

BLOC

Notes

February 2020

MUSICALS & LIGHT OPERA

Editor: Dennis Elslander
Assistant Editor: Helen Krabb



Brussels Light Opera Company

Performing Rights: Gallissas Theaterverlag, Berlin



The Addams Family

Music & Lyrics by
Andrew Lippa

Book by Marshall Brickman
and Rick Elice

*A New Musical
Comedy*

28th - 31st May 2020

De Bosuil Cultural Centre

Witherendreef 1, 3090 Overijse

Stage Director: Emanuelle Vergier
Music Director: Steven De Mesmaeker

www.bloc-brussels.com



**LIVE
ORCHESTRA!**

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear friends,

I'd like to take the opportunity, in this first edition of BLOC Notes 2020, to wish you all a very Happy New Year!

Congratulations to all of you who auditioned for the upcoming 'The Addams Family'. Watching the auditions reminded me of just how much talent there is in the BLOC community. Emanuelle Vergier and her audition committee had a mammoth task choosing from such a wealth of wonderful performances. If you weren't cast for this show, don't worry! We always need help backstage, building and painting sets and props, with make-up and hair etc., so there's always a way to be part of the show team.

Don't forget that our November show has already been chosen (Chess, directed by Rachael Bateman) so that's another super production to look forward to.

In our quest to plan exciting events well in advance, you'll read here in BLOC Notes about the 'hot off the press' decision to stage 'The Pirates of Penzance' in May 2021. Even more exciting is the fact that we'd also like to take the show to England in the summer of 2021, to perform at the International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival in Harrogate, North Yorkshire. The last time BLOC appeared at the Festival (with 'H.M.S. Pinafore') was in 1999 (see photo). We're launching a survey to see how many of you would be interested in performing at the Festival in 2021 - please take time to respond to this (see article below).



Have fun! - Tony Lowe



The Addams Family

Auditions for The Addams Family were held in January, and a wonderful group of people came along to give it a go. Unfortunately there were too many people for us to cast everyone, and the talent on show made the audition panel's job really hard!

The decisions have now been made, and we are very pleased to share with you our cast:

Principals:

Chorus:

Lisa Armetta - Grandma

Abigail Prisk, Alex Just, Alfonso Ribot,

John Baldwin - Gomez

Alison Copner, Andrea Gonzalez,

PJ Brady - Lurch

Andreas Heyerick, Cedric Meijerink,

Josephine Draycott - Morticia

Christine Vedrin, Constança Ferraz,

Xavier Gascuel - Lucas

Danielle Tylke, Dennis Elslander,

Alan Gray - Mal

Diane Ntahimpera, Eliza Popper, Filipa Ferraz,

Lya Luca - Wednesday

Gibran Sanchez, Giulia Quarta, Ian Caisse,

Stéphanie Mareschal - Alice

Isabelle Deneyer, Ivana Skabrina,

Josh Rogers - Fester

Jasmine Daenen, Jeanette Marino,

Luc Townend - Pugsley

Jenny Fischer, Jeremy Thomas, Jessica Lovett,

Jessica Petter, John Morales, Jonathan Oakey,

Julia Just, Konstantin Woebking,

Lara van der Wiel, Lluís Bronsoms,

Marii Valjataga, Marjut Leskinen,

Mel Ciriaco, Olivia Townend, Oscar Thomas,

Owen Thompson, Roderik von Campenhausen,

Sari Saarenpaa, Sofia Tolkmitt, Sophie Caisse,

Sibylle Braun, Thomas Landsbert-Noon,

Vratko Jaron-Kohari, Wivica Stagell,

Xavier Diez

Rehearsals have started, and things are starting to get spooky! We will let you all know as soon as the ticket office is open. Until then, we leave you with this to ponder:

*"... Will love triumph,
or will everyone go home vaguely depressed?"*

Uncle Fester:

BLOC AGM 2020

The BLOC Annual General Meeting for 2020 will be held on

**Thursday the 26th of March 2020,
in the Grote Zaal at De Kam
(Beekstraat 172, 1970 Wezembeek-Oppem)**

All members of BLOC are encouraged to attend this meeting, where we will elect the committee to manage our Company for the coming 12 months, and make decisions about what our Company should aim for in the future.

Every member who has paid fees for 2020 is entitled to vote. If you have not yet paid your membership for this calendar year, please do so as soon as you can. (Please note that under the statutes of the Company there is no membership fee for those under 16 and therefore members under the age of 16 are not able to vote at the AGM).

