



Un mot de notre Présidente

A Word From Our President Bernadette Ulens

Chères Amies,

Comme vous le savez, nous nous sommes vues contraintes d'annuler notre Assemblée Générale le 13 mars 2020.

Ceci nous attriste beaucoup, et ce pour deux raisons : (1) bien sûr, la cause directe de l'annulation et (2), le fait que nous n'avons pu nous retrouver comme chaque année pour faire le point sur les réalisations de l'année écoulée et regarder ensemble vers l'avenir.

Un vote sur les points essentiels à l'agenda a pu être organisé et les trois candidates au renouvellement de leur mandat ont été dûment réélues. Au même moment, la Commission européenne décidait d'encourager le travail à domicile et d'interdire l'accès aux bâtiments à tous les fonctionnaires non prioritaires et autres visiteurs. Le Bureau des Femmes d'Europe est donc inaccessible et fermé jusqu'à nouvel ordre.

Que nous arrive-t-il ?

Presque partout dans le monde, la vie quotidienne est bouleversée par un virus inconnu qui se propage à un rythme inquiétant. La Commission européenne et les gouvernements nationaux font appel au sens des responsabilités de chacun(e) pour combattre le Covid-19. Ce combat nous amène à nous confiner dans nos maisons et appartements, à éviter les voyages et les déplacements inutiles et à limiter nos contacts sociaux. Les conséquences en sont souvent douloureuses, ne nous permettant pas de voir nos (petits) enfants ou d'aller rassurer nos parents âgés.

C'est le monde à l'envers aussi pour les Femmes d'Europe... et pourtant, nous sentons bien que la solidarité, parmi nous et envers les plus défavorisés, reste plus essentielle que jamais.

C'est pourquoi j'ai choisi pour illustrer ce « Mot » une joyeuse photo prise en février dernier avec les représentantes des « Vraies Richesses », l'association lauréate de l'Action de Noël 2019 de la Commission.

Si les circonstances nous ont obligées à annuler ou à reporter tous nos événements, il n'en va pas de même pour nos projets : les NAT seront votés sous peu ainsi que quatre PAR qui auraient dû être présentés au CA du 27 mars. Nous ferons tout pour continuer à aider les plus fragiles, en dehors mais aussi au sein même de notre association.

Chères amies, soyez prudentes et, en vous protégeant et en protégeant vos proches, participez au combat. Faisons face toutes ensemble !

Bulletin d'information n° 4

April 2020 avril
Newsletter no. 4

Dear Friends,

As you all know, we have had to cancel our General Assembly on 13 March 2020.

We did so with great sadness, for two reasons: (1) of course, the direct cause of the cancellation; and (2) the fact that we could not take stock of the achievements of the previous year and look ahead towards the future.

A voting procedure was organised on the main points of the agenda and the three candidates wishing to renew their mandates were duly re-elected. Meanwhile, the European Commission decided to encourage teleworking, and the access to the Commission buildings was forbidden to all non-essential staff and other visitors. Consequently, the office of Femmes d'Europe is closed until further notice.

What is happening to us?

Almost everywhere in the world, daily life is shattered by an unknown virus which develops at an alarming rate. The European Commission and the national governments appeal to everyone's sense of responsibility to fight the Covid-19. This combat causes us to be confined to our house or apartment, avoiding unnecessary trips and limiting our social contacts. The consequences are often painful, not allowing us to see our (grand)children and to visit and reassure our aged parents.

This means that the world of the Femmes d'Europe is turned upside down as well ... and yet, we do feel that solidarity, amongst ourselves and towards those in need, remains more essential than ever.

This is why I have chosen to illustrate this message with a happy picture taken in February with the representatives of the "Vraies Richesses", the association that won the 2019 Christmas Action of the Commission.

Even though circumstances have forced us to cancel or postpone all our events, this is not the case for our projects: the NAT will be voted soon and so will the four PAR which should have been voted by the CA on 27 March. We will do everything to continue helping the most vulnerable, outside but also within our Association.

Dear Friends, be careful and please, by protecting yourselves and your loved ones, participate in the fight. We are all in this together!

Bernadette

Bureau Exécutif



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Contributions to the May Newsletter must be sent by e-mail with images and photos attached by **12 April** at the latest.

Les **contributions** au Bulletin de mai doivent être envoyées avec images et photos en annexe au plus tard le **12 avril**.

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- Two website sessions POSTPONED	
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- Lecture on "the Art of Laughing POSTPONED until 15 October	
- Easter and Spring Bazaar CANCELLED	
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Agenda

May – mai

Friday 8 11.00-16.00 UK Spring Lunch 14

June - juin

Tuesday 16 12.30-14.30 Bloomsday Brunch 15

September – septembre

Vendredi 25 19.00 Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden 16

Mardi 29 14.30 Charity Bridge Tournament 17

October – Octobre

Thursday 15 13.00 Lecture on “the Art of Laughing: Humour in 17th century Paintings & Prints” 18

Also coming up ...

Mai 24 Spectacle de théâtre ”Voltaire Dors-Tu Tranquille?”

June 9 Dîner Méditerranéen

September 24 Walk around Overijse

October 10-11 Affordable Art Sale - p. 8 – for more info contact
marypreston0@gmail.com or humphca@hotmail.com

October 16-18 Trip to Munich

October 22 Conférence sur Giuseppe Verdi

CANCELLED or postponed until further notice

March 9 Conférence “Comment se réinventer pour rester jeune” - POSTPONED

March 12 Visit to NATO - POSTPONED

March 13 AGM - CANCELLED

March 25 & 26 How to better navigate our website - POSTPONED

March 30 Pop-In Monday - CANCELLED

March 30 2ème Conférence “7 Femmes Artistes au coeur de l’Avant-Garde Internationale 1900 – 1940” par Christiane Struyven POSTPONED

April 2 Easter & Spring Bazaar- CANCELLED

April 20 3ème Conférence “7 Femmes Artistes Epatantes à New York 1940 - 1970” par Christiane Struyven – POSTPONED

April 26 Duo Hemiola - POSTPONED

POSTPONED until

September 29 Charity Bridge Tournament – p. 17

October 15 Lecture on “the Art of Laughing: Humour in 17th century Paintings & Prints” – p. 18



A helping hand

For nearly 45 years, our Association has been giving a helping hand to those in need, and especially women and children.

