

THE DAILY EUROFURENCE



Eurofurence 23

Estrel Berlin • Thursday, August 17th 2017 • Issue 36



Before and after: The construction site picture that shocked some EF attendees versus the final result. What a difference a few weeks can make!

photo: ang

Out With the Old, In With the New!

Despite all concerns about a “construction con” this year, the Estrel managed to finish its great atrium renovations just in time for Eurofurence.

To find out what the re-decoration is all about, the Daily spoke with our event manager, Dorit, and the Estrel’s press liaison, Miranda. Designed by the Italian architect Luigi Lanzi, the new atrium is brighter and more modern than the old one, which, after twenty years, was beginning to show its age.

Crafted by Italian artisans, the new restaurant furnishings with their dark wood and straight lines compliment the bright new tiles. And where the old “Orangerie” used to be, now sits the new, spacious “The

Leaf”, with its marvellous decoration made from different copper alloys.

The furniture is not the only thing that is new in the restaurants. Open kitchens with brand-new cooking equipment are now being run at full capacity for the first time for Eurofurence. To be ready for us, the hotel has come up with daily, special offers, but they also decided to install a new eatery in front of the Estrel hall just for us. They also included a wider variety of vegetarian and vegan dishes to accommodate our needs.

And still, it’s not all done yet! Despite the craftsmen occasionally even working through the weekends to get the tilework ready for our paws, there’s still something missing: Art. The hotel owners, the Streletzki

family, went far and wide to select art for the new space. There will be an abstract mobile installed high above the fountain, and sculptures and statues will be put up between the newly installed vertical gardens.

The plants are real, by the way, and a gardener comes by every other day to water the them and to read them Italian poems to remind them of their heritage. (Yes, really.)

No second „Laden-Gate“

While we were talking about the renovations and the dust stirred up by such a large project, Dorit dropped another piece of information that will calm the minds of the many EF participants who suffered from the hiccups of this year’s registration phase (“Laden-Gate”).

Infuriated with their external booking service provider, the Estrel’s reservation management has decided to pull the plug on them and handle the room reservations for Eurofurence themselves again next year, a process that has been proven to work for two years, and is sure to work again. (aki)



Despite looking like a tiny table, this pawprint-adorned furniture actually identifies as a chair. Sit! photo: web

TIMETABLE

10:00

How to Build Cheap Fursuits.....
ECC ROOM 5

11:00

Clockwork Creature Meet & Greet
ECC ROOM 2

Fit for Furs.....
CONVENTION HALL II

The Olden Days?.....
ECC ROOM 4

12:00

Basic Animation Tutorial.....
PARIS

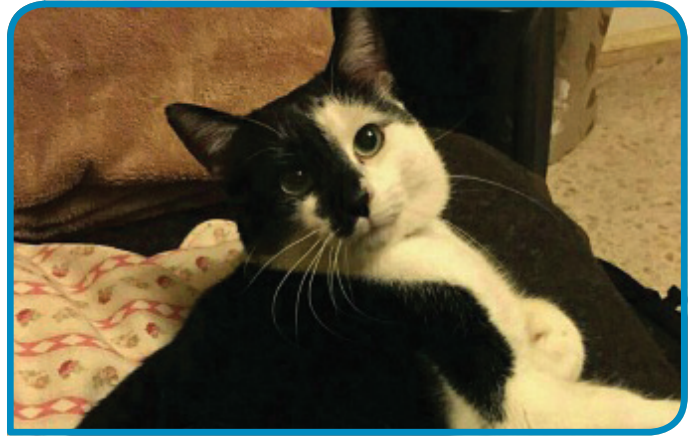
Transgender Furs Meet.....
NIZZA

Write Now!.....
ECC ROOM 5

Who Can Help Freedy?

The young tomcat Freedy needs a new home - and very soon too!

As the representatives of the Sieben Katzenleben charity are attending Eurofurence, they find themselves with an emergency on their hands. Young tomcat Freedy, a black-and-white beauty, needs a place to stay - ideally this Sunday. His former owner cannot take care of him anymore. Freedy is a lively, gentle and mischievous cat, but he has been tested positive of the Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV+), so he should go to a house-



Cute and in need of a new home: Freedy.

photo: Sieben Katzenleben

hold with either no other cats or with cats that are also FIV+. If you are an experienced cat owner who fits those descriptions and you

would like to give Freedy a new home (or if you know someone who does), please contact Kerstin Richert at the charity booth. (lux)

