

discover
BENELUX

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Towards the future of furniture:
exclusive interview
with Ineke Hans

**SPOTLIGHT
ON BRUSSELS**

**PLUS
CULTURE,
TRAVEL &
EVENTS**

**PLASTIC FISHING
FOR A CLEAN FUTURE**

**BUSINESS
SPECIAL**

PROMOTING BELGIUM, THE NETHERLANDS & LUXEMBOURG

Out & About

That celebratory summer feeling is here, and the longer days mean spending more time with family and friends. As June bursts into life, embrace the sunshine and embark on a cornucopia of exciting events tailored to all ages and interests. From outdoor markets to immersive digital experiences, there's something for everyone to enjoy this month.

TEXT: DANA MARIN

ARTIST: Photo: Eva Broekema

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Fête de la Musique
16-21 June, various cities, Luxembourg
The biggest music event in Luxembourg brings hundreds of concerts around the country. Musicians of all genres and skill levels will perform in public spaces such as parks, streets and squares. The program is diverse, aiming to entertain all audiences. The festival is a celebration of cultural diversity, promoting music as a universal language that brings people together.
www.fetedelamusique.lu

Erwin Olaf & Hans Op de Beeck: Inspired by Steichen
Until 11 June, Luxembourg City, Luxembourg
This exhibition marks the 50th anniversary of Edward Steichen's death and features contemporary artists Erwin Olaf and Hans Op de Beeck collaborating for the first time. Photographs, watercolours and sculptures come together to create a unique experience and new, unexpected connections between three artists who are quite different.
www.nationalmuseum.lu





Open Garden Days. Photo: Peter Kooijman

Museum Night

3 June, Leiden, the Netherlands
Who hasn't dreamed of spending a night in a museum? Museum Nights are popular events in the Netherlands, taking place in various cities. In June, it's time for Leiden's museums to open their doors for a night. The 15th edition of Museum Night Leiden offers a thrilling array of

museum events in the city, ranging from creative workshops and discussions, to guided tours of the city. The event takes place between 8pm and 1am, followed by an afterparty. There are many museums open that night, among them, the Rijksmuseum van Oudheden, Museum Volkenkunde, Hortus Botanicus Leiden and more! museumnachtleiden.nl

Open Garden Days

16-18 June, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Every year, on the third weekend of June, Amsterdam unveils one of its hidden treasures: the canal gardens. These gardens, privately owned or belonging to an institution, are closed to the public during the rest of the year. On the Open Garden Days weekend, people can admire the amazing green oases and marvel at the mastery of the gardeners who designed them. This year's theme is: *The Canal Garden as Decor*. The event is also an opportunity for visitors to get a unique view of the canal houses from the gardens' vantage point. www.opentulendagen.nl



BAMI Photo: BE-HERE

ARTZUID 2023

Until 24 September, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
The Amsterdam Sculpture Biennial's eighth edition brings art to the streets! With Jasper Krabbé as curator, ARTZUID showcases a two-kilometre art route in the Amsterdam Zuid neighbourhood, featuring 50 artworks by Dutch and international artists. One of the best things about this exhibition is that it is

accessible to everyone, with no schedule or entrance fee required. www.artzuid.nl

Vondelpark Open Air Theatre

Until September, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Taking place at the beautiful Vondelpark in Amsterdam, the Open Air Theatre features a broad variety of performances – from concerts to stand-up comedy and from dance to classical music. Every weekend, people enjoy the gezellig atmosphere of the park and spend quality time with friends and family. www.openluchtheater.nl

BAMI Brussels Artisan Market

3 June, Brussels, Belgium
BAMI is a chance to discover unique talents and original gift ideas. The Brussels Artisan Market will feature around 40 local and sustainable creators showcasing their work in jewellery, textiles, cosmetics, decorations and more. There will be food and drinks on offer, as well as activities for children, making this a fun day out for the entire family! be-herb.be/levenenemt/bami-brussels-artisan-market

RESTART

Until 24 September, Brussels, Belgium
The artist collective Visual System will occupy the exhibition space of the Atomium and create a digital experience that invites people to become immersed in sounds and light. Through an abstract narrative and raw emotion, RESTART elevates light, sound and architecture to a poetic level, creating an intimate and mesmerising experience. www.atomium.be/expo_restart