So it was an obvious partnership to work with the ASBL "Coup de Pouce", a French expression which can be translated as – right! – a helping hand. This Association has been working since 2004 in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in particular to rescue street children and to train young people to become economically independent.



The Association is based on the three Es – Education, protection of the Environment, and Entrepreneurial training (essentially organic farming, and sewing).

In the DRC, as throughout the developing world, sewing is not a pastime; it is a necessity, to make a school uniform, renovate a second-hand garment, adjust a loincloth. Sewing is a reliable way to escape poverty and achieve self-sufficiency. The women in the DRC who have frequently endured violence, desertion by their husband, or widowhood at a young age, often with numerous children to care for – for those women, learning to sew offers a lifeline to a better future, for them and for their children.

The local arm of Coup de Pouce, the Green Mango centre, has been teaching women to sew for some fifteen years. Over that period approximately 500 women have been trained, and the project, named "de fil en aiguille" (one thing leading to another) has taught

them to both to repair and make clothes. This develops their talents and in the process they regain their self-respect and escape the miseries of poverty.



. Project of the month – Projet du mois .



Some have gone further and learned to design clothes or become sewing teachers. These women have become role models for others, and as a result, there has been an ever-increasing demand for the sewing workshops. Because of this, and also because the original sewing machines had become obsolescent, the Green Mango lacked crucial furniture and equipment to pursue its work - not just sewing machines, but tables, all the accessories (thread, scissors, etc) and the more sophisticated equipment, including tools to work leather and to embroider, so that well-finished garments could be produced, with greater value-added.



And this of course is where FdE came in, and provided the funding for the necessary equipment, so that "De fil en aiguille" could continue to offer a better future to young women (and some young men) and their children.



Teaching women to sew...it seems a small thing. But these women are not only enabled to provide food and education for their children. They are pillars of development in their communities. By giving them the means to be independent, "De fil en aiguille" helps them to gain economic weight and prestige. They learn to speak out and play a role in community affairs, and they contribute to making their society fairer and more democratic. So the "Coup de Pouce" given by Femmes d'Europe is a stone thrown in the waters, and the ripples spread...

De "fil en aiguille"

*Maeve Schiratti Doran
Projects Committee*

The Delta Works – A Dutch master plan in hydraulic engineering of last century

Today I would like to introduce you to a technical world wonder of our times. In October 1986, Queen Beatrix opened the largest and most advanced seawall in the world, thereby completing a plan which had taken almost thirty years to carry out. The Plan – The Delta Plan.

The Greeks named the Nile after the fourth letter of their alphabet, delta, which is shaped as a triangle. Later, the word delta became the generally accepted term for mouths of rivers that take a triangular form where they flow out into the sea.



The Netherlands - the name says it all. Large swathes of the land lie under sea level. Ever sturdier dikes, dams and dunes are required to hold back the sea and to ensure that this densely populated country remains inhabitable. If there were no line of defence or no installations to pump out the ground- and rain-water from the lower-lying polders, half of the Netherlands would be flooded. This has been so for centuries.

The greatest ever disaster so far occurred on that night of 1 February 1953 when large parts of Zeeland and South Holland were inundated with water as a result of the fatal combination of a spring tide and a fierce northwesterly storm. Hundreds of dikes broke, and about 200,000 hectares of fertile farmland were submerged. 1,835 people drowned, 72,000 had to be evacuated, more than 200,000 animals died, and approximately 47,000 buildings were damaged.

When the sun, Earth and the moon are in alignment, their gravitational pull on water is at its strongest,

and one speaks of a spring tide. When the sun and the moon are at right angles to Earth, the sun and the moon attract each other, and one speaks of a low tide or neap tide.

Delta areas are often the habitat of a very rich and varied system of plant and animal communities. With their rivers, deltas serve as nurseries for young fish, shellfish, worms and other animals. If they were enclosed, the North Sea estuaries would cease to serve as breeding grounds for fish or to attract the huge flocks of birds that forage on their sandbanks at low tide; furthermore, their important mussel and oyster cultures would disappear. The engine of the ecosystem in a delta area is the tide - that is, the alternation of low and high water, or ebb and flow.

Soon after the 1953 disaster, a special commission was set up, which very rapidly came forward with proposals intended to prevent new floods from occurring in the future. In 1958, the Delta Act was passed by the Dutch parliament, a bold plan to alter the coastline of the southwestern Netherlands in such a way as to reduce considerably the risk of flooding.

The Delta Plan involved the construction of two large bridges, five primary and five secondary dams in four estuaries, and the reinforcement of the dikes along the Nieuwe Waterweg and the Western Scheldt - the connections, respectively, to Rotterdam and Antwerp. Later came the Eastern Scheldt seawall, though in 1958 it was as yet unheard of.



The works were carried out according to plan. The final and most difficult operation was the closing of the Eastern Scheldt with a dam more than 8 kilometers long. The closing of this estuary had been planned for 1978. However, by then, a major campaign to keep the Eastern Scheldt open and

. General Interest - Intérêt général .

spare the fragile natural environment had gathered force.

The proponents of the barrier emphasised its safety aspects and the expected improved potential for agriculture. After years of debate, the Dutch government decided to set up an inquiry into the possibility of building a dam which would only be closed in the event of storm floods. The danger with this kind of storm surge barrier was that it might fail at the critical moment. Nevertheless, the Dutch government bowed under the strong pressure of the movement in favour of the protection of nature and, instead of a dam, had a storm surge barrier built.

This involved a secure passage structure, through which tidal water could actually still find its way to the Eastern Scheldt. Such a project had never yet been designed nor implemented anywhere in the world. The hydraulic engineers wanted to keep the Eastern Scheldt open and, in case of a threat to safety, to be able to close it.

The construction of the barrier was a new challenge for Dutch engineers. It was clear that neither the experience gathered in the course of centuries nor existing techniques would be enough to close the wide and deep sea channels involved, where the difference between high and low water is about three metres. Twice a day,

water flows in and out of the estuaries. There are strong currents and considerable sand movements, and the storms of the North Sea generate powerful waves. New techniques had to be developed quickly : this was the beginning of a new era in hydraulic engineering.



