



# BLOCNotes

## October & November 2018

**Editor: Dennis Elslander**

The BLOCNotes Archive is also on-line, see

<http://www.bloc-brussels.com>

*BLOC cannot accept responsibility for non-receipt of BLOCNotes by e-mail due to technical problems*

<b>BLOC DIARY</b>			Updated: 09-11-2018
Dates	Time	Event	Location
22+23+24+25 November 2018	20:00 + 14:30	Oklahoma	CC Auderghem
08-12-2018	18:30	Oklahoma After Show & Christmas Party	De Bosuil
11-12-2018	20:00	The Sorcerer: Introduction	De Kam
13-01-2019	14:00	The Sorcerer: Auditions Soloists	De Kam
20-01-2019	14:00	The Sorcerer: Auditions Chorus	De Kam
23+24+25+26 May 2019	20:00 + 14:30	The Sorcerer	De Bosuil

### MICHAEL RAMSAY

Those who remember Michael Ramsay will be saddened to hear that he recently passed away at his home in Brussels at the age of 99.

A very accomplished musician and pianist, Michael took part in many of the Brussels Gilbert and Sullivan Society's (now BLOC) shows and was the Musical Director of the Society's production of "The Sorcerer" in 1983.

Michael landed in Normandy, 2 days after D-Day as a lieutenant in charge of an artillery battery and fought his way up through Belgium into Germany.

(His ancestor William Ramsay was in charge of an artillery battery at Waterloo placed a little to the left rear of Hougoumont and before the end of the day it had lost four officers out of five. Ramsay himself was killed about 4 P.M., during the heavy fire of artillery and skirmishers which was the prelude of the French cavalry charges. A bullet, passing through a snuff-box which he carried, entered his heart.)

Michael will be sadly missed by his many friends.

### BLOC's Membership Fee 2018

**As a performing member the fee for each person is 40 Euros for the calendar year 2018. In your payment please mention your name and 2018.**

**If you are a non-performing member the fee is 20 Euros for the 2018 calendar year.**

**The account is BLOC and the account number to pay to is: BE54 3101 7807 3797.**

**The fee is for every member of 16 years and older.**

**DEADLINE NEXT  
BLOCNotes:  
10th December 2018**

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear BLOCNotes Reader!

We are all so caught up with getting *Oklahoma!* ready for audiences that there has hardly been a moment to think of anything else. As the days to curtain up approach so tension mounts and excitement is palpable amongst both veteran and newbie. We are a cast of 70 and a crew of – well, nearly as many.

From my point of view as Aunt Eller I am particularly encouraged to have great production support from Sue de Bievre who is a tireless line-study buddy and Jennifer McCoy who is bashing out emails left right and centre to keep us all in the information loop, and from my lovely personal costumer, Claire Thomas, who has created my three wonderful outfits just as another 69 plus outfits are being created by the rest of the costume team. Not for me, silly – for the others..... Lots of cast seem to have acquired authentic cowboy boots and we are all yee-ha-ing all over De Kam. Gets quite annoying I guess for anybody not involved.

Commiserations to costumier/milliner Niki Marlow who has broken her arm (wrist?) who cannot sew for this show but who is involved somehow in the Jolly Sisterhood's activities. The props team are gathering butter churns, picnic hampers and (hopefully) the bizarre contents of suitcases and bags for wandering peddlers or lusty cowboys. Peter Mountain has created a dodgy kaleidoscope with a sinister purpose and Appo Van Der Wiel has made a fabulous surrey with a fringe on top plus a working windmill. The set building/painting team – Philip, Marie, John Hiley, Janet, Alan – have created a ranch-house

and a Dutch barn.....and wait till you see what Jean has done with a number of left feet – made them dance like they never believed they could. The Justs – Alex, Eva and Julia are a prime example of family participation – box-officing, producing, photographing, doing the (perfect) splits – I leave you to guess who does what.....

We have mums & dads, twins, brothers and sisters in the show and not a cross face amongst them. We can't wait to show you what we've been rehearsing and if, dear reader, you ain't in it, you sure gotta come and see it!

If we all survive *Oklahoma!*, then next stop is the May Show at De Bosuil with auditions on **13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> January 2019**.

Of course, Sir Anthony & Lady Lowe are already well ahead in their preparations for *The Sorcerer*: set designed, rehearsal schedules honed, costumes discussed. Their film trailer was a blast and if it's anything to go by, their intro evening should be a lot of fun on Tuesday **11<sup>th</sup> December** – try not to miss it.

*The Sorcerer* has music full of fabulous harmonies and there are some lovely quirky characters. The Lowes are setting it in the 1960s and promise a great spring workout. However, first, catch them in full voice in *Oklahoma!* as a farmer and a Federal Marshal's wife.

Have you seen Koen's re-vamped bar at De Kam? We love it. There are even de Kam Beer chocolates with coffees now. Come and see it!.....

But first buy your *Oklahoma!* ticket. OK? See you at De Kam?

DIANA x





Brussels Light Opera Company

© R&H Theatricals Europe, London / Albersen Verhuur B.V., 's-Gravenhage



RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S

# Oklahoma!

Music by Richard Rodgers  
Book & Lyrics by  
Oscar Hammerstein II

★  
*Based on the play  
"Green Grow the Lilacs" by Lynn Riggs  
Original dances by Agnes De Mille*



Stage Director: Marie Rousseaux  
Music Director: Steven De Mesmaeker

22<sup>ND</sup> - 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2018  
AUDERGHEM CULTURAL CENTRE



# OKLAHOMA! 2018

## A Sneaky preview.....



**Don't forget to  
buy your tickets  
For  
Oklahoma!!!**

## The Brussels Concert Band

has vacancies for the following instruments:  
1st. Trumpet, 1st. Clarinet and Baritone – Tuba – Euphonium

If you are interested please write to us using the [contact form](http://www.brusselsconcertband.com) on the website <http://www.brusselsconcertband.com>

BLOC's own drummer/percussionist Ludo Goubert plays in this band

The band rehearses every Tuesday from 20:30 to 22:30 at Rue de Verdun 344, 1130 Haren ( Brussels )





# The Sorcerer

An Original Modern Comic Opera  
by W.S. Gilbert & Arthur Sullivan



Love in a teapot!