Paid up members who are unable to attend the AGM in person may vote by proxy. Paid up members attending the AGM may hold a proxy for ONE non-attending member. To vote by proxy, you must fill in the Proxy Nomination form, and the person holding your proxy vote must have the signed paper with them at the meeting. Please register all proxy votes on arrival at the meeting.

The draft agenda and other information about the meeting will be sent by direct email to all paid up members shortly.

BLOC FUTURE SHOWS

As previously announced, BLOC is producing THE ADDAMS FAMILY in Spring 2020, directed by Emanuelle Vergier, and will perform CHESS in Autumn 2020, directed by Rachael Bateman.

We are now pleased to announce that we have also decided on our Spring 2021 production, which will be **THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE**, directed by Angela and Tony Lowe.

Furthermore, should the Company choose to do so, we have the opportunity to take The Pirates of Penzance to the Annual International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival, which will take place in Harrogate, UK, in August 2021. Several BLOC members have performed at this festival previously and they have assured us that it will be an amazing experience.

We will be gauging the interest of our current members for this during Spring 2020, before a final decision will be made about our participation in the 2021 Festival. **Look out for the survey - coming to your email-address shortly! Please do send in a response - we want to know what our members think of the proposal. Deadline 15 March.**

BLOC MEMBERSHIP FEE 2020

Fees for 2020 are 40 Euros for performing members and 20 Euros for non-performing members. Both membership types are for the 2020 calendar year.

Fees should be paid to the BLOC bank account, number: BE54 3101 7807 3797. In your payment please mention your name and "membership2020".

