

Not too (flutter-)shy to sing



Jumpy having fun with a mouse on the open stage. photo: chi

Karaoke has grown so popular at EF that you can have it every night. We even found a private karaoke session dedicated to tunes from "My Little Pony".

What would you do if I sang out of tune? The question raised by the Beatles is tested on a daily (well, nightly) basis. The Open Stage has turned out to be a magnet for musicians and karaoke-fans last year and it continues to be that, even after the square podium has been moved to the convention center. It seems that

more and more furs work up the courage to test their voices and sing along to their favourite tunes. By doing so, they provide entertainment for those who need a break from shaking their tails on the dancefloor as well as for those who just need an excuse to stay near the small bar and get that "last beer of the day". The singing only stops when the sound technicians can't keep his eyes open any longer.

Besides the official Eurofurence, there was also a small private MLP karaoke party in one of the hotel rooms.

"LAF?"

Among the other subgroups of the fandom, there is also a growing group of "My Little Pony" fans (AKA Bronies), and it's not rare anymore to see ponysuits among the other fursuits. The organiser of the party stated that the karaoke session was a spontaneous idea of his, designed to offer something special for the Bronies and that he wanted to try it out in a small group to see the response and feedback before going public with it.

Everyone knows the text About 15 people gathered in the room to find out if they "Got the music in You" The biggest difference to any standard karaoke was that no one was singing alone. "Babs Seed", "Raise this Barn", "Winter Wrap-Up", "Smile Smile" or "Don't mine at Night": every attendant knew the texts by heart and so, what originally was intended to be a karaoke event eventually became a large sing-along party. With all participants having lots of fun, one can look forward if there will be more and bigger "equestrian events" for Bronies and like-minded furies coming up in the future. (ker/lux)

If you've been to the Dealers' Den, you might have noticed a booth that is different from all the others.

The LAF (lycanthropy awareness foundation) is running an equal rights petition for lycans and therianthropes. They are collecting signatures and sell T-shirts to further their cause of fighting against discrimination and prosecution of these lovable creatures.

While seeming entirely professional, the whole thing is, of course, not an actual charity or petition, but is a piece of performance art. Originally, the project was brought to life by Tabalon, who just wanted "to experience a con from a dealer's perspective", but by now it has taken off quite well. Over a hundred furs have already signed, and the response is overwhelmingly positive. (aki)



THE DAILY EUROFURENCE



Eurofurence 21

Estrel Berlin • Saturday, August 22nd 2015 • Issue 30

With a little help from his friends



Garra and Cosmik keeping their cool as the crowd dances. photo: aev

Friday night - the perfect time to ROCK OUT! And how to do that better than with Fox Amoore and his latest band project, Bandthro?

After a short announcement by Pinky, the band dove into the tunes of the "Happy song", very much to the delight of the about 850 Furies in the audience. The song "Let's Fly" from the album "Come find me" then provided a rather sharp contrast with its slow pace and sweet harmonics, just as it should be for a love song. "Chocolate Orange", the next song, called up associations with Alice in wonderland, and definitely left behind a craving for something sweet. A craving that was filled with "Starry Destination", a slow ballad.

Then, Shadowwolfen was called onto the stage to perform a song from Fox's new album "We Will Be", "Carry Me Home". Dark harmonics and a dense carpet of sound laid the groundwork for Shadowwolfen's rich and slightly smoky voice.

"The Beaten Path", sung by Cosmik, while much lighter in the general mood, didn't lack one bit in clarity nor emotion. "We Will Be" from the homonymous album then showed what Fox really can do best: write and perform music that will send waves of goosebumps down your spine.

Shadowwolfen and Gar-

ra took the lead with "Run", from the Fauna Project. To rock song, written by Eisfuchs, was dedicated to all cheetahs (and the Cheetah) in the audience.

"Keepers of the light" and "End Tide" followed; the qualities of these epic masterworks are known far and wide. The introduction of the band members came with the mandatory drum solo, where Teddy had the chance to show off his qualities as an absolute master of percussion. Fox preferred to introduce himself as "the Piano Fox" in light-hearted adaptation of the Billy Joel classic. The next cover songs were "A Little Help Form My Friends" (by some band that also used to record at Abbey Road), and "Twist and Shout". The song literally swept the audience from their seats, turning the concert into a dancing riot.

The audience, enforced, as an encore, "End Tide" once more. The high spirits within the big hall were also picked up by the light team, who brought the full force of their laser installation to bear to really make this a finale furioso. (aki)



Fox Amoore and Rhubarb did most of the singing. photo: ang



Shadowwolfen in full force. photo: web

STAYING COOL IN SUIT



USE A COOLING VEST WITH YOUR SUIT



USE A BOMBING VEST WITH YOUR SUIT

BLACK-OUT

The artists were surprised when the lights went out in their Lounge at 8pm. It wasn't a blown fuse. The pawpeteers were starting their show next door and the lighting systems are connected... (lux)

TIMETABLE

10:00

Charity Poker Tournament
Final Table.....
Panel Room 2: Estrel Hall A

How to Draw Toony Canines.....
Panel Room 3: Paris

3D Printing for Fursuits, Puppets
and Figures.....
Panel Room 5: Straßburg

11:30

Art Auction and Charity Auction...
Main Stage

12:00

How to Cast Fursuit Parts.....
Panel Room 5: Straßburg

13:00

Motorfurs.....
Outside

14:00

Charity Concert.....
Panel Room 1: ECC Room 3

Breathing Life into your 3D Char-
acter (3 of 3).....
Panel Room 3: Paris

Furries in the News.....
Panel Room 4: Lyon

Tricks in Digital Drawing.....
Panel Room 7: Nizza

16:00

Enter the Arena.....
Main Stage

Inflatable Collectors Panel.....
Panel Room 1: ECC Room 3

Anthropomorphic Anatomy (not
that kind) (Supersponsors Event)
Panel Room 3: Paris

How to Make Fursuit Bases from
Foam.....
Panel Room 4: Lyon

The Nature of (Digital) Color.....
Panel Room 7: Nizza

Polyglot Corner.....
Panel Room 8: Cannes

18:00

All Purpose DJ Course.....
Panel Room 1: ECC Room 3

Cover the Back of Your Idea.....
Panel Room 4: Lyon

Smile for the Cameras!