Neeltje Jans – The Delta is 140 km distance from Bruxelles, 1.40 minutes – worth a visit !

*Brigitte Haus,
Austrian Group*



AFFORDABLE ART SALE
Paintings, prints and art books
C.I.E. Overijse
Sat 10 & Sun 11 October 2020
12.00-17.00

The UK group welcomes donations of items to sell during this weekend event

For more information, please contact Mary or Carol
marypreston0@gmail.com
humphca@hotmail.com



The Food that Sustained Northern Europe in Winter

Some time ago there was an article in The New York Times about a wonderful new vegetable that had become fashionable. It was full of nutrients, cheap and versatile. The vegetable was called "kale", and as I read on I realised that it was a staple of my childhood diet, green cabbage*.



My parents grew it in the garden together with other kinds of cabbage. The beauty of green cabbage, as with Brussels sprouts, is that it is frost tolerant. It would stay in the garden all winter until it was needed for cooking.

During winter we would eat green cabbage as "grønlangkål", German "Grünkohlessen", with white potatoes and sausage or meatballs. These days kale is a part of modern cuisine and can be served in salads, in soups, as juice or smoothies, as crisps or any other way the imagination can conjure up. While green cabbage used to need freezing to make it less bitter, nowadays new varieties have been developed that taste sweeter and can be eaten without having been frozen first.

In the past large portions of cabbage were boiled at Christmas in a copper kettle to feed the household over the holidays. Cabbage contains the vitamins B, C and K and is also a good source of fibre. It was an important source of vitamin C for the general population until the introduction of the potato. On a less pleasant note it contains sulphur compounds that are released if the cabbage is overcooked

and give off the offensive smell of boiled cabbage.

Cabbage belongs to the species *Brassica oleracea*, which comprises white and red cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, Brussels sprouts, collard greens, savoy cabbage, kohlrabi and others.

The wild cabbage grows on limestone cliffs and beaches in southern and western Europe. It does not like encroachment by other plants, and it is salt tolerant. It stores water in its thick leaves to help it survive its harsh conditions.

It is thought that the cultivation of cabbage dates back 3000 years. It might have been grown in Mesopotamian gardens, but it is not clear if either the ancient Egyptians or if the ancient Hebrews knew it. Non-headed cabbage was probably domesticated before 1000 BC, and head-forming cabbage is known from the first century AD. It is the latest developed of the important food crops in use today, but one of oldest cultivated vegetables.



The ancient Greeks were familiar with the vegetable. Waverley Root ** relates a story about an ancient Thracian king, Lycurgos, who was caught by Dionysos, god of wine and madness, in the act of pulling up vines. In fury the god tied Lycurgos to a vine to await his punishment. Dionysos was known for being cruel, so the king wept in fear. Where his tears fell, cabbage plants grew. If cabbage and vines grew close to each other, it was believed that the wine would taste of cabbage.

The Greeks did not regard cabbage as a delicacy, but as something with which to fill one's stomach, but the Romans relished it and considered it a luxury food. The gardeners around Rome cultivated cabbage and created many of the cultivars we know today, with which to titillate the discriminating palates of the Roman upper classes.

Waverley Root has a story about how cabbage became red. A young, unmarried girl in Périgueux, who became pregnant, was harassed by the other villagers. One day on her way home she balanced a cabbage on her swollen belly. Why she did that is not explained, but she had to run the gauntlet of her jeering neighbours. The good bishop of Périgueux happened to come by. He took her hand, hid the cabbage under his scarlet robe and accompanied her home. When he took the cabbage out from under his robe, it had turned red.

Broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts etc. did not arise spontaneously, but as the result of careful selection and pollination of plants. They are not the result of natural mutations, but of a targeted effort. Although the names

of plants cannot always be taken as proof of origin, it is thought that broccoli was developed in Italy, perhaps in Tuscany, and that Brussels sprouts really were created in the Low Countries.

Cabbage was grown in the gardens of the estates of Charlemagne. Its real breakthrough came when the cook to King Charles VI of France, Taillevent (1310-1395), served a dish of cabbage at a banquet. From then on there was no holding it back. Step by step cabbage conquered Europe, both as a delicacy for the rich and as a nutritious food for the poor, who might even have subsisted entirely on turnips and cabbage during lean times.

The story would not be complete without a mention of fermented cabbage, sauerkraut, which is still a staple food in Europe.

Lately, with the renewed attempts to better our western diet and replace junk food and fast food with healthier fare, cabbage has got a new role together with other sturdy vegetables.

Nina Paaskesen

*For the purposes of this article I have used the term "cabbage" for *Brassica oleracea*. I am aware that for English-speakers "cabbage" means mostly white and red cabbage, but in other languages the name of many of these vegetables incorporates the word for "cabbage", for instance "choux-fleur" or "Grünkohl", so for them it is natural to view all these plants as "cabbage".

** Waverley Root, *Food – An authoritative and visual history and dictionary of foods of the world*, Simon and Schuster, 1980

Assemblée générale en état d'urgence

Après l'annulation de notre Bazar de Noël pour cause d'attentats il y a quelques années, voici l'annulation de l'Assemblée Générale pour cause de Coronavirus... Sage mais pénible décision.

Notre Bureau Exécutif a mis toute son énergie à malgré tout faire en sorte que les actions indispensables à la bonne marche de l'Association puissent se faire et organiser un rassemblement des votes chez sa Présidente Bernadette Ulens.



La journée prévue pour l'Assemblée Générale a donc été remplacée par une journée « allez aux urnes » ! Nous avons défilé chez Bernadette à la « queue leu leu » pour y déposer nos bulletins durant une bonne partie de la journée ... Les impératifs étant : (1) l'approbation des comptes annuels 2019 et la décharge au Conseil d'Administration, (2) l'approbation du budget prévisionnel 2020, (3) les élections du Bureau Exécutif i.e. le renouvellement du mandat de la Secrétaire Générale : Niovi Kyriazakou, de la Vice-Présidente Projets : Eva Töttösy-Tackoen et de la Vice-Présidente Presse et Communication: Isabella Quattrocchi qui ont été ré-élues et (4) le maintien de la cotisation annuelle de 50€ pour 2021.

