



BLOCNotes October 2016

Editor: Dennis Elslander

The BLOCNotes Archive is also on-line, see
<http://www.bloc-brussels.com>

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by e-mail due to technical problems*

A word from our Chairman, Diana Morton-Hooper

Dear BLOCNotes Reader,

After an extraordinary September of hot weather we seem to be settling into autumn at long last, with most Brussels amateur theatre/musical groups in full swing of rehearsals. And so it is with BLOC. The BBQ was a great success even if that very day the clouds appeared and it rained so that we had to set up in the Grotezaal rather than in the courtyard. Thanks again to Dennis for organising such a happy event.



With a couple of unavoidable cast changes due to scheduling problems or illness, we now have a cast of 63 in *A Christmas Carol*, rehearsing regularly on Mondays and Tuesdays at De Kam. 2nd October saw us adding movement/dance to the schedule at our first Sunday rehearsal and this will continue now through October and November. The intrepid Deeks-Rousseaux-Gray builders and painters report that a Cratchit House is now built & painted, the Anderson House, Scrooge's place, three shops and a staircase as a multi-level acting area are coming on a treat. Some prototype costumes have been modelled to the cast so the Jolly Sisterhood is on full throttle - using their undoubted talents. Our Tiny Tim, Carolina Volcker, already has a leg brace and crutch to practise some heart-wrenching hobbling (!) thanks to the skills of Peter Mountain, and Appo's headstones and clock are coming on apace.

As you will all have learned by now, the June 2017 show is *HMS Pinafore* directed by Marie Rousseaux with Lionel Bams as musical director. It was high time BLOC re-discovered the beautiful harmonies and double choruses of Arthur Sullivan's music, together with the Victorian wit of W S Gilbert. And worked towards a smaller budget. The other consideration was *Blood Brothers* but we have put that on the back burner for now. Many of our younger members have a voyage of discovery ahead so I would encourage those who don't know G & S to youtube it to get an idea of what lies ahead.

Due to current uncertain financial times, we considered the huge cost of performing rights, our wardrobe of costumes and the exorbitant cost of body mikes. In choosing *HMS Pinafore* we can make a saving of nearly 15 thousand euros because we already have a majority of the costumes, there are no royalties to pay and we won't use body mikes. There will be a chance to discover and learn some of the music at the introduction evening and practice sessions followed by the auditions, all-in January 2017. Rehearsals will start in February 2017.

The financial year for BLOC now runs January to December (like the membership does) so our AGM will be in March and although we can disperse for the Festive Season without an AGM, we can't disperse without a pot luck party.....so the date will be Tuesday 13th December 2017 with some singing round the piano, mulled wine and mince pies.

But back to the show in hand: the music is coming along well, blocking small scenes has begun and some people know their songs and lines well already, encouraging others to get on with it! Catherine Brawn is in charge of advertising in the programme so if you have a fave local restaurant or shop that might benefit from an ad in the programme - with a potential 3000 in the audience, the key-clients of Expats- let her know. The department heads are gathering their teams together. If you are keen to volunteer to help on the production side, get in touch with Meera or Martin on blocxmascarol2016@gmail.com.

We don't have a firm offer yet for the BLOC November 2017 show but Emanuelle would love to hear from you with some ideas (elvergier@gmail.com).....

In the meantime, see you at De Kam!

Diana x

**DEADLINE NEXT BLOCNotes:
31st October 2016**

BLOC DIARY

Updated: 14-10-2016

Dates	Time	Event	Location
24/27-11-2016	20:00 & 14:30	Christmas Carol	CC Auderghem
13-12-2016	20:00	Pot luck Christmas Party	De Kam
10-01-2017	20:00	Presentation H.M.S. Pinafore	De Kam
DD-03-2017	20:00	A.G.M.	De Kam (TBC)
1/4-06-2017	20:00 & 14:30	H.M.S. Pinafore	De Bosuil
10-09-2017	12:30	Annual BBQ	De Kam

BLOC Committee Meeting Main points from 15-09-2016

BLOC Statutes: will be published in the Moniteur Belge soon. They will appear on the homepage after confirmation from the Belgian authorities.

