

# CAVALLUNA

PASSION FOR HORSES



## GRAND MOMENTS



PRESS KIT





# CAVALLUNA

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## PRESS RELEASE

### „CAVALLUNA – Grand Moments“: A Journey through Dazzling Show Worlds

Europe’s biggest horse show is on the road again and enchants the audience with a breathtaking programme that reinterprets the most beautiful shows from recent years in a completely new way and interweaves them with spectacular new scenes. “CAVALLUNA – Grand Moments” is a firework of emotions that fascinates, touches and amazes young and old alike.

Around 60 horses and Europe’s best riders, together with a top-class dance company, will delight the audience, supported by emotional music and impressive special effects. The guests are taken on a journey through dazzling show worlds and can look forward to outstanding horsemanship, breathtaking scenery and a heart-warming adventure.

The show tells the story of the aging show rider Trol, who, the older he gets, is increasingly afraid that one day he will not be able to see his friends from the show world anymore. That’s when the goddess of life appears to him and tells him that there is only one way to have his loved ones with him forever: to reunite them one last time with their best acts in a big show and thus form an eternal bond of remembrance with them. Trol then has a vision in which he relives the most extraordinary moments of his career and gradually discovers the special things that connect him to every rider, dancer and musician: deepest friendship, love, joy, humour, sadness, romance, fear, freedom, strength, beauty, enthusiasm – in short: life.

Although “CAVALLUNA – Grand Moments” is far more than just a horse show, the four-legged stars are, as always, at the centre of the action and the audience can look forward to exceptional talent from all over Europe. Among those on board are majestic Friesians, elegant Lusitanos and funny donkeys. Diego Giona with his spectacular Hungarian post and the daredevil trick riders of the Hasta Luego Academy will take the audience’s breath away with their fast-paced manoeuvres. Younger spectators will especially enjoy Bartolo Messina’s cute miniature ponies. Of course, unique liberty artist Sylvie Willms also returns, as well as the highly talented equipe Pfeifer, who will impress the audience with breathtaking water and fire scenes.

From October 2024 to June 2025, “CAVALLUNA – Grand Moments” will be performing in over 30 cities in Europe. A selection of advance press photos and the artwork for the show can be downloaded [here](#) in our digital press centre.

Information and tickets for the show are available at [www.cavalluna.com](http://www.cavalluna.com).

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## PRESS PICTURES

The following press pictures are available for download. The preview images link to the photos in high resolution. You can also find the photos [HERE](#). Copyright: CAVALLUNA // Resolution: 300 dpi



*Spectacular Action*



*Breathtaking Light Effects*



*Heartwarming Moments*



*Striking Scenes*



*Passionate Dance*



*Dreamlike Quadrilles*



*Impressive Props*



*Funny Moments*



*Scenes full of Fantasy*



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## ARTWORK + LOGO

Copyright: CAVALLUNA // Resolution: 300 dpi



Artwork portrait



Artwork landscape



CAVALLUNA logo as PNG



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## STARS



### Equipe Bartolo Messina

Bartolo's animals are his life and he has a very special relationship with each one: his horses and ponies follow him as if by magic and touch the audience with emotional and heartwarming liberty numbers. Bartolo's home is the Italian island of Ischia, where the horses live as family members right next to the house and share their stables with many other animals, be they dogs, chickens or donkeys. In "Grand Moments", Bartolo enchants young and old with his sweet mini ponies, the crowd-favourite gypsy "Johan" and a cute mule – who will surely melt hearts everywhere.



### Equipe Luís Valença

Even today, the horse „Pombo“ still has a firm place in Luís Valença's heart, although it has been over 60 years since he received it as a gift from his grandfather at the age of 10. Other horses soon followed and after years of training, Luís Valença became one of the most renowned horse trainers in his discipline, classical dressage. He has impressed spectators all over Europe with his Lusitanos – even the Queen. Luís' daughter Filipa, who accompanies the CAVALLUNA tour, is also largely responsible for the success of the Portuguese team. In „Grand Moments“, the equipe shows fantastic lessons of high-level dressage and perfectly synchronised quadrilles.



### Equipe Giona

The Giona team is an equestrian family from near Verona and whether father, children or uncles – everyone here is part of the team. Several generations have learnt to ride on the same pony called Susi and developed their respective talents. The individual family members now excel in various disciplines: liberty dressage, Hungarian post, classical dressage and even aerial acrobatics. Their motivation stems from the closeness within their family, which always supports each other. Particularly impressive is Diego's Hungarian post, a number in which he stands on two horses and leads six more horses – some of which have no reins – over obstacles.