Cela permettra à l'Association d'aller de l'avant.

Nous devrons faire preuve de beaucoup de créativité tout au long de l'année pour combler les manques à gagner des annulations, surtout du

Bazar de Pâques et des reports d'évènements dû à cette pandémie qui en découlent, mais nous sommes certaines que nous y arriverons !

Annual General Meeting in a state of emergency

After a Christmas Bazaar cancellation some years ago, we now face our General Assembly cancellation due to the spreading of the coronavirus disease. A wise but painful decision.

Our Executive Team has taken all the necessary actions to avoid administrative problems by organising the collection of annual ballots at the residence of Bernadette Ulens, our President.

So, our General Assembly's day has been replaced by a “go and vote” day! We have been queuing to drop our votes during the day as planned. The main issues to be tackled being: (1) the approval of 2019 annual accounts and the discharge of the Administrative Council, (2) the approval of the 2020 provisional budget, (3) the elections to the Executive Board i.e. the renewal of the mandates of the Secretary-General: Niovi Kyriazakou, of the Vice-President Projects: Eva Töttösy-Tackoen and of the Vice-President Press and Communications: Isabella Quattrocchi all of whom have been re-elected and (4) the 50€ annual subscription agreement for 2021.



We will need to be very creative during the rest of year to be able to compensate the losses, especially the Easter Bazaar and the postponed events following the pandemic, but we are confident we will reach our goals!

*Gay Charles
BE Group*



General Meeting - Assemblée Générale

Results of the ballots - Résultats du vote

Bilan de l'exercice 2019	170 OUI - 0 Non - 0 Blancs - 0 Nuls
Approbation du budget prévisionnel 2020	169 OUI - 0 Non - 1 Blancs - 0 Nuls
Mandats à renouveler :	
Niovi Kyriazakou - Secrétaire Générale	170 OUI - 0 Non - 0 Blancs - 0 Nuls
Eva Töttösy-Tackoen - VP Projets	169 OUI - 1 Non - 0 Blancs - 0 Nuls
Isabella Quattrocchi - VP Presse et Communication	161 OUI - 9 Non - 0 Blancs. - 0 Nuls
Cotisation annuelle pour 2020 50€	170 OUI - 0 Non - 0 Blancs - 0 Nuls



The composition of the Executive Board remains unchanged

La composition du Bureau Exécutif reste inchangée

Présidente / President	Bernadette Ulens
Secrétaire Générale / General Secretary	Niovi Kyriazakou
VP Projets / VP Projects	Eva Töttösy-Tackoen
VP Manifestations / VP Events	Ghislaine Troubetzkoy
VP Presse et Communication / VP Press and Communications	Isabella Quattrocchi
Trésorière / Treasurer	Liesbeth Knulst
Vice-Trésorière / Vice-Treasurer	Bernadette Grünhage

UN DON DE PRINTEMPS POUR RESTER SOLIDAIRES
YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS VITAL NOW

Chères Ami(e)s,

C'est le 2 avril, que nous devions nous retrouver à Beaulieu pour notre traditionnel Bazar de Pâques.

Hélas, ce 5^{ème} « Bazar de Pâques et de Printemps » n'aura pas lieu, étant donné le terrible fléau qui règne et nous frappe tous, mais les plus fragiles encore davantage.

Le Bazar et tous les événements annulés auraient apporté une contribution importante à notre budget « Projets ».

Nous prévoyons un grand nombre de demandes d'aide suite aux conséquences du coronavirus. Un don de votre part aujourd'hui nous permettra d'y faire face demain.

Vos dons, petits et grands, sont à verser

- soit directement sur le compte de l'Association **BE47 3100 7081 9180**, en mentionnant 'Don'
- soit sur le compte « Fonds des Amis de Femmes d'Europe » auprès de la Fondation Roi Baudouin, **code IBAN BE10 0000 0000 0404**, avec la communication structurée **017/1610/00025**.

Merci

Le Bureau Exécutif des Femmes d'Europe

Dear Friends,

We should have all been together on 2 April in Beaulieu for our traditional Easter & Spring Bazaar.

Sadly, this and all other events had to be cancelled due to the awful situation we are facing and which is affecting us all, especially those who are in a weaker situation than ourselves.

All these events would have brought a considerable contribution to our 'Projects' budget.

We already foresee a large number of requests for our help following the consequences of the coronavirus. A donation from you today will allow us to face the forthcoming challenges.

Your donation, small or large may be made by bank transfer:

- either to the account of our Association **BE47 3100 7081 9180**, mentioning 'Donation'
- or, to the account of 'Fonds des Amis de Femmes d'Europe' in the Fondation Roi Baudouin, **code IBAN BE10 0000 0000 0404**, using the structured communication **017/1610/00025**.

Thank you,

The Executive Board of Femmes d'Europe

. Événement future - Upcoming event.



The UK Group of Association Femmes d'Europe invites you to our

SPRING LUNCH

with BRING AND BUY SALE

On Friday 8 May 2020, 11.00 – 16.00

in Overijse



Come any time between 11.00 and 16.00 to this friendly and sociable event.

Kitchen open all day for drinks and fabulous cakes/desserts.

Delicious homemade buffet lunch served from 11.30-15.00.

For sale: Books, plants, homemade food, small treasures, and more!

- To donate homemade food, books or plants (cuttings or seedlings)
Please contact

Rosemary Collins (Overijse): 02 687 2495 (rcollins.be@gmail.com)

Jill Hawkes (Brussels): 02 242 1463 (jill.hawkes@gmail.com)

Contact Rosemary Collins if you need directions.

All proceeds from the day will go to our humanitarian projects

. Événement future - Upcoming event.



The Irish Group
is delighted to announce its third
Bloomsday Brunch
hosted by

Ambassador Helena Nolan

on Tuesday 16th June 2020 from 12.30-14.30 p.m.
at the
Embassy of Ireland, Rue Froissart 50, 1040 Bruxelles



This year the Bloomsday event echos the Irish Embassy's: #VisibleWomen2020 theme. It will consist of brunch (Irish breakfast) together with a keynote introduction by the Ambassador, Joyce readings by members of the Irish Theatre Group and music.