BLOCBusters: Royalties were lower as we changed the number of seats in De Bosuil (due cafe théâtre setting!); disappointing ticket sales, but good revenue from our own bar and from selling the programme;

Insurance: a new member's insurance contract has been set up starting by November 2016; saves BLOC more than € 1000 per year;

New sponsor agreement: set up for 2016; more flexibility for both sides.

Christmas Carol (November 2016): auditions held just before summer break; rehearsals started; budget presented and agreed; publicity material will be available in three languages; schools express interest in show;

Show selection: Spring 2017: "H.M.S. PINAFORE": stage director: Marie Rousseaux, musical director: Lionel Bams; theatre: GC De Bosuil in Jezus-Eik.



BLOC BBQ 2016





*Based on the story by
Charles Dickens*

A Christmas Carol

The Musical

**BOX OFFICE
OPEN!!!**

**Book
your tickets
NOW**

Story by **MIKE OCKRENT & LYNN AHRENS**

Music by **ALAN MENKEN** & Lyrics by **LYNN AHRENS**

Original choreography by **SUSAN STROMAN**

Originally directed by **MIKE OCKRENT**

First performed by Radio City Entertainment

in Madison Square Garden

24th-27th November 2016

Auderghem Cultural Centre

Stage Director

Diana Morton-Hooper

www.bloc-brussels.com

Music Director

Steven De Mesmaeker

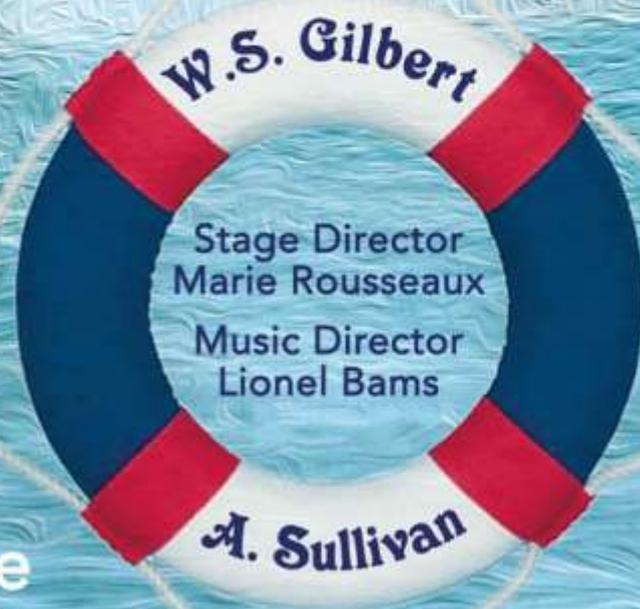


Brussels Light Opera Company
proudly presents:

H.M.S. *Pinafore*

❖ *The Lass that Loved a Sailor* ❖

1st - 4th June 2017
De Bosuil Cultural Centre
www.bloc-brussels.com





RUDDIGORE

"WHEN THE NIGHT WIND HOWLS IN THE CHIMNEY COWLS, AND THE BAT IN THE MOONLIGHT FLIES..."

...IT'LL BE TIME TO

**PARTICIPATE IN THE NEXT "SING G&S IN BRUSSELS" EVENT
ON SATURDAY, 22ND OCTOBER (14:30 FOR A 15:00 START)
AT THE DE BOSUIL CULTURAL CENTRE, JEZUS EIK,
1 WITHERENDREEF, 3090 OVERIJSE.**

JOIN US IN SINGING AND READING THROUGH GILBERT AND SULLIVAN'S "RUDDIGORE".

FOR MORE DETAILS, CONTACT SingGASBRU@gmail.com

BEWARE THE WITCH'S CURSE!

WEEK VAN 2016
NEDERLANDS

8^{de} - 15 oktober

IEDEEREK
aan het woord



'GELUKKIG ZIJN'

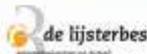
Meezingsessie GRATIS

Samen zingen we
de grootste Nederlandstalige liedjes van Will Tura,
Raymond van het Groenewoud, Noordkaap, Mira...
Iedereen welkom!

