



BLOCNotes January 2017

Editor: Dennis Elslander

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

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A word from our Chairman, Diana Morton- Hooper

Dear BLOCNotes Reader,

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you all enjoyed a happy healthy relaxing break over Christmas and the New Year.

2016 was a busy year - three productions - soooooo exhausting that I think we all needed to recharge our batteries ready for what 2017 has to throw at us. What with Brexit and the mind-boggling outcome of the US presidential elections, we needed something like *A Christmas Carol* to take our minds off it all which in many ways it did. A week or so later, many of us gathered at De Kam for a lovely Christmas party where we were able to reminisce about the show, look forward to the festive season and speculate on what BLOC would have in store for us in the new year - thanks to everyone who brought food, to Dennis Elslander for the mulled wine and Peter de Schepper for the music.



Quite a few BLOC friends are busy, at time of writing, preparing for the ECC panto *Cinderella* and *Green Parrot's Joseph* - we wish them ALL great audiences and theatrical success. Break a leg!

On the BLOC front, the turn out for the HMS Pinafore Introduction Evening on 10th January was very encouraging. I counted about 65 faces - some familiar, some new, some from *A Christmas Carol*, a few new faces who had come to see the November show and liked it so much they want to join us (!), and a few stalwart Gilbert & Sullivan fans, delighted to have a complete *G&S* show on the BLOC horizon. The next couple of weeks will give people interested the chance to practise some of the songs and ultimately audition for roles as soloists or chorus. The June 2017 show at De Bosuil promises to be a traditional version - set in Victorian times - no body mikes, on a Deeks/Rousseaux set with Jolly Sisterhood costuming from the great BLOC Wardrobe, stage directed by Marie Rousseaux, a veteran of many Gilbert & Sullivan productions both on stage and backstage, and directing for the 2nd time for BLOC. Lionel Bams is Musical Director and already at the intro evening the Grotezaal was filled with the glorious harmonies of one of the chorus songs as he put us all through our paces - already helping us to sound pretty good. Marie & Lionel are joined by producers Alex Just & Emanuelle Vergier. There's scope for all ages, shapes, sizes and nationalities. As the operetta follows Ralph (pronounced Rayff!) and Josephine's rocky love story, hindered by hopeless baby farmer Buttercup, earnest Captain Corcoran, the ridiculous Sir Joseph Porter, the moody Dick Deadeye to name but a few characters, there will be lots of sailors, cabin boys, cousins, aunts, urchins.... a sailor's hornpipe, some comic acting and the chance to sing some wonderful *G&S* "double choruses". **All the information needed is on the website:** audition forms, music to download, a synopsis.....and of course you can look up HMS Pinafore on Youtube to give you an idea of how it could look and sound.

We don't know yet what we'll do in November 2017 - there was talk of *Mamma Mia* but sadly the rights are just not available for us yet..... So for now we need to think about what you would all like to do in the autumn. There's more about this further in these BLOCNotes.

We have an Annual General Meeting in March 2017 and soon information will be winging its way to you about this. In the meantime, it's Ship Ahoy and all aboard the good ship H.M.S. Pinafore!

See you at De Kam!

Diana x

**DEADLINE NEXT BLOCNotes:
05th February 2017**

BLOC DIARY			Updated: 16-01-2017
Dates	Time	Event	Location
22-01-2017	14:00	PINAFORE AUDITIONS: CHORUS	DE BOSUIL
24-01-2017	20:00	PINAFORE AUDITIONS: SOLOISTS	DE KAM
29-03-2017	20:00	A.G.M.	De Kam
1/4-06-2017	20:00 & 14:30	H.M.S. Pinafore	De Bosuil
10-09-2017	12:30	Annual BBQ	De Kam
23/26-11-2017	TBC	Autumn Show	CC Auderghem
February 2018	TBC	25th Anniversary De Kam	De Kam

BLOC Committee: next Meeting on 26-01-2017

BLOC 's Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.) 2017 Wednesday 29th March 2017 at 20:00

G.C. De Kam, Beekstraat 172, 1970 Wezembeek-Oppem

BLOC members who would like to be on the Committee must make themselves known to the present Committee before 31st January 2017.

The present positions on the Committee are: Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Treasurer and 4 Committee members.

VOLKSOPERA

Performs

The Zoo and Cox & Box

Libretti by F.C. Burnand (Cox and Box), B.C. Stephenson (The Zoo)
Music by **Sir Arthur Sullivan**

Dates: 21st March 2017 in Leuven and 4th April 2017 in Antwerp

More details will follow in the next BLOCNotes

Who would like to see this performance?

Please let Dennis Elslander know so, in case of enough people interested, he can organise a group booking

BLOC
MUSICALS & LIGHT OPERA

Brussels Light Opera Company
proudly presents: **ING**

H.M.S. Pinafore
↔ The Lass that Loved a Sailor ↔

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

W.S. Gilbert
Stage Director
Marie Rousseaux
Music Director
Lionel Bams
J. Sullivan

↔ Auditions ↔

*Dreaming of new horizons, feeling the sea breeze?
Then come and join Her Majesty's navy crew on board of
the H.M.S. Pinafore. Presentation for the BLOC spring
show, Gilbert and Sullivan's nautical operetta, "H.M.S.
Pinafore or The Lass that Loved a Sailor", on 10th January
at 20h, at De Kam. Newcomers are warmly welcomed!*

Introduction evening: 10th January 2017 at 20h
Audition preparation: 15th January 2017 at 14h
Audition preparation: 17th January 2017 at 20h
Chorus auditions: 22nd January 2017 at 14h
Solo auditions: 24th January 2017 at 20h

Mostly

at De Kam
Beekstraat 172
1970 Wezembeek-Oppem

**CHORUS AUDITIONS on
Sunday 22nd January 2017
are in De BOSUIL!!!**

Captain's log, 12 January 2017.