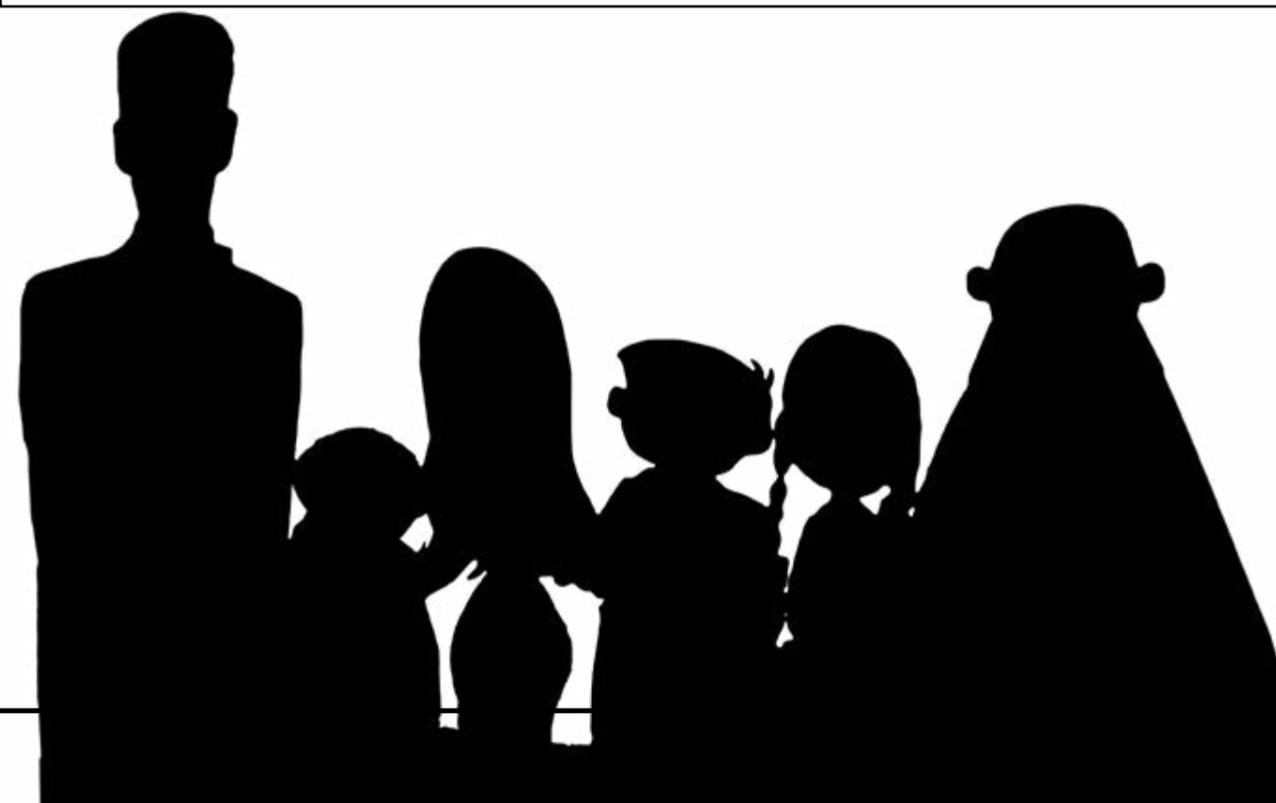
SUBMISSIONS FOR BLOCNotes

Deadline next BLOCNotes:
1 March 2020

The BLOCNotes Archive is available on-line. **See:**
bloc-brussels.com/blocnotes

WHAT'S COMING UP?

11-15 February	Shaping Dust	Fancy Another?	Cockpit Theatre London, UK
13-22 February	Three Days of Rain	ATC	Warehouse Studio Theatre, Schaerbeek
29 February	Fredric's Birthday	Sing G&S in Brussels	De Bosuil
29 February 1 March	Disney Dance Show	Jet's Academy	De Warandepoort
7 March	The Staging Post	The Staging Post	De Kam
21 March	Letters from Ireland	Furecante	St Janskerk, Tervuren
28-31 May	The Addams Family	Brussels Light Opera Company	De Bosuil
May	Fly me to the moon	The Irish Theatre Group	Warehouse Studio Theatre, Schaerbeek



On the following pages are a selection of shows and concerts we have been asked to share with our members. Many of them feature BLOC members performing.

For some great entertainment - check out these events:

Many of you may know Anna Rose van der Wiel who has been involved in numerous BLOC productions. She is now studying at the prestigious ArtsEd in London. Anna Rose and some others from her course have started a theatre company, and their first production will take place at the Cockpit Theatre in London from 11-15 February.

You can see more about the production here:

<https://vimeo.com/387947597>



Fancy Another? presents

SHAPING DUST

The Cockpit Theatre 19.30, 11th – 15th February 2020.

I miss her and she's still here

It's Emma's last day in her childhood home and Alice is packing boxes, trying not to think about it. Living with mid-to-late stage Alzheimer's, Emma's world has taken on a different dimension. She hurtles through her memories as she rummages through the boxes Alice is so desperately trying to pack away. Emma is led through her house and her life, reliving moments that delight and terrify her. Alice clutches at the past as it slips through her fingers. Tossed between the present and the past, both women are taken on a journey that will shake their sense of self. The clock is ticking, the removal vans are here, will Emma and Alice find a way of saying goodbye to the house together?



ACCLAIM FOR SHAPING DUST

'As a daughter of a mother with Alzheimer's, the show is both resonant and moving and captures delicately the changing nature of relationships as memory fades and the solidly familiar starts to dissolve.'

- Kate Maravan, Actor, Teacher, Writer @TheOldHousePlay.

'Shaping Dust - a beautifully imagined piece exploring the loss of connection to yourself and to those around you as a result of dementia. Sensitive, funny and heart-breaking, Shaping Dust is ensemble story-telling at its best.'

- Steve Hudson, Actor, Arts Ed Course Director.

'Magical Realism on stage.'

- Gail Sixsmith, Actor, Movement Director.

COMPANY MANIFESTO Fancy Another?

We are a company of female creatives with six languages between us. Hailing from Malta, Belgium, Australia and around the UK we are truly multi-national.

Beyond acting, we are dancers and movement artists, writers and singers, instrumentalists and puppeteers – throwing our skills into an unruly melting pot from which our theatrical style takes shape.

We make theatre that is ensemble-based, collaborative and entirely devised.

We are committed to connecting with audiences on an emotional and instinctive level through theatre that foregrounds the visual and sensorial. We step outside naturalism into the realm of movement, sound and object manipulation to explore the emotional and imaginative landscapes of our characters.

Bold, rule-breaking and genre-defying, Fancy Another? is a theatre company with heart, punch and a social conscience.

Fancy Another? has been generously supported by The Alzheimer's Society from the inception of Shaping Dust. We are continuing to work with the Maaïke Palmier Claus from the Alzheimer's Society. Representatives from Dementia Friends will provide post-show Dementia awareness talks after each show at The Cockpit.

Produced by



FANCY ANOTHER?