Wie zingt met ons mee?

Maandag 10 oktober 2016, 14.00 uur
GC de Lijsterbes, Kraainem
www.delijsterbes.be

Donderdag 13 oktober 2016, 20.00 uur
GC de Kam, Wezembeek-Oppeem
www.dekam.be



taal:
unie



CHANTEZ AVEC NOUS? FR

Au cours de la 'Week van het Nederlands', nous organisons **des sessions de chant en néerlandais**, aussi bien pour les néerlandophones que pour des non-néerlandophones. Au programme les plus grands tubes flamands. Pas besoin d'être un bon chanteur: ce qui compte, c'est de s'amuser.

SINGEN SIE MIT? DE

In der 'Week van het Nederlands' veranstalten wir **eine Mitsingsession mit Liedern auf Niederländisch**, für Niederländisch- und Anderssprachige. Auf dem Programm stehen die größten flämischen Hits. Sie brauchen kein guter Sänger sein: Spaß steht hier an erster Stelle.

LET'S SING ALONG? EN

During the 'Week van het Nederlands', we will be hosting **sing-along sessions for Dutch and non-native speakers**. The programme features major Flemish hits. You do not have to be a great singer, as the key aim is to have fun. Anyone who enjoys singing is welcome to come along!



Samenstelling:
Peter Schoenaerts / Pianist: Hans Primusz

In samenwerking met:
Parochiekoor St Pancratius en Odra (Kraainem)
Femina St-Pieter en BLOC (Wezembeek-Oppeem)



Lohjan Teatteri
ylpeänä esittää

My Fair Lady

Frederick Loewe
Alan Jay Lerner
Mikko Koivusalo

Ensi-ilta
29.10.2016

Perustuu Bernard Shawn
näytelmään Pygmalion



My Fair Lady in Finland

BLOC member Annina Alanen will star as Eliza in “My Fair lady” in Finland.

Some BLOC members expressed an interest in going to see this show.

For the moment the possible date would be the first weekend in December 2016, so after BLOC’s Christmas Carol.

Are you interested in seeing this Finnish My Fair Lady? Please contact Dennis Elslander ASAP.

The show tickets are € 25 per person but € 20 for a group of more than 10 people. For the flights, the earlier we book, the cheaper.



The Brussels Carol Concert Sunday 18 December 2016

CALLING ALL SINGERS

Come and sing some Christmas Songs, both secular and religious.
(Separately we also have a Children’s Choir - Ages 7-17.)

The Brussels Carol Concert is on Sunday December 18 at 4 or 5 PM. Royal Conservatoire of Brussels.

We are a long established choir. We date back 45 years! Our Music Director is well known Monnaie Opera assistant conductor and oboist, Dirk Boiy. His pianist is Mary Gow. Matt Carver assists him.

All are welcome to join. NO AUDITION. All voices are welcome.

Rehearsals 7.30 - 9.30
Hall at Chant d’Oiseau church
2 Ave de Chant d’Oiseau
1150 Woluwe Saint Pierre

Contact marygow@gmail.com or angela.winklehorst@ec.europa.eu
More info from www.brusselscarolconcert.com

INFO: WWW.DANSLUBTERPSICHORE.BE

LIVE MUSIC

COVER BAND

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

WE ARE “FOREIGN” BECAUSE THE BAND MEMBERS ARE OF SIX DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES. THE “AFFAIRS” MAKES US SOUND EXCITING - WHICH WE ARE!!

NEXT GIG

SAT 15/10 GC DE MAALBEEK, HOORNSTRAAT/RUE DU CORNET 97, 1040 ETTERBEEK (METRO: SCHUMAN)

DM/FROM - 20:00

INKOM/ENTRANCE - € 5.00

BRING YOUR DANCING SHOES

BARRIE (GUITAR) SHARON (VOCALS) TOBIAS (BASS) TONY (DRUMS) MAGGY (VOCALS) DAVE (THE REST)