Like in the previous year, Eurofurence attracted plenty of media attention.

Coming to Berlin and staying at its biggest hotel, Eurofurence considerably raised its media profile last year. All major Berlin newspapers and some magazines and TV stations sent reporters to meet the furries. To

cope with the growing demand, EF media relations manager o'wolf introduced a media desk this year. It's right next to the registration and it's manned every afternoon. Here, journalists can go and get press badges, fact sheets and (where necessary) permissions for filming. "Many journalists call first, but some just drop by," o'wolf explains.

This year, media interest was less intense than in 2014, but even so a considerable number of journalists found their way to the Estrel hotel. As some of them were working for big news and photo agencies, colourful fursuiter pictures can be expected to show up even in publications that did not send reporters of their own. (lux)

There and back again



Can you spot the two kissing suiters?

photo: web

Even if more fursuits than ever joined the parade, its progression was so smooth and well-guided by security (and some police) that the stroll through the hotel and along the riverbank only took half an hour. More than a hundred spectators were watching, some from the bridge, some from inside the hotel lobby. (lux)



Securing the fun.

photo: web



Suiters in action.



photo: ang, kam

Impressum: Michael "Luxen" Graf (lux), Oliver "Aeverus Black" Lentz (aev), Peter "Akeela" Plickert (aki), Matthias "Angus" Bauer (ang), Andreas "Chitatz" Semmelmann (chi), Andreas "Curry" Wieland (cur), Alexander "draconigen" Lanchev (dra), Till "Draugvorn" Baar (dgv), Hannu-Heikki "hHP" Puupponen (hhp), "Kamuniak" (kam), Marc-Oliver "Kerocat" Krug (ker), Danny "Pegla" Palic (peg), Jürgen "webby" Härig (web)

Survivors and Selfies

With amusing games and a fast pace, this year's Fursuit Game Show was fun to watch. Limonello and Esven proved to be the fittest survivalists.

The tenth Eurofurence fursuit gameshow took place among representatives of the "tribes that inherited the earth". This setting was mirrored by the terminology: Participants were called "beasts" and the proceedings themselves simply "the

games". Eight teams of two "beasts" took part in twelve different events, including a multi-part finale between the two leading teams.

More or less necessary skills for survival in a post-cataclysmic world were tested. For example recognising audience members with traits like having their nickname begin with the letter B or being ready and willing to dance and sing "YMCA". The beast also were tested in their ability to lead blind-

ed veterans as guide dogs on an obstacle course.

Gathering a balanced diet from pictures of foodstuffs held by the audience or recognizing musical compositions when five songs are playing at once were considered similarly important abilities on a depopulated earth. And even the need to take selfies seemed to have survived; Dexter and Jenna emerged victorious with an astounding 34 selfies in three minutes.

A popular game required volunteers to selflessly consume energy drinks, providing the emptied cans for the contestants to build pyramids with. The finale (Trax and Mausie versus Limonello and Esven) involved one member of each team balancing a feather duster on a single forepaw while the other team member performed minigames as quickly as possible. Limonello and Esven emerged as

TIMETABLE

19:00

Closing Ceremony.....
Main Stage

21:00

Big Blue Dance.....
Main Stage

Dance, The Tribe of Harder Sounds
Panel Room 1: ECC Room 3

Games Corner - Lets Play!.....
Panel Rooms 4 and 5: Lyon and
Straßburg

winners of the fursuit gameshow.

The organization of the show this year was commendable, with short setup times, an animated scoreboard that actually worked and varied games that were easy to understand for both the audience and the contestants. Math, moderating the first time this year, did a good job with clear announcements and amusing commentary. Overall, the fursuit gameshow this year was fast-paced and entertaining, and certainly a success. (hhp)



Dexter navigating through a "minefield".

photo: web

"It was like coming home"

After a tornado had destroyed all their stables and enclosures, Rosi from Wildtierhilfe was close to giving up. Then the furries called...

This January, the Wildtierhilfe Fiel saw its blackest day. Within twenty minutes, everything the charity had built over three years was reduced to ruins. The tornado that hit their area was so strong that it ripped of the roof of the neighbour's house. When Rosi Fußshahn's husband went to inspect the damage, all he could say was: "Everything's ruined." Incredibly, the ani-

mals were all alive and unharmed and so Dirk and Rosi brought them to a barn next to their house that had remained intact.

"Knowing the animals were safe for now was good. But with the shelters and enclosures destroyed, we were close to giving up," says Rosi Fußshahn. But then, a wave of solidarity from both the local community and organisations like the Red Cross or Technisches Hilfswerk that sent out volunteers convinced them to go on. "And when the call from Eurofurence came, I thanked the Lord," says Rosi. "The furries have been in-



Rosi Fußshahn from Wildtierhilfe Fiel with Hobbit, the otter.

photo: chi

credibly generous and helpful," she says. "Coming here again after two years felt a bit like coming home. I've met many wonderful people

here and they still remember us." This morning, Rosi has returned to Fiel, continuing her work: helping animals in need. (lux)