Report from the bridge:

It was heart warming to see so many interested to embark on board HMS Pinafore at the presentation on the 10th of January.

A promising crew, from young deck-hands to experienced mature sea dogs, ready to sail the ocean blue, with a bevy of nieces, sisters, cousins and aunts!

A very encouraging start as the rehearsal for the chorus audition sounded very nice.

I can't wait to cast off, but first the auditions ...

Chorus, 22 January at De Bosuil, 14h00
Soloists, 24 January at De Kam, 20h00

Marie

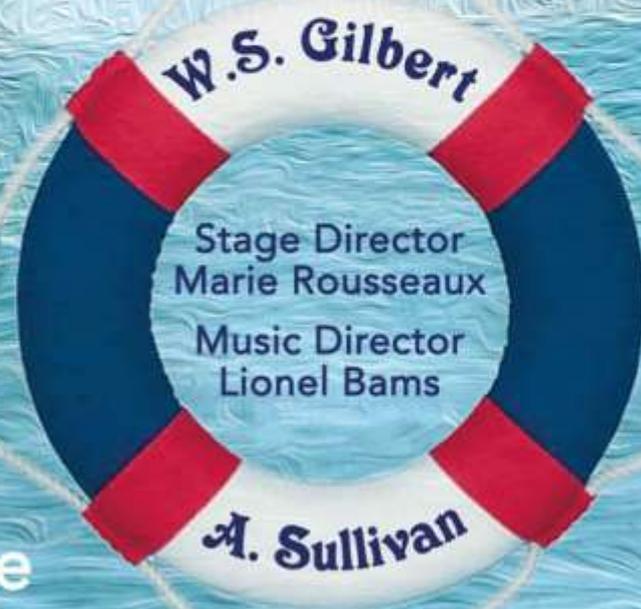


Brussels Light Opera Company
proudly presents:

H.M.S. Pinafore

❖ *The Lass that Loved a Sailor* ❖

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





Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

27-29 January 2017, Théâtre Saint-Michel, 1040 Bruxelles

Start your year off with a musical bang! Treat yourself, your family and friends with a trip to the theatre to see 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat', the much-loved musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice.

This family-friendly and spectacular show tells the biblical story of Joseph and his 11 jealous brothers in an extravaganza of different musical styles, from country-western and calypso to bubble-gum pop and rock 'n' roll. It's full of comedy, song and dance - and even features some pyrotechnics!

Choose from five performances between 27-29 January at Theatre Saint-Michel, near Montgomery. Your seats await. Tickets are available at <https://goo.gl/djVc1G>

MANY BLOC members take part in this show:
let's support them!!!

Let's support BLOC member
Rose-Marie Christiaens

BENEFIETCONCERT
TEN VOORDELE VAN
A TOUCH OF ROSE

ZAT.
25/02
2017

'T ZIJN DE
KLEINE DINGEN
DIE HET DOEN...

20U GEMEENSCHAPSHUIS HINGENE



POP/JAZZ-BAND
**DIVERSITY
UNITED**

ONDER LEIDING VAN
ELIZABETH FLYNN

Entree: 14€ // Studenten: 12 € //
Kinderen tot 12 jaar gratis // VVK 12€
Reserveren: getknownvzw@gmail.com
of Roosje Christiaens 03 297 41 14
Te koop: kledingzaak Divino Bornem en
Café Belle Vue Bornem

Staging Post De Kam

Staging.post.de.kam@telenet.be

announces

**An evening with a Spanish flavour
at GC De Kam on Sat 4th Feb, 8pm.**

172 Beekstraat, Wezembeek-Oppem.

Featuring

**Fabian Tibaldi ("Magaldi" in BLOC's epic, "Evita"),
John Smilie and selected floor singers**

And starring the up-and-coming, swinging, Flemish girl-band

"Encantadas"

**Come and give your support. Come early to be sure of a table. Doors open 19:30
Recommended donations of 15eu per person
All proceeds above costs to go to charity.**

G.F. HANDEL

Candlemas Messiah

DIRECTED BY PAM CLEMENTS, MBE

Saturday, 4 February 2017, 16h00

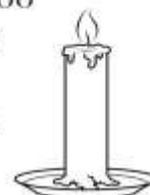
Chorus Rehearsal 09h30-12h00

Full Performance at 16h00

To Participate, Contact:

Singers: David Mitchell,
precentor@holytrinity.be

Instrumentalists: Pam Clements (director)
pamela.clements@telenet.be or tel. 02/731 72 17



SINGERS, MUSICIANS, AND AUDIENCE ALL WELCOME

Retiring collection in aid of
The Alzheimers Research Fund and
The Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children



HOLY TRINITY
BRUSSELS

RUE CAPITAINE CRESPEL 29
1050 BRUSSELS
HOLYTRINITY.BE