Registration fee: € 36 per person to be transferred to:

Association Femmes d'Europe: IBAN: BE 47310070819180

mentioning your name, number of places, e-mail address & Bloomsday Brunch

Places are limited, so register early via www.assocfemmesdeurope.eu to avoid disappointment!

Contact: Marian: marianconneely99@gmail.com 0476 40 20 79

Maura: maura.carroll@brutele.be 0477 28 57 62

Fiona: fiona.joyce@skynet.be 0476 31 02 33

This is a Charity event and all proceeds go to aid the projects funded by Femmes d'Europe '*Helping those in need*'. **Should you not be able to attend, a donation would be more than welcome.**

A l'occasion de la Présidence Allemande du Conseil de l'Union Européenne,
l'Association Femmes d'Europe et le Freistaat Sachsen
sont très heureux d'annoncer la venue de la

SÄCHSISCHE STAATSKAPELLE DRESDEN

sous la Direction de **MYUNG-WHUN CHUNG**

7^{ème} Symphonie de Dvorak - Hymne européen de Beethoven

le vendredi 25 septembre 2020 à 19 heures précises
au Studio 4 de FLAGEY Place Sainte-Croix
1050 Bruxelles



Tenue de ville

Prix **unique** pour le concert suivi du verre de l'amitié : 55 €

Placement libre – « first come, first served » dès 18 heures.

Enregistrement sur le site www.assocfemmesdeurope.eu

Information : commassocfde@gmail.com

SARTON

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. Événement future - Upcoming event.



The Irish Group
is delighted to announce its annual
Charity Bridge Tournament & Reception

on Tuesday **29 September 2020**



Cost: €35 per person;
€20 for persons only attending the reception
Payment guarantees participation

Venue: St Anthony's Parish Centre,
Av des Anciens Combattants 23-25,
1950 Kraainem (ample parking)

Registration from 13H45. Play begins 14H.30 sharp. Coffee will be served between 13h45 and 14h15.

Reception and prize-giving will follow play at about 18H30.

Registration: www.assocfemmesdeurope.eu

Payment by 24th April at the latest to the

Association's account: IBAN BE 47 3100 7081 9180,
mentioning your and your partner's names and
"Irish Bridge":

Information:

Maeve: maeve.doran@skynet.be ☎ 0474 516 702
Maura : maura.carroll@brutele.be ☎ 0477 285 762

*All proceeds will be dedicated to the humanitarian projects of the Association.
Should you not be able to attend, a donation would be more than welcome*

Presented by the Dutch Group with the highly appreciated support of the
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

'The Art of Laughing: Humour in 17th century Paintings & Prints'

Lecture by

Thera Folmer-von Oven



The fool in Roemer Visscher,
Sinnepoppen, 1614



Godfried Schalcken, The useless moral
lesson, circa 1680/84, The Hague Mauritshuis

Everyone knows the paintings with merry companies in which there is dancing, music making, wine drinking and flirtation. This genre was extremely popular in the seventeenth century. But is this just about entertainment or is there more to it? What does the fool do in the midst of the party and why are these young people dressed so showy? The popular emblem books are an important source for the interpretation. These are picture books in which a certain concept is explained on the basis of an image. Apparently everyday situations and objects are given a symbolic explanation. It is not surprising that this explanation is moralizing. The underlying message is: having fun is allowed, but beware of the dangers. Especially the young suitors and their loved ones have to be careful! Humour goes hand in hand with morality, learning and entertainment. This lecture is about the slippery path of love, marriage, marriage (watch out for women wearing the pants), the unequal couple and old age.

Thera Folmer is an art historian and gives lectures and courses about art. She has been working as curator of the Liberna Collection, a private collection of old books, prints and drawings.

Thursday 15 October 2020

Location: Embassy of the Netherlands

Avenue de Cortenbergh 4 -10, 1040 Brussels (Metro: Schuman)

Time: lecture 13.00 hrs. Drinks and sandwich lunch from 12.15 hrs

Entrance fee (lecture and sandwich lunch): € 26

. Registration: <http://www.assocfemmesdeurope.eu/our events/humour in paintings>.

Payment to the account of the Association: BE47 3100 7081 9180. Please mention your name,

The Art of Laughing and number of tickets. Payment will confirm your participation

Information: Carien Italianer, T 0496 477803, E carienitalianer@hotmail.com

Maddi van Amstel: 0478 555 614, E maddivanamstel@gmail.com

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Law.Tax

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une conférence interactive joyeuse

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d'innovation et de relations

Par Philippe Boulanger et Guy Burkhardt



Lundi 9 mars 2020 à 20 heures

POSTPONED

Bruxelles, 1310 La Hulpe

Inscription en ligne: www.assocfemmesdeurope.eu/-Nos-evenements-

Participation: 34 € p.p. 'Verre de L'amitié' inclus

Virement sur le compte de l'Association: IBAN BE 47 3100 7081 9180

Communication: conférence 9/3 – nombre – nom

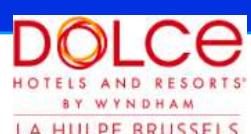
Renseignements:

Monique Seber: moniqueseber@gmail.com 0475 24 92 38

Mapie Doux: mapiedoux@gmail.com 0473 89 95 41

Possibilité de diner sur place avant ou après la conférence au restaurant **ARGAN**
ouvert de midi à 23 h réservations 02 290 98 00 www.dolcelahulpe.com/fr/restauration

Avec nos sincères remerciements à l'Hôtel Dolce



*La totalité des bénéfices de la soirée est dévolue aux projets humanitaires de l'Association Femmes d'Europe aisbl.
Si vous ne pouvez assister, il vous est loisible de faire une donation qui sera très appréciée.*

. Événement future - Upcoming event.