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## STARS



### Equipe Sylvie Willms

With her touching liberty scenes, Sylvie Willms always captivates the audience. She enchants everyone with the great trust between herself and her horses – a bond that can be felt right up to the last rows. She directs the animals with the smallest gestures and quietest commands and makes them perform tricks seemingly without any effort. Sylvie's passion for horses is in her genes, as her family has been working with horses for over 300 years and she herself has been sitting on horseback since before she could walk. In "Grand Moments" she shines again with a magnificent liberty number and impresses the audience with aesthetic movements and almost tangible trust between her and her four-legged friends.



### Equipe Hasta Luego Academy

With spectacular stunts on and underneath their horses, the trick riders of the Hasta Luego Academy are sure to be remembered by the audience for a long time. They are guided and trained by the head of the equipe, Erik Hasta Luego. The Frenchman, who used to be one of the best himself, has made the training of young trick riding talents his life's work. Since 1978 he has even been holding a world record: in only 12 seconds he climbed around the belly of a galloping horse. In order to be able to perform these rapid manoeuvres, the trick riders need special saddles with many loops and handles around the leather seat. Erik personally makes these unique pieces so that his protégés really „sit“ firmly in the saddle.



### Equipe Sebastián Fernández

For the Spanish Equipe Fernández, everything simply revolves around horses, whether during the CAVALLUNA tour or at home on their dream farm in Granada. Sebastián and his wife Mercedes both come from equestrian families and are particularly proud of their breeding of majestic PRE horses (Pura Raza Española). Their Andalusian farm exudes southern European flair: white plaster, terracotta-coloured roofs, wrought-iron fittings... From morning to night, the horses are groomed and trained in the traditional shepherd's riding style doma vaquera, which the equipe impressively presents in „Grand Moments“. In this discipline, one hand guides a long pole called a garrocha and the other holds the reins to steer the horse, which requires a high level of training.



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## STARS



### Equipe Filipe Fernandes

The charming southern European Filipe grew up near Lisbon, not far from the riding school of Luís Valença – an old master of classical dressage. Filipe discovered his passion for dressage at a young age and so he decided to complete his training at the Valenças' stable. Later, Filipe exchanged the white Lusitanos for black Friesians and founded his own equipe. The majestic animals magically captivate the audience with their elegant gaits, their luxuriant manes and their deep black fur. In „Grand Moments“, the talented team presents advanced lessons like half-passes and piaffes as well as beautiful quadrilles in complete harmony.



### Equipe Alejandro Barrionuevo

In 1989, Alejandro's father Miguel founded a classical riding centre in Málaga, where people and animals were taught the difference between „riding“ and „forming a unit“. So artful dressage with fiery Andalusian horses is in Alejandro's blood and he passes this knowledge on to his riders with great passion. He trains young horses with patience and expertise and shows their skills in shows at home and all over Europe. You can see the horses' trust in every single exercise. In „Grand Moments“ he impresses the audience with an emotional solo number, accompanied by romantic piano music.



### Equipe Pfeifer

Dajana and Nicki Pfeifer are a sworn team both on and off stage. Dajana already impressed at the tender age of six as an artist in various shows and soon developed a passion for horses. When she later met her husband Nicki at a show, it was clear that the two of them belonged together. Dajana's motto for the careful training of her horses is: „Humans make the mistakes – the horses just reflect them“ – and it is precisely this attitude that can be felt in the arena during her impressive water number. Nicki, on the other hand, has always had a great passion for jousting, so it is not surprising that he and Dajana also thrill audiences with fast-paced fire scenes.



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## THE CAVALLUNA STABLES

### Home of the CAVALLUNA Horses

CAVALLUNA stands for sophisticated choreographies, captivating music, magnificent stage sets and, of course, impressive work with horses. But what also distinguishes CAVALLUNA is the affection between man and animal and their touching communication. The horses are not only undisputed audience favourites – they are also the absolute centre of attention for their riders and grooms. Their well-being is paramount, both during the show and away from it.

The tour, which stops in over 30 cities in Germany and other European countries between October and June, is organized in a star formation. 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, so that travel times can be kept as short as possible. Currently, all horses are housed at the Gehlenhof equestrian facility in Tönisvorst. The beautiful grounds include paddocks, an outdoor arena as well as a horse walker, a lunging arena, a round pen and two indoor riding arenas. It is an ideal place for the horses to rest.