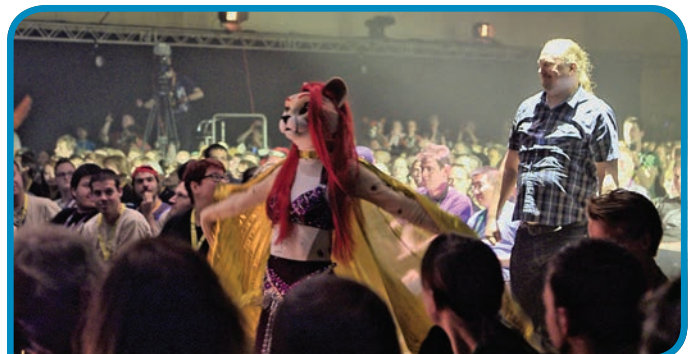
Worshipping the Ancient Gods

As always, the opening ceremony drew the biggest crowd, with high production value and surprise video greetings.

After a moderate delay (spent utilizing high-powered zoom lenses to show amusing views of attendees' mobile devices, including displays of the now now-infamous "Laden" loading spinner) the opening ceremony started off with a fursuit music video by Keks that was in no respect shy of professional level production values. Afterwards, a ritualistic display of laser illumination, music and spoken word indicated how various ancient Egyptian divinities are to help each of the attendees in their quest for the enlightenment of the

ancients. The honored initiate into the time-old divine mysteries, Cheetah, arrived in a procession worthy of his status, led in by an attractive feline, and followed by the multitude of Clockwork Creature fursuits which made for a highly impressive effect overall.

The board of directors gave their statements, ranging from praising the new atrium area getting finished just in time for the convention to introducing the guests of honour, Qarrezel of Clockwork Creature and Pepper Coyote, of whom the latter delivered a video greeting, given for the most part using an approximation of the German language. Another video introduced this year's charity, the Sieben Katzenleben, who both rescue cats in Spain



Cheetah (on the right), not dressed like an Egyptian god-king.

photo: ang

and have projects in Germany. After Dhary's turn, his team surprised him with a celebration for the tenth anniversary of the Eurofurence security team. The senior security staffers received new customized overcoats, and courtesy of Cheetah, the whole team received the single item claimed to be most important in all police and security work - boxes full of donuts. (hhp)

Statistics

EF 23 is hosting 2853 attendees (2390 male, 463 female). 186 staff members are working hard to protect the pyramid, while 554 artists are contributing paintings and hieroglyphs. 75 animators and 149 musicians will perform their arts while 1290 suits will stroll around the ancient tomb. (ker)

Impressum:

Michael "Luxer" Graf (lux), "Aeverus" (aev), Peter "Akeela" Plickert (aki), Matthias "Angus" Bauer (ang), Bart "Carbine" Moonen (car), Andreas "Chitatz" Semmelmann (chi), Andreas "Curry" Wieland (cur), Till "Draugvorn" Baar (dgv), Andrea "Fenzytea" Schaefer (fen), Hannu-Heikki "hHP" Puupponen (hhp), Marc-Oliver "Kerocat" Krug (ker), Danny "Pegla" Palic (peg), "Sambers" (sam), "Sithy" (sty), Jürgen "webby" Härig (web)

HOLY CRITTERS



The Scarab

Yes, sure, you probably expected the Daily to start with a story about Anubis. But for this edition, we're going to look at a very important holy symbol to the ancient Egyptians: the humble scarab.

Scarabs are most commonly known as dung beetles. Not something one would expect as a sacred animal. Egyptians believed the sun god Re (commonly known as Ra in modern times) would make the sun renew all day. Re would roll the sun

across the skies in the same way dung beetles roll a piece of, well, dung across the soil. The beetles then lay eggs in the dung balls and their larvae emerge from it.

Though not a glamorous process, to the Egyptians this was a perfect metaphor for the continuous cycle of rebirth and renewal so ingrained in their society and death rituals. Egyptians believe the sun renews all life during the day, and death too is a renewal where the soul will eventually join the body again to live on as a god in the afterlife. So important was the scarab, that

the hieroglyph L1 pronounced "chepr" meaning "being, exist, become" is the image of a scarab. The god Khepri (a relative to the sun god Re) is usually depicted as a scarab-headed male figure. Scarab amulets were a popular symbol to wear, usually in a glazed blue or jade colour. It's also featured on the EF con book cover.

The simple dung beetle remained a symbol of renewal throughout ancient Egyptian history and has made a lasting mark on its society. Not bad for a beetle! (sty)

An Enjoyable Publicity Stunt

Before EF even started, a busload of fursuiters was invited to the Filmpark Babelsberg in the South of Berlin.