Presented by

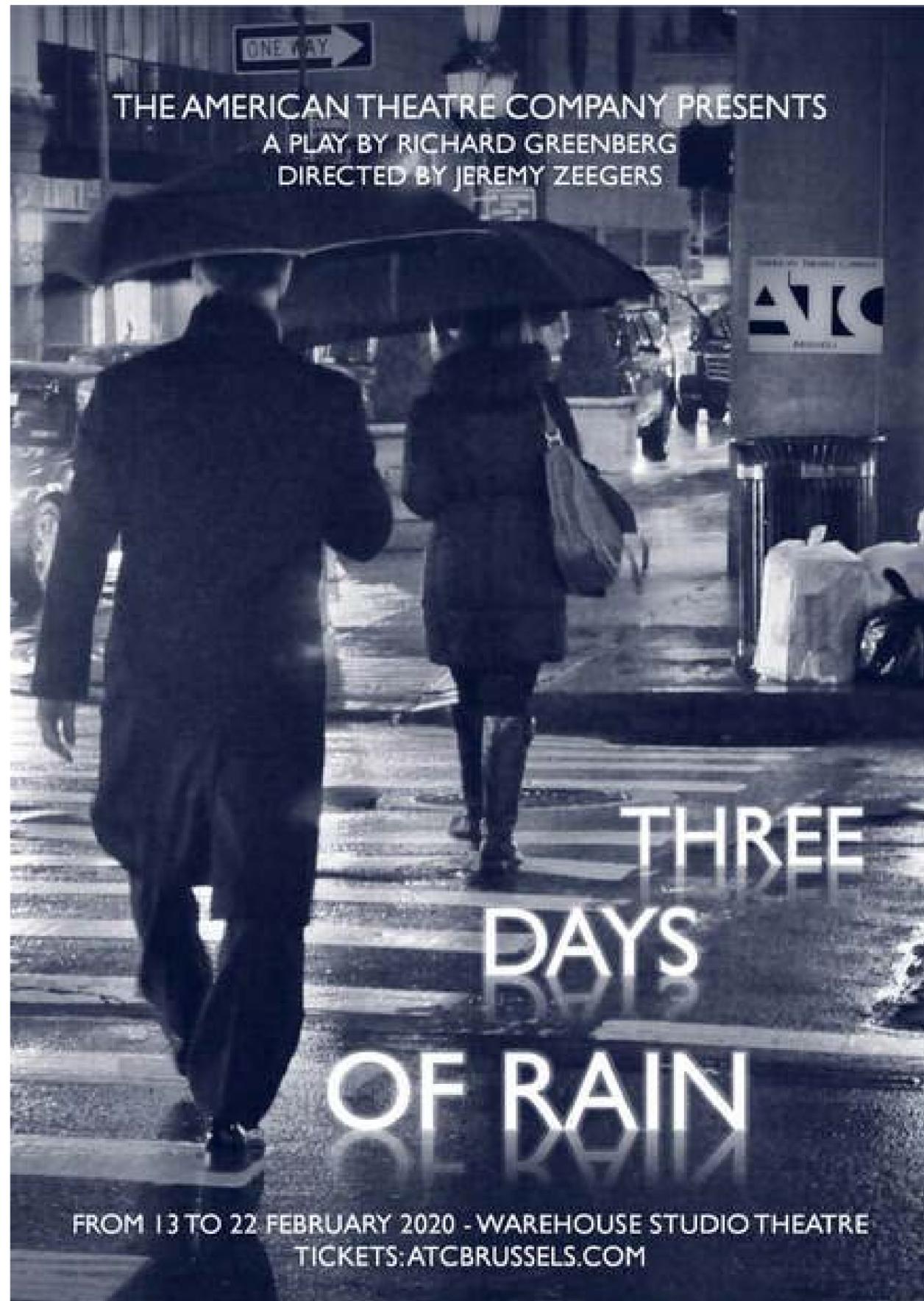
**THE
COCKPIT**

Supported by



More online at

https://www.thecockpit.org.uk/show/shaping_dust



De Warandepoort
Tervuren

Saturday 29 February &
Sunday 1 March 2020
at 15.30 hrs

For Tickets, contact Jeanette at
jetmmarino@gmail.com Prices: Adults € 12
Children under 16 yrs € 8



**It's a Leap Year!
It's the 29th of February!**
GILBERT & SULLIVAN's pirate apprentice, Frederic,
can celebrate his birthday!!