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POSTPONED



2 SESSIONS :

Mercredi/Wednesday 25/03 10:00

Jeudi/Thursday 26/03 18:30

Fondation Nadine Alexandre Heusghem
Rue de Livourne 129
1000 Bruxelles



The Multinational Group is pleased
to invite you to visit NATO Brussels

Thursday 12th of March at 14 h

Meeting at 13.30 h at South Entrance
Boulevard Léopold III

Program

POSTPONED

- 13.30 Arrival at the main entrance, security check, and transfer to the Washington Treaty Room
- 14.00 Briefing and Q+A on NATO's Organization and Political Agenda
by a senior official from the Public Diplomacy Division (PDD)
- 15.00 Coffee/Tea Break
- 15.30 Briefing and Q+A on NATO's Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda
by a representative from the WPS team
- 16.30 End and departure

Necessary requirements for registration:

Family Name, First Name, Date of Birth, Nationality, Passport or ID Number

Deadline for registrations Friday 28th of February

Information: Irena Majcen irena.vmajcen@gmail.com 0488 87 69 82
Mapie Doux mapiedoux@gmail.com 0473 89 95 41

Registration: www.assocfemmesdeurope.eu/-Nos-evenements-?lang=en

Payment: 29 € p.p. to F d'E BE47 3100 7081 9180 mentioning Name + NATO

Public transports:

STIB/MIVB: lines 12, 21 (Airport/Place Schuman/Place Luxembourg) and 65 (Central Station)
De Lijn: lines 272 and 471 to Brussels North Station.

There is a train station located at Bordet (trains from this centre or Schuman), 15 minutes walk from NATO (or by tram)
STIB/MIVD tram lines: 62 (stops in front of NATO), 55 stop Da Vinci (1.25km away from NATO).



. Événement future - Upcoming event.



le Groupe Belge vous invite

lundi 30 March à 15H à la

2^{ème} CONFERENCE SUR LES FEMMES ARTISTES

« 7 femmes artistes au cœur de l'avant-garde internationale 1900-1940 »

Sonia Delaunay, Gabriele Münter, Paula Modersohn-Becker, Hannah Höch, Benedetta Marinetti-Cappa, Georgia O'Keeffe, Frida Kahlo. Les œuvres de toutes ces femmes ont été récemment exposées dans les plus grands musées et vendues à des prix faramineux...

par
CHRISTIANE STRUYVEN

Diplômée en Droit (K.U.Leuven) et
Histoire de l'Art (Université de Cambridge)

A la Fondation Nadine Alexandre Heusghem
rue de Livourne 129 – 1050 Bruxelles

La conférence sera suivie du verre de l'amitié

Veuillez vous enregistrer sur le site www.assocfemmesdeurope.eu
(ou auprès de Gay Charles - 0475 34 74 09 - gaycorinne.charles@gmail.com)

Postponed

ET

Effectuer le paiement de 28€ par virement sur le compte de l'Association
IBAN BE 47 3100 7081 9180 BIC BBRUBEBB

Avec les communications : Conférence + date + nombre de personnes + nom

. Événement future - Upcoming event.

Presented by the Dutch Group with the highly appreciated support of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

'The Art of Laughing: Humour in 17th century Paintings & Prints'

Lecture by

Thera Folmer-von Oven



The fool in Roemer Visscher,
Sinnepoppen, 1614



Godfried Schalcken, The useless moral
lesson, circa 1680/84, The Hague Mauritshuis

Everyone knows the paintings with merry companies in which there is dancing, music making, wine drinking and flirting. Entertaining people are pic

POSTPONED UNTIL 15 OCTOBER

but
are these young
entertainment. These
everyday
is moralizing.
young suitors and
entertainment.

This lecture is about the slippery path of love, marriage (watch out for women wearing the pants), the unequal couple and old age.

Thera Folmer is an art historian and gives lectures and courses about art. She has been working as curator of the Liberna Collection, a private collection of old books, prints and drawings.

Thursday March 26 2020

Location: Embassy of the Netherlands

Avenue de Cortenberg 4 -10, 1040 Brussels (Metro: Schuman)

Time: lecture 13.00 hrs. Drinks and sandwich lunch from 12.15 hrs

Entrance fee (lecture and sandwich lunch): € 26

. Registration: <http://www.assocfemmesdeurope.eu/our events/humour in paintings>.

Payment to the account of the Association: BE47 3100 7081 9180. Please mention your name, The Art of

Laughing and number of tickets. Payment will confirm your participation

Information: Carien Italianer, T 0496 477803, E carienitalianer@hotmail.com

Maddi van Amstel: 0478 555 614, E maddivanamstel@gmail.com

C'M/S

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All profits will go to our humanitarian help projects

Association Femmes d'Europe aisbl

. Upcoming Event – Evénement à venir .



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Jeudi 2 avril de 12 à 18 heures
Thursday April 2 from 12 to 6 pm



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All profits will go to our humanitarian projects

. Événement future - Upcoming event.



le Groupe Belge vous invite

lundi **20 AVRIL à 15H** à la

3^{ième} CONFERENCE SUR LES FEMMES ARTISTES :

« 7 femmes artistes épataantes à New York 1940 - 1970 »

Helen Frankenthaler, Joan Mitchell, Lee Krasner, Agnes Martin, Alice Neel, Yayoi Kusama, Bridget Riley. Les oeuvres de toutes ces femmes ont été récemment exposées dans les plus grands musées et vendues à des prix faramineux...

Postponed

par **CHRISTIANE STRUYVEN**

Diplômée en Droit (K.U.Leuven) et
Histoire de l'Art (Université de Cambridge)

A la Fondation Nadine Alexandre Heusghem
rue de Livourne 129 – 1050 Bruxelles

La conférence sera suivie du verre de l'amitié

Veuillez vous enregistrer sur le site www.assocfemmesdeurope.eu
(ou auprès de Gay Charles - 0475 34 74 09 - gaycorinne.charles@gmail.com)

ET

Effectuer le paiement de 29€ par virement sur le compte de l'Association
IBAN BE 47 3100 7081 9180 BIC BBRUBEBB

Avec les communications : Conférence + date + nombre de personnes + nom

Le bénéfice de la conférence est dévolu aux projets humanitaires de l'Association Femmes d'Europe aisbl. Si vous ne pouvez assister, il vous est loisible de faire une donation qui sera très appréciée.