Our four-legged friends spend their free time grazing on fields, on idyllic hacks in nature and with light training tailored to the respective need of the horse – just a normal horse life! Some of the CAVALLUNA horses originally come from thousands of kilometres away, so they truly benefit from the spacious grounds. For them, the estate is their home and they have plenty of time off during the week. If the horses are happy and relaxed, it can be clearly seen in the show – it’s the only way they are always motivated to give their best!





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## FACTS & FIGURES (PER SHOW WEEKEND)

- over 100 crew and cast members
- Around 60 horses
- 9 riding equipes
- 150 t riding sand
- 4 trucks for horses
- 1200 m<sup>2</sup> rubber mats underneath the sand
- 11 trucks for equipment
- 5 mini busses
- 1 catering van
- Nearly 200 show lights
- 2 video projectors
- 1 warm-up tent
- 2 heaters for the stable tents
- 1 tractor
- 2 forklifts
- 1 big wheel loader
- 1 small wheel loader
- 1 hydraulic lift
- 100 m catwalk (border around the riding arena)
- 1 projection wall (10 x 20 m)
- Around 180 costumes
- 62 stalls in the stable tent (including a tack box)
- 2 stable tents



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## TOUR SCHEDULE „GRAND MOMENTS“ 2024/25

City	Date	Time	Venue
<b>Riesa</b>	Sat., 19.10.2024 Sun., 20.10.2024	14 + 19 13	WT Energiesysteme Arena Riesa
<b>Schwerin</b>	Sat., 26.10.2024 Sun., 27.10.2024	14 + 19 13	Sport- und Kongresshalle
<b>Neubrandenburg</b>	Sat., 02.11.2024 Sun., 03.11.2024	14 + 19 13	Jahnsportforum
<b>Saarbrücken</b>	Sat., 09.11.2024 Sun., 10.11.2024	14 + 19 13 + 17:30	Saarlandhalle
<b>Innsbruck (A)</b>	Sat., 16.11.2024 Sun., 17.11.2024	14 + 19 13	Olympiahalle
<b>Zurich (CH)</b>	Sat., 30.11.2024 Sun., 01.12.2024	15 + 19:30 14	Hallenstadion
<b>Göttingen</b>	Sat., 07.12.2024 Sun., 08.12.2024	14 + 19 13 + 17:30	LOKHALLE
<b>Magdeburg</b>	Sat., 14.12.2024 Sun., 15.12.2024	14 + 19 13	GETEC-Arena
<b>Dortmund</b>	Sat., 21.12.2024 Sun., 22.12.2024	14 + 19 13	Westfalenhalle
<b>Bremen</b>	Thu., 26.12.2024 Fri., 27.12.2024	14 + 18:30 13 + 17:30	ÖVB-Arena
<b>Leipzig</b>	Mon., 30.12.2024 Tue., 31.12.2024	14 + 19 13	QUARTERBACK Immobilien ARENA
<b>Hamburg</b>	Sat., 04.01.2025 Sun., 05.01.2025	14 + 19 13 + 17:30	Barclays Arena
<b>Berlin</b>	Sat., 11.01.2025 Sun., 12.01.2025	14 + 19 13 + 17:30	Uber Arena
<b>Munich</b>	Sat., 18.01.2025 Sun., 19.01.2025	14 + 19 13	Olympiahalle
<b>Hanover</b>	Sat., 25.01.2025 Sun., 26.01.2025	14 + 19 13	ZAG Arena
<b>Nuremberg</b>	Sat., 01.02.2025 Sun., 02.02.2025	14 + 19 13 + 17:30	ARENA NÜRNBERGER Versicherung
<b>Basel (CH)</b>	Sat., 08.02.2025 Sun., 09.02.2025	14 + 19:00 13	St. Jakobshalle