Sing G&S in Brussels

invites you to a fun sing-along afternoon to celebrate

Frederic's Birthday

Saturday, 29th February 2020
(14:30 to 18:00)

at the De Bosuil Cultural Centre, Jezus Eik,
1 Witherendreef, 3090 Overijse

(Kleine Zaal, Ground floor. Doors open at 14:00)



**IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE G&S EXPERIENCE.
SING SONGS FROM THE SHOWS, SEE VIDEO CLIPS
AND ENJOY FREDERIC'S BIRTHDAY FEAST.**



A small charge will be made to cover costs.

Vocal scores will be provided on the day.

For more information: singgasbru@gmail.com



www.TheStagingPost.net

Staging Post De Kam

For Good Music in a Café-Theatre Setting,

GC De Kam, 172 Beekstraat, Wezembeek-Oppem.
Tram No. 39, Stop "Louis Marcellis"

In association with PTPI-Europe, presents
a musical evening on

Saturday, the 7th Mar @ 20:00.

featuring

Rythmn & Blues from Zaventem's own
"Steppin' Out"

www.steppin-out.weebly.com



Plus, supporting act from the incredible

"Three Darn Hot"

Andrew's Sisters' Act!

Followed by a

A "Free Podium" in the bar 'til late.



Takings over costs go to charity.
Café-Theatre seating with space for dancing.
Recommended entry donation 15eu, kids for free.
Doors open at 19:30; come early to be sure of a table.

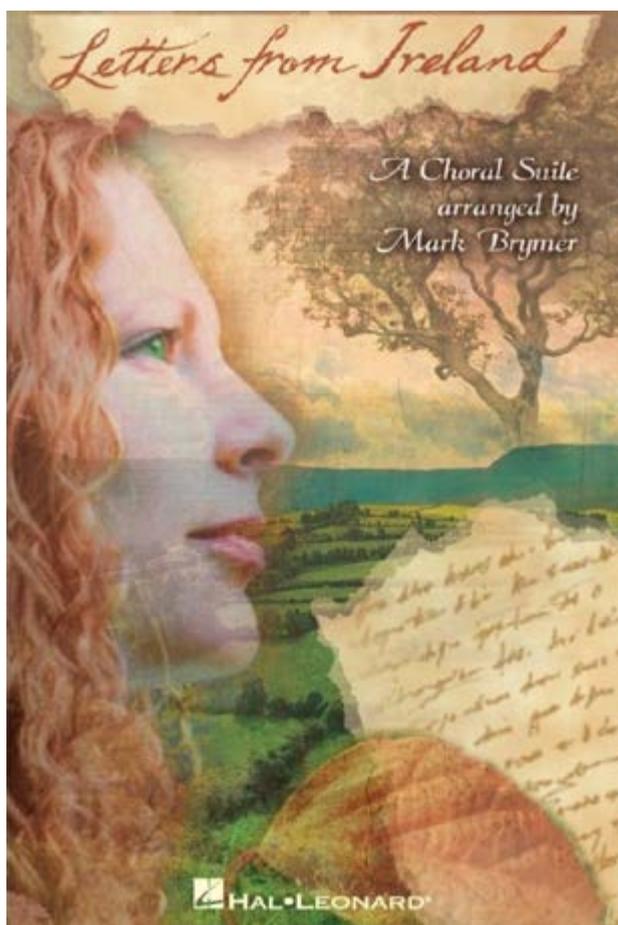
BLOC member Appo van der Wiel is a member of the Furacante Choir.
For more information or to get tickets, email Appo at appolonius.van.der.wiel@telenet.be

Letters from Ireland

Zaterdag, 21 maart 2020 om 20u00

St. Janskerk, Tervuren

*Furacante, gemengd koor o.l.v. Dominique Bonkain,
brengt Ierse volksliederen i.s.m. dansgroep 'Marlynes Irish Dancers',
Jean-Noël Remiche: piano, Marc Snackaert en Gerd Heyvaert: slagwerk
en Andreas Moulin: viool*



Na het concert worden typisch Ierse hapjes en drankjes aangeboden.

Inkom: 15€ voorverkoop, 18€ kassa, 10€ jongeren tot 12 jaar

Tickets bij: Gemeente Tervuren, leden van Furacante en

info@Furacante.be

www.furacante.be, find us on Facebook 'Koor Furacante Tervuren'