## Introductory Evening

*Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018*  
*20:00 at De Kam*  
*Beekstraat 172, 1970 Wezembeek-Oppem*

**23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> May 2019**  
De Bosuil Cultural Centre  
[www.bloc-brussels.com](http://www.bloc-brussels.com)

# Oklahoma! After Show Party



AND

## BLOC's Christmas Party

will be combined

**On Saturday 8th December 2018  
In the Grote zaal of De Bosuil in Jezus-Eik**

**Doors: 18:30  
Presentations: 19:00  
Buffet: 20:00**

**With a mixed buffet including desserts  
by our BBQ Caterer  
And 1 free drink from BLOC**

**Contribution: EUR 20.00 per person  
NEW: EUR 15.00 for the second, third, fourth etc  
person of the same family**

**Music for dancing by BLOC's very own:  
DJ Peter  
Till midnight**



**Enrolment for the buffet is compulsory!!!**

**Deadline enrolment: Tuesday 04-12-2018**

**Enrolment and contact: Dennis Elslander @: [dennis.elslander@telenet.be](mailto:dennis.elslander@telenet.be)**

**We look forward seeing you there!!!**



**de kam**

**NEWSLETTER: UITGEKAMD**

De Kam has a monthly newsletter: Uitgekamd. It is published in Dutch but there is an English, French and German version. If you're interested in receiving newsletter electronically, you have to register via De Kam's website.

Here is the link: <http://dekam.be/en/newsletter>



**Hagenkoor Herent**  
**Vocaal Ensemble Frizant**  
**Instrumentaal Ensemble Orfeo**

leiding **Guy Verfaillie**

**Starring BLOC's**  
**Peter De Schepper**

**INTERNATIONAL CAROL SUITES**  
 I. CAROLS OF WESTERN EUROPE  
 II. CAROLS OF EASTERN EUROPE  
 III. CAROLS OF THE BRITISH ISLES

WRITTEN AND ORCHESTRATED BY  
**MARK HAYES**

zaterdag 15 december 2018 om 20.00 uur  
 In **TOVERVELD** Overstraat 60 3020 Veltem-Beisem

Kaarten: € 15,00 - 18 jaar: € 5,00  
 Via [www.hagenkoor.be](http://www.hagenkoor.be) | koorleden of aan de kassa

**SNOW**  
 THE CHILDREN'S CHARITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2018  
**THE SNOWMAN**  
**JAZZ**

NARRATED IN ENGLISH BY  
**IAN FORRESTER**

EUROPEAN FAIRYTALE ORCHESTRA  
 CONDUCTED BY  
**DIRK BOIJ**

**MARY GOW**  
 PIANO

DRAWING BY MARC STERCKMANS

**SUNDAY 2 DECEMBER 2018**  
**3 - 4.30 PM & 5.30 - 6.30 PM**

AUDERGHEM CULTURAL CENTRE  
 BVD DU SOUVERAIN 183 - 1160 AUDERGHEM

RESERVATION AND TICKETS: [EXLSNOWMAN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EXLSNOWMAN@GMAIL.COM) 0473 716964  
 15 EUROS & 12 EUROS (CHILDREN UNDER 12)

PROCEEDS TO BRUGMANNI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
[WWW.BRUSSELSNOWMANCONCERT.COM](http://WWW.BRUSSELSNOWMANCONCERT.COM)

**Brussels Carol Concert**

**Dirk Boij**  
 Choir Director & Conductor  
 Orchestra - Mellinos Ensemble

**Matthew Carver**  
 Assistant Choir Director

**Mary Gow**  
 Assistant Music Director & Pianist

**Judge Ian Forrester**  
 Master of Ceremonies

Special Guest  
**Soprano Lissa Meyvis**

**Sunday 16 December 2018 at 5pm**

St John's International School, Lycée Français Jean-Monnet,  
 British School of Brussels, British English Primary  
 School, European Schools of Brussels,  
 British Junior Academy of Brussels  
 ... and more

Koninklijk Conservatorium  
 50 Rue de la Régence, Brussels  
 Regentischestraat 50, Brussel

Info: [marygow@gmail.com](mailto:marygow@gmail.com) and 0473 716 964  
 Tickets: adults € 15 children under 12 € 10  
 Reservations: [brusselscarolconcert@gmail.com](mailto:brusselscarolconcert@gmail.com)  
[www.brusselscarolconcert.com](http://www.brusselscarolconcert.com) - [www.facebook.com/brusselscarolconcert](https://www.facebook.com/brusselscarolconcert)

[www.TheStagingPost.net](http://www.TheStagingPost.net)

**Staging Post De Kam**  
 GC De Kam, 172 Beekstraat, Wezembeek-Oppem  
 Tram No. 39, Stop "Beek"

In association with PTPI-Europe, present on  
**Friday, the 16<sup>th</sup> November @ 20:00**

A musical evening starring,  
 from UK, the incredible  
**"Thumping Tommys"**  
 Rollickin' Country & Folk  
[www.thethumpingtommys.com/](http://www.thethumpingtommys.com/)

With supporting acts from  
**Olivier Buckley**  
 Cuban songs & Blues

&  
**Thomas Valgaerts**  
 Own Contemporary Ballads

Followed by a  
**Free podium in the bar 'til late.**

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