeding did not begin until about the middle of the 20th century: the crossing of the two Dutch breeds Groninger and Gelderländer and the additional cross-breeding of thoroughbreds resulted in these beautiful, athletic animals. Reliability, athletic quality and an uncomplicated temperament as well as a high willingness to learn make these four-legged horses popular partners especially in show jumping and dressage. They are also considered to be very fearless, lively, strong-willed, yet sensitive. Typical features are a noble head and their expressive eyes, in which one can easily get lost. They are also easy to ride and are becoming more and more popular in Europe and the USA due to their versatility. At CAVALLUNA - „CELEBRATION!“ the spectators experience the beautiful KWPN gelding „Keino“ in a moving liberty dressage by Bartolo Messina. Here, the impressive black horse shows what unique dressage talent he possesses - completely free and without a rider.



HORSE BREEDS



In the show:

Working Equitation –

Equipe Sofia Bacioia

Aztec

The breeding of the Aztec is also still young and was only established in Mexico in the early 1970s. The breed traces its origins to the South American Criollos, which evolved from the imported horses of the Spanish conquistadors in relative freedom through natural selection in the harsh climate of the Pampas. These hardy horses were bred to the North American Quarter Horse and Andalusians - thus the Aztec was born. The result was fast and elegant horses that were especially suited for work on the haciendas. Their movements are wide, ground covering and above all fast, which makes them excellent riding, driving and jumping horses. Equipped with a special skill for driving cattle, the Mexican „national horse“ is not only very sure-footed and agile, but also reliable. All these qualities make the Aztec the perfect partner for the CAVALLUNA shows, both for trick riding and for the art of working equitation.



In the show:

Walking pesade –

Equipe Sebastián Fernández

Menorquin

Native to the Balearic island of Menorca, this fiery Spanish horse breed is the main focus of the centuries-old traditional „Fiestas de Menorca“. As the main protagonists of this celebration, the Menorcans are accompanied during their performance by music as well as thunderous applause from the enthusiastic spectators. The animals were born for the stage and love to show off. For they are not only beautiful to look at - their temperament and their rhythmic, almost dance-like gaits impress the spectators up to the last row. Walking on the hindquarters, the so-called Walking pesade, is considered a special talent of this intelligent and eager-to-learn horse breed. As a baroque horse type, they have a strong forehead, a magnificent head of course, the animals are also popular because of their beautiful black coat and their long luxuriant manes, which are typical for the Spanish. CAVALLUNA fans know: These horses, whose breed was only officially recognized in 1989, have dancing in their blood!



HORSE BREEDS



In the show:

**Dressage in side saddle –
Equipe Amalia Ruscone**

Tres Sangres

The term „Tres Sangres“ comes from the Spanish and means „three-blooded“. After all, this breed owes its name to the crossbreeding of three different horse breeds: the Pura Raza Española, the English Thoroughbred and the Arabian. The horse with the three noble bloodlines has its origin in the south of Spain, where it is still bred today. To this day, the Tres Sangres represents the best characteristic features of its three original breeds: The horses have the rideability of the Pura Raza Española, the speed and power of the high-legged English Thoroughbred, and the gentle and spirited nature of the Arabian. At CAVALLUNA - „CELEBRATION!“, Amalia Gnechi Ruscone presents the traditional riding style in side saddle together with her Tres Sangres mare „Atrevida“, which she has specially trained. The well-rehearsed team from Italy always appears harmonious, light and fascinates with an incredible presence.



In the show:

**Liberty dressage –
Equipe Sylvie Willms**

Welsh pony

Besides the Shetland ponies, the Welsh ponies are among the most popular riding ponies in Germany. Originating from Wales in Great Britain, these four-legged friends are often used as riding ponies for children and young people because of their friendly nature and courage. Due to their intelligence and energy, the petite horses, often called „miniature Arabians“, are suitable not only for recreational riding but also for demanding lessons, which they show with their inherent playfulness. In addition, they are very people-oriented and can build up a deep connection to „their“ human. Once you have won the trust of these good-natured animals, you can look forward to a friendship for life. The little all-rounders enchant the audience with their cheerful and playful nature within seconds - just like the Welsh pony of the Equipe Sylvie Willms, who enchants young and old with his big colleagues in the liberty dressage.