. Événement future - Upcoming event.



Les Groupes danois, lituanien et polonais vous invitent au concert du

DUO HEMIOLA

Le 26 avril à 16 heures

dans la belle maison de Tove Blaabjerg Sørensen
Beukenlaan 31, 3080 Tervuren

Parking facile dans la rue, mais pensez au covoiturage



Postponed

La guitariste lituanienne Ieva Baltmiskyte et le violoncelliste polonais Mieczyslaw Szynal vous proposent un voyage musical allant du 16^e au 19^e siècle, un programme insolite et varié, le tout joué sur divers instruments historiques à cordes pincées et frottées. Ieva joue du luth, de la lyra-guitare et du théorbe, qui sont les ancêtres de la guitare moderne. Mieczyslaw joue du violoncelle baroque.

Participation : 33 € p.p. Verre d'amitié et zakouskis inclus

Veuillez-vous enregistrer sur le site www.assocfemmesdeurope.eu puis procéder au paiement par virement sur le compte de l'Association IBAN BE 3100 7081 9180 BIC BBRUBEBB

Communication : Duo Hemiola 26.4. – nombre de personnes – nom

. Événement future - Upcoming event.



The Irish Group
is delighted to announce its annual
Charity Bridge Tournament & Reception

on Tuesday 5 May 2020



Cost: €35 per person;
€20 for persons only attending the reception
Payment guarantees participation

Venue: St Anthony's Parish Centre,
Av des Anciens Combattants 23-25,
1950 Kraainem (ample parking)

Registration from 13:45. Play begins **14:30 sharp.**
Coffee will be served between 13:45 and 14:15.
Reception and prize-giving will follow play at about 18:30

Registration: www.assocfemmesdeurope.eu

Payment by 24 April at the latest to the
Association's account: IBAN BE 47 3100 7081 9180,
mentioning your and your partner's names and
"Irish Bridge":

POSTPONED

Until 29 September

Information:

Maeve: maeve.doran@skynet.be ☎ 0474 516 702
Maura : maura.carroll@brutele.be ☎ 0477 285 762

« Sweet Jazz Dinner & Dancing »

Friday 21 February 2020

featuring Buster & René de Smaele's Swing Band
with the beloved vocalist BRUCE ELLISON
at The Royal Lawn Tennis Club of Brussels

C'est avec grande joie que j'ai rencontré à nouveau les dames de cette Association importante et pas n'importe quelles dames : LES FEMMES D'EUROPE !

J'ai tout de suite ressenti une grande amitié entre elles...une amitié qui pourrait montrer à la Commission européenne comment les femmes peuvent faire l'union ! (smile).

Ce soir-là Nadja Allgeier réunissait les groupes de Finlande et du Royaume Uni. Nous avions toutes et tous bravé la tempête pour nous retrouver dans cette demeure agréable du Royal Tennis Club de Bruxelles.

Lorsque j'ai ouvert la porte de ce lieu j'ai été agréablement surprise par cet escalier grimpant dans une tourelle... j'étais en quelque sorte dans un ancien château ! Puis tout de suite mon époux et moi avons été happés par un swing bien jazzy vous donnant envie de tourner les hanches et de danser.

Très vite nous nous sommes retrouvés un verre de champagne à la main, toutes ces dames soucieuses de choyer nos petites papilles. Pendant ce temps Bruce Ellison ressuscitait Louis Armstrong, nous avions l'impression qu'il était parmi nous ! Bravo Bruce.

Quelle chaleureuse ambiance tant dans les salles qu'à la table d'honneur de la présidente Madame Bernadette Ulens qui nous accueillait ainsi que Madame Jacqueline Vastapane, présidente de l'Amade Belgique (œuvre créée par la Princesse Grâce de Monaco) et Monsieur Simon Gronowski dont la vie est digne d'un film de Spielberg.

Nous sommes toutes et tous très émus par ce qu'il a vécu, lorsqu'à 11 ans il saute du train qui l'emménait à Auschwitz en compagnie de sa mère et de sa sœur. Elles ne reviendront jamais. Son père meurt de désespoir.

Après la guerre Simon fait des études de droit, il devient avocat et, depuis des années, il consacre sa vie à transmettre son histoire, non dans une optique de vengeance mais pour expliquer et pardonner.

D'ailleurs au mois de mars prochain, le fils de son ancien gardien de prison à la Caserne Dossin à Malines, une nazi flamand, à qui il a pardonné sera comme lui nommé Docteur honoris causa des universités laïques de Bruxelles: ULB et VUB.

La cérémonie aura lieu le 18 mars à la Monnaie.

Simon est avocat, musicien, écrivain et conférencier. Sa vie a inspiré le célèbre compositeur Anglais Howard Moody qui a créé un opéra intitulé PUSH, car sa maman l'avait poussé à sauter du train. Cette œuvre a été jouée à la Chambre des Communes de Londres en présence de la reine d'Angleterre et à Bruxelles à la Monnaie en présence de la reine Mathilde.

En tant que musicien de jazz, Simon a été invité à New York par Woody Allen dans son club et en juillet dernier à Bruxelles aux Beaux Arts pour jouer avec lui quelques accords de jazz.

Tout au long de cette soirée l'amitié était présente même au dessert lorsque ces dames ont fêté l'anniversaire de trois de leurs amis(es) sous les accords des trompette, clarinette, saxophone, etc.

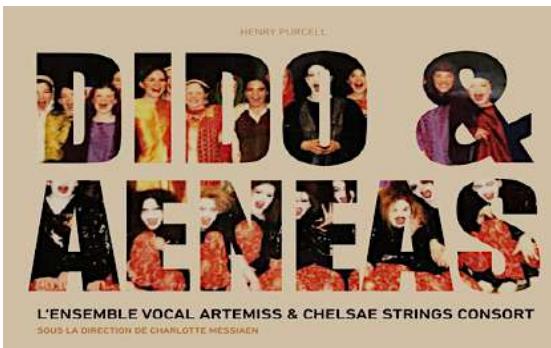
Nous gardons aussi le souvenir d'avoir dansé au son, notamment, de « Georgia » de Ray Charles magnifiquement interprété!