City	Date	Time	Venue
<b>Vienna (A)</b>	Sat., 15.02.2025 Sun., 16.02.2025	14 + 19 13	Wiener Stadthalle
<b>Stuttgart</b>	Sat., 22.02.2025 Sun., 23.02.2025	14 + 19 13 + 17:30	Hanns-Martin- Schleyer-Halle
<b>Frankfurt</b>	Fri., 28.02.2025 Sat., 01.03.2025 Sun., 02.03.2025	19 14 + 19 13 + 17:30	Festhalle Messe Frankfurt
<b>Rotterdam (NL)</b>	Sat., 15.03.2025 Sun., 16.03.2025	14 + 19 14	Rotterdam Ahoy
<b>Antwerp (B)</b>	Sat., 22.03.2025 Sun., 23.03.2025	14 + 19 15	Sportpaleis
<b>Kiel</b>	Sat., 29.03.2025 Sun., 30.03.2025	14 + 19 13	Wunderino Arena
<b>Chemnitz</b>	Sat., 05.04.2025 Sun., 06.04.2025	14 + 19 13 + 17:30	Messe Chemnitz
<b>Bielefeld</b>	Fri., 11.04.2025 Sat., 12.04.2025 Sun., 13.04.2025	19 14 + 19 13 + 17:30	Seidensticker Halle
<b>Münster</b>	Sat., 19.04.2025 Sun., 20.04.2025 Mon., 21.04.2025	14 + 19 14 + 18:30 13	MCC Halle Münsterland
<b>Erfurt</b>	Sat., 26.04.2025 Sun., 27.04.2025	14 + 19 13 + 17:30	Messe Erfurt
<b>Graz (A)</b>	Sat., 10.05.2025 Sun., 11.05.2025	14 + 19 13 + 17:30	Stadthalle Graz
<b>Cologne</b>	Sat., 17.05.2025 Sun., 18.05.2025	14 + 19 13	LANXESS arena
<b>Salzburg (A)</b>	Sat., 24.05.2025 Sun., 25.05.2025	14 + 19 13 + 17:30	Salzburgarena
<b>Mannheim</b>	Sat., 31.05.2025 Sun., 01.06.2025	14 + 19 13	SAP Arena
<b>Rostock</b>	Sat., 07.06.2025 Sun., 08.06.2025	14 + 19 13 + 17:30	StadtHalle Rostock
<b>Düsseldorf</b>	Sat., 14.06.2025 Sun., 15.06.2025	14 + 19 13	PSD BANK DOME

subject to change



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## CONTACT

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## YOUR ACCREDITATION

You would like to report on CAVALLUNA and get an impression of Europe's biggest family entertainment show with horses? We would be happy to accredit you for a suitable date!

Please send us the following information in an e-mail to [presse@apassionata.com](mailto:presse@apassionata.com):

- **Full name of the person**
- **Preferred show city (see tour schedule)**
- **Medium - where will your report or your photos appear?**
- **Do you want to take pictures and need a photo pass?**

Your ticket, as well as your photo pass, will be deposited for you at the box office under your name and can be picked up 60 minutes before the show begins.

Please note for your request:

The great success of the show is due in no small part to the many great articles that appear year after year. However, as we receive more and more accreditation requests, we are unfortunately unable to meet all of them. In order to give as many media representatives as possible the chance to experience a CAVALLUNA show for themselves, we usually accredit only one editor and/or one photographer (without seat) per medium.

We give preference to those press representatives with whom we work regularly and who cover our shows. Furthermore, we can unfortunately only process accreditation requests from official media outlets and no longer from freelance journalists without a fixed client. Therefore, please state the specific client in your enquiry.



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## GUIDELINES FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

You have been accredited as a photographer for „CAVALLUNA – Grand Moments“. This accreditation is subject to the following conditions, which you accept by collecting your photo pass.

These guidelines must be followed to ensure both your and everyone else’s safety and the undisturbed running of the show:

- You will receive your photo pass at the box office. Please have your ID card or press card ready when you collect it.
- The photo pass entitles you to access the area around the riding arena. For security reasons, however, you are not permitted to enter the riding arena or the backstage area at any time, not even during the interval or after the end of the show.
- For safety reasons, please keep a distance of two metres from the riding arena at all times. The CAVALLUNA press team or the security staff will explain further details on site.
- Please follow the announcements of the arena staff regarding positioning. Please do not restrict escape routes under any circumstances and take care not to obstruct the view of any spectators. Avoid too frequent changes of perspective and location.
- Please choose dark clothing so as not to distract anyone from enjoying the show.
- Please take photographs without flash, as this could irritate the horses.
- Video recordings with professional equipment are only permitted after inquiry with the press team.

The pictures may only be used commercially in the context of media publications (editorial as well as advertising). However, commercialisation of the photographic material other than editorial or advertising coverage of the show, especially to private individuals, is prohibited. Apassionata World GmbH, as the organiser, reserves the right to prohibit the publication of images taken by you in connection with the show at any time.

You grant Apassionata World GmbH the non-exclusive, transferable and irrevocable right, unrestricted in terms of space, time and content, to all known and unknown types of use, to use every picture taken by you in connection with the show for its own presentation and advertising purposes in all media. Any resale by us to third parties is excluded.

If you have any questions, please contact the CAVALLUNA press office. The arena staff can also help you on site, as long as no legal questions are involved.

We hope you enjoy “Grand Moments” and wish you good luck with your photos!

Your CAVALLUNA press team