It's Eurofurence's fourth run in Berlin and by now, word has spread across the city. A few weeks ago, the marketing manager of Filmpark

Babelsberg, an amusement park in the South of Berlin, contacted the Estrel hotel about their "special guests", inviting a bunch of fursuiters for a visit to their park.

Mystifur, head of Fursuit Support got into touch with the Filmpark staffers. The event was scheduled for Tuesday afternoon,

so it wouldn't clash with any of EF's official program. The park managers rented a bus, offering free transport for about 40 fursuiters and their helpers. Of course, this generous gesture was also advantageous to the park, as its managers knew exactly how much attention fursuiters tend to draw, especially in a large group.

Competition for "Flimmy"
The Filmpark thus advertised the event publicly: "Meet the Furrries". It worked, as many families showed up to see the cuddly costumes, but also a crew from a national TV station. Was it a publicity stunt? Yes, but an enjoyable one, as the fursuiters enjoyed the interaction with the park visitors, making kids and parents smile. The park's own mascot "Flimmy", a walking film strip, was happy to share the spotlight. (lux)



Parents, kids and TV crews flocked to see the fursuiters in the park. photo: [ang](#)

TIMETABLE

13:00

Pepper Coyote Meet & Greet.....
ECC ROOM 2

13:30

Fursuit Parade.....
START: FURSUIT LOUNGE

16:00

Uncle Kage's Storyhour.....
MAIN STAGE

DancerFurs Meet.....
ECC ROOM 2

International Snack Exchange.....
NIZZA

Linear Perspective: Basics and Use in Art.....
PARIS

Making a Sparkledog.....
ECC ROOM 4

18:00

3D-Printing for Fursuits, Puppets and Figures.....
ECC ROOM 4

A Furry Introduction to Big Data...
ECC ROOM 5

Fierce Editing.....
STRASSBURG

Making ArtThat Matters.....
PARIS

SoundPawPainting.....
CLUB STAGE

18:30

Enter the Arena.....
MAIN STAGE

20:00

Eurofeatherance - The Avian Meet & Greet!.....
STRASSBURG

Inflatable Community Gathering...
PARIS

Macro/Micro Meet (20:30).....
ECC ROOM 4

TF Meet and Greet.....
NIZZA

21:00

Neon Dance.....
CLUB STAGE

21:30

Fursuit Friendly Dance.....
MAIN STAGE

A Cute and Cuddly Calendar

After the big success last year, the fursuit charity calendar returns this year.

What started out originally as a joke between Copper and Tail at NordicFuzzCon 2016 has now become a serious contributor for Eurofurence charity: the Fursuit Calendar. The theme this year is 'Cute and Cuddly' and features 13 carefully selected fursuiters giving you their cutest looks and poses.

Organizing this has proven quite a challenging task, because the fursuiters shown in the calendar are spread across the world. "We can't have just one or two photographers traveling everywhere to take pictures," says Copper. And Tail adds: "For this year, I think we had as many photographers as we had fursuiters. Almost everyone provides their own pictures taken by local furry photographers."

The calendar is a birth-



(Almost) all of this year's calendar models in one shot, with Tail operating the camera.

photo: aev

day calendar and is only a limited edition print. This year, the total number of prints has been increased to 250, because last year, the interest was overwhelming. "All 140 calendars were gone in 2 hours," says Copper. Tail: "We hope to sell out again this year. Copper and I made a bet on how fast it will go." The actual available number of calendars will be a little lower than 250 because, as Tail explains, the organisers want-

ed to make sure that everyone who participates in this initiative gets one for themselves. One calendar signed by all the fursuiters will be available in the charity auction. All the profits made by the calendar go to this year's charity Sieben-Katzenleben cat shelter in Bochum.

All fursuiters attend EF

Plans are already under way for next year. "We are thinking about a new theme, but have not decided yet," says

Tail. "Once we have settled on a theme, we start approaching fursuiters that we think would fit in." As Copper explains, "that is one of the reasons why we have no open sign-up. We want to look for specific suiters that match our criteria and can actually be at Eurofurence themselves." The calendars will be available at the charity booth in the Estrel Foyer near the entrance to the convention centre.

(car)

DONATING TO CHARITY

GOOD IDEA

DONATING A 'ANCIENT CURSED' ARTIFACT FOR THE CHARITY BOOTH.

BAD IDEA

DONATING AN ACTUAL ANCIENT CURSED ARTIFACT FOR THE CHARITY BOOTH.