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THE CAVALLUNA STABLES

How the show horses live

CAVALLUNA stands for sophisticated choreographies, rousing music, magnificent stage sets and, of course, impressive horse dressage. But what also distinguishes CAVALLUNA is the affection between man and horse, from which their perfect interaction emerges. The CAVALLUNA horses are not only undisputed audience favorites - they are also the absolute center of attention for their riders and handlers. That's why their well-being is paramount, both during the show and away from it! The tour, which makes guest appearances in 19 different cities in Germany and other European countries between October and June, is organized in a star configuration. This means that the horses are not transported from one show city to the next, but are housed in centrally located „intermediate stables“ during the week. In this way, travel times can be kept as short as possible. One of the two stables is the horse center Schloss Wickrath near Düsseldorf. Here, the horses are offered an ideal place to rest during the tour.

The four-legged friends spend their free time on the spacious grounds: grazing in paddocks, taking idyllic rides and light training tailored to the horse's particular needs - just a normal horse's life! The CAVALLUNA horses, some of which come from thousands of kilometers away, benefit from the park-like riding area and the beautiful boxes and paddocks. For them, the estate is their home during the „CELEBRATION!“ tour. From here, during show time, they travel to the individual tour cities. In this way, the animals have extensive time off during the week with walks in the countryside and grazing, and the distances in the van are kept short. That the mood is relaxed is also evident in the show. The horses are relaxed both in front of and behind the scenes, but also motivated to give their best.



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TOUR SCHEDULE "CELEBRATION!" 21/22

City	Date	Time	Venue
Riesa	Sat., 23.10.21	14 + 19	SACHSENarena
	Sun., 24.10.21	14	
Neubrandenburg	Sat., 30.10.21	14 + 19	Jahnsportforum
	Sun., 31.10.21	14 + 18.30	
Schwerin	Sat., 06.11.21	14 + 18.30	Sport- und Kongresshalle
	Sun., 07.11.21	14 + 18.30	
Lausanne (CH)	Sat., 20.11.21	15 + 19.30	Vaudoise aréna
	Sun., 21.11.21	14	
Zurich (CH)	Sat., 27.11.21	15 + 19.30	Hallenstadion
	Sun., 28.11.21	14 + 18.30	
Magdeburg	Sat., 11.12.21	14 + 19	GETEC-Arena
	Sun., 12.12.21	14 + 18.30	
Dortmund	Sat., 18.12.21	14 + 19	Westfalenhalle
	Sun., 19.12.21	14 + 18.30	
Bremen	Sun., 26.12.21	14 + 18.30	ÖVB-Arena
	Mon., 27.12.21	14 + 18.30	
Leipzig	Thue., 30.12.21	14 + 19	QUARTERBACK Immobilien ARENA
	Fri., 31.12.21	14	
Hamburg	Sat., 08.01.22	15 + 20	Barclays Arena
	Sun., 09.01.22	14 + 18.30	

City	Date	Time	Venue
München	Sat., 15.01.22	15 + 20	Olympiahalle
	Sun., 16.01.22	14 + 18.30	
Hanover	Sat., 22.01.22	15 + 20	ZAG Arena
	Sun., 23.01.22	14 + 18.30	
Berlin	Sat., 29.01.22	15 + 20	Mercedes-Benz Arena
	Sun., 30.01.22	14 + 18.30	
Prague (CZ)	Sat., 05.02.22	14 + 19	O2 arena
	Sun., 06.02.22	14	
Nuremberg	Sat., 12.02.22	15 + 20	ARENA NÜRNBERGER Versicherung
	Sun., 13.02.22	14 + 18.30	
Frankfurt	Fri., 18.02.22	15 + 20	Festhalle
	Sat., 19.02.22	15 + 20	Messe
	Sun., 20.02.22	14 + 18.30	Frankfurt
Rotterdam (NL)	Sat., 12.03.22	14 + 19	Rotterdam Ahoy
	Sun., 13.03.22	14	
Saarbruecken	Fri., 18.03.22	20	Saarlandhalle
	Sat., 19.03.22	14 + 19	
	Sun., 20.03.22	14 + 18.30	
Antwerp (B)	Sat., 26.03.22	14	Sportpaleis
	Sun., 27.03.22	11 + 16	

*changes reserved

**planned; not in pre sale

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