Westerwelle in the Curio−Haus

Friday 18 September 2009 11:34

Slick. The FDP definitely know how to do an event like that. A bit corny at some points maybe, but with an attention to detail that makes it look and feel like Westerwelle is of presidential proportions. Arrows on the Westerwelle signs in the hood pointing in the right direction. Security that after the event remembers what items belong to you. Hosts giving up their seats for guests. Those aren't things you can just slap on any event, that's a mentality that's part of the FDP. They want to get things right, they manage to get things right and that is probably how they will run the country.

A bit odd to suddenly see Rolf Salo as MC in the classy Curio−Haus after only meeting him at some nightly torch−lit grill−event in a dark Stadpark. But it all fits in the democracy thing that started modestly in Lurup.

Talking about epic. When Westerwelle enters the room it's almost like he's wearing a boxing robe and gloves. From the back of the room packed with people he walks with his entourage through a narrow corridor through the audience to the stage while Don't Stop plays through the speakers. That totally outclasses Scholz and Wowereit. Going for the track Clinton already used back in 1992 wouldn't be my choice, but apparently Westerwelle is over forty, and it's probably the safest choice to make. And Eye of the Tiger would be a bit over the top.

On stage Westerwelle is professional. Maybe I've been to much into the communication thing to appreciate it as the general audience would. I see the product Westerwelle and not the person. But the product is perfect, maybe with the speech written by a team of professional writers, in clothes picked by professional stylists on a stage styled by professional stylists, delivered in a way made only possible after lots of training and experience. So what I also see is that there is a team behind Westerwelle, which isn't always possible if the focus is on the person. The FDP is an organization with a clear direction, and not like the SPD where every hotshot has his own agenda and opinion about what coalition partner they might be aiming for.

The almost boring thing about the FDP is that they mostly tell me what I already know. Like what's the point of shutting down a relatively safe German nuclear reactor and then instead import electricity generated by a relatively unsafe nuclear reactor somewhere in Verweggistan? That if you're making millions you're not eagerly awaiting what school system the German government has in mind for your kids. But at least they tell those things in an efficient and entertaining way. More efficient and entertaining than I do here anyway.

by Roland van Ipenburg
http://www.xs4all.nl/~ipenburg/blog/posts/play/2009/09/18/westerwelle−in−the−curio−haus/