Nos oreilles ont été gâtées, nos petits estomacs rassasiés par de délicieux mets... un excellent restaurant !

Une soirée que nous garderons dans nos coeurs par tant de preuves d'amitié.

Merci chère Nadja, merci Mesdames les « Femmes d'Europe », bravo pour ce que vous faites car le profit de cette soirée ira intégralement à des projets humanitaires, belle et noble initiative.

Claudie Gorse
Présidente du Lyceum club international de Belgique



Dido & Aeneas Opera by Henry Purcell

On a rainy and cool Sunday afternoon, numerous members and friends of our Association found their way to the Salle Laetitia in Ixelles. A brightly lit and nicely decorated hall set the stage for a lovely musical performance.

Charlotte Messiaen, member of the Hungarian group, conducted a concert version of the opera Dido & Aeneas, performed by the vocal ensemble 'Artemiss' and Chelsae string consort. This is the only opera written by the baroque composer Henry Purcell between 1683 and 1688. It consists of a prologue and 3 acts.



Purcell and his librettist Nahum Tate based the work on an episode in Virgil's Aeneid, the ancient Roman epic about the Trojan prince, Aeneas, after the fall of Troy.

In Act one, after escaping from Troy, Aeneas and his men set sail for Italy, where he is destined to found Rome. Blown off course to Carthage on the northern shore of Africa, Aeneas falls in love with Dido, Queen of Carthage. The act ends with general rejoicing.



In Act two, the Dido the Sorceress and her witches are intent on destroying their happiness. To trick Aeneas into leaving Dido, Sorceress, disguised as Mercury, reminds Aeneas of his destiny in Rome and commands him to leave Carthage. Dido and Aeneas realize that they must separate.



In Act three, as the fleet is prepared to leave, the wicked Sorceress and her witches celebrate their victory and sing of their delight. Dido and Aeneas sing the famous duet 'Away, away! No, I stay - Away, Away!' When Aeneas realizes that he must leave, Dido is embittered and broken hearted, she knows she cannot live without him. She then prepares to meet her fate – death on the stake - in the moving aria 'When I am laid in earth' (also known as 'Dido's lament'), whereupon cupids come to scatter roses on her tomb, 'soft and gentle as her heart'.



The enthusiasm and sense of humour of the young singers and string ensemble, together with some amusing costume details, particularly for the witches, made for a great experience. Charlotte Messiaen, apart from conducting the ensemble, also played the role of Mercury, telling Aeneas that his destiny was to leave to found the city of Troy, creating the enormous dilemma between his duty and the love for Dido, eventually leading to a very sad ending.



This sadness was quickly forgotten when the audience's gaze fell upon the generous cake and sandwich buffet, lovingly prepared by our Hungarian friends. Much socializing followed, lubricated by excellent Hungarian wines, thanks to the Hungarian Embassy. It seemed like nobody wanted to go home after such an enlightening and beautiful musical afternoon.

Many thanks to all the ladies from the Hungarian group, your hospitality is world famous! And a great big 'Thank you' to Charlotte Messiaen and all the singers and musicians who gave their time so generously.

Renate Smith, Austrian group



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In memoriam



Nous avons la grande tristesse de vous annoncer
le décès accidentel de Matteo Prodi, neveu de **Flavia Prodi**, ancienne Présidente d'honneur
de notre Association.
Toutes nos condoléances vont à sa famille.



Le groupe italien a la grande tristesse de vous faire part du décès le 23 mars 2020 de
Madame Francesca Barzini Le Piane
Elle a été membre du groupe pendant de très longues années et laisse un grand vide derrière
elle. Toutes nos condoléances vont à la famille.



Nous avons la grande tristesse de vous annoncer le décès de
Nina Timar
membre du groupe belge. Toutes nos condoléances vont à sa famille.

IN MEMORIAM

Le groupe finlandais est en deuil, il vient de perdre brusquement deux de ses membres très actives.

Françoise de Saligny – passionnée de musique classique et d'arts plastiques, la culture c'était elle –
on lui doit entre autres deux manifestations qui ont projeté notre groupe dans la lumière – une expo
consacré au Design finlandais et un concert donné par la pianiste Laura Mikkola – beaucoup d'artistes
ou de designers finlandais lui doivent leur renommée en Belgique – toujours très généreuse et
enthousiaste, elle en faisait bénéficier notre Association.
Näkemiin Françoise.

Pirkko Suomi was the handicrafts "chef" in the Finnish group. She was extraordinary in creating wares
for the Christmas Bazaar until the disease took over. She was talented and imaginative and could
manufacture a variety of patchwork articles, some of which became a great success like bottle covers
and sous-plat parfumé. In her beautiful bright drawing room it was a pleasure to knit, sew, cut and
crochet or wrap Christmas cakes in good company.

Pirkko muistamme sinua lämmöllä !

A leurs familles et ami(e)s ,nous ne pouvons que leur dire “ nos pensées avec vous” !

Welcome to our new members

Belgique: Christiane Struyven, Beate Seidel-Beelitz, Julie Leclerc

Chypre: Ioanna Pilavaki, Kalliopi Avraam

Irlande: Caoimhe Fleming-Farrell, Sinéad Tiernan

LuLu: Maryse Lessel-Faust, Melina Chryssafi

UK: Sue Bird

Grèce: Zeta Dermari

AELE/EFTA: Greta Castus Vandenkerckhove

Portugal: Jana Barcelos

Espagne: Marie Acosta Nieto

Book donations – Dons de livres

La collecte de livres en bon état aura lieu à Beaulieu 5,
jeudi 23 et mardi 28 avril de 10h15 à 11h45.

S.v.p., vérifiez si c'est possible d'entrer dans le bâtiment avant de sortir.

Books in good condition may be delivered at Beaulieu 5,
Thursday 23 and Tuesday 28 April from 10:15 to 11:45.

Please check on the website if it is possible to enter into the building before you set
out.

For more information, contact jill.hawkes@gmail.com



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Foie gras d'oie prestige (Sauterne) – 300 gr

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Saumon fumé d'Ecosse extra-doux prétranché à la main – 300 gr

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