Ommegang

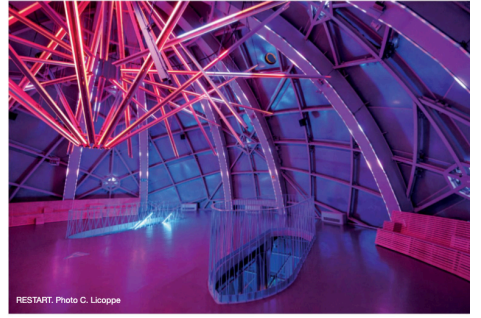
28-30 June, Brussels, Belgium
The Ommegang Pageant has its origins in the 14th century, when it was a procession of the guilds and bodies constituting the city of Brussels. For a few days each year, Brussels' Grand Place sees the past coming back to life through a historical re-enactment of the gala of 1549 procession, accompanied by music and dance, pyrotechnical effects and other captivating performances. www.ommeegang.be



Kiss Concert. Photo: Keith Legoux

Kiss Concert

13 June, Brussels, Belgium
The famous hard rock band Kiss is coming to Brussels for a concert, part of their extended End of the Road world tour. This is the band's final concert tour, ending in December 2023 in New York, where the band started. Fans will be thrilled to find out that Skid Row is a special guest for this show! www.palais12.com



RESTART. Photo C. Lloope



Ommegang. Photo: Ommegang

Out & About

As July envelops us in its warmth, cities come alive with vibrant events and an abundance of possibilities for fun-filled days and exciting nights. From dance festivals to jazz nights and weekend markets, get ready to immerse yourself in the lively summer atmosphere and create unforgettable memories throughout the month.

TEXT: DANA MARIN

Man Ray Exhibition. Photo: Man Ray, Courtesy Fondazione Marconi, Milan

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Ghent Festivities. Photo: VeilGhent

Ghent Festivities

14-23 July, Ghent, Belgium
For ten days in July, the city of Ghent transforms into a buzzing hub during the annual Ghent Festivities, recognised as Flemish intangible heritage and attended by thousands of people every year. The event boasts an incredible array of attractions, including music, various performances, theatre, activities for children and fairs. This is also the only time of the year when you can climb the tower of Saint Bavo's Cathedral for a spectacular view of the city. www.visitghent.be

Hermitage Celebrates Summer

Until 3 September, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Celebrate the season at the Hermitage Museum by choosing from the multitude of events organised for the duration of the summer month. Expect activities to celebrate the Keti Koti and Pride festivals, outdoor movie screenings, jazz nights, a Sunday market and much more! www.hermitage.nl



Hermitage Celebrates Summer. Photo: Sam Eye Art Photography



Deventer Op Stelten. Photo: Events deVENTER

Deventer Op Stelten

7-9 July, Deventer, the Netherlands
For the fans of outdoor theatre, Deventer Op Stelten (Deventer on Stilts) is a must-see this summer. The international theatre festival transforms the historical city centre into a giant stage. It's a celebration of art and culture,

with shows taking place on monumental squares, parks and on the streets, but also in small, enclosed locations. The term 'on stilts' is a figurative way of describing the high-quality, top performances happening there for over 20 years.

www.deventeropstelten.nl

Man Ray and Fashion

Until 13 August, Antwerpen, Belgium
This exhibition, organised by MoMu – Fashion Museum Antwerp explores the work of the famous artist Man Ray from the perspective of fashion. Next to the unique photography of Man Ray, there will be creations of contemporary fashion designers and photographers inspired by his work. Visitors have the chance to see work by Chanel, Maison Martin Margiela, Madeleine Vionnet, Norme, Yves Saint Laurent, Martin Margiela, Olivier Theyskens and Dries Van Noten.
<https://mo-mu-news.pratty.com/man-ray-and-fashion>



Gala des Étoiles, Evelina Gonnova Young Gyu Choi. Photo: Christian Kötter

Gala des Étoiles

8-9 July, Luxembourg City, Luxembourg
The anniversary edition of the Gala des Étoiles, organised by DanceXperience asbl, takes centre stage at the Grand Théâtre. This remarkable dance extravaganza marks a bit-tersweet moment as it is likely to be the final edition. Global star Lucia Lacarra and her partner Matthew Golding join other acclaimed dancers from classical and modern dance.

among them Svetlana Zakharova, Larissa Lazhmina, Mariela Núñez, Maria Eichwald, Katerina Papava, Alessandro Staino, Alexey Popov, Eno Piedi, Artem Shostyn, Francesco Daniele Costa, Randy Rocha, Simi Simoes and many more.
www.theatres.lu

Vaux-Hall Summer

Until 13 August, Brussels, Belgium
After years of abandonment, the beautiful Vaux-Hall in the Park de Bruxelles underwent extensive restoration and reopened in 2017 as a residence for summer activities. Here, a varied cultural programme unfolds from June to August, appealing to young and old. There are concerts, movies, dance lessons, storytelling sessions, yoga and more. Topped with some outdoor art from dozens of artists, this seems like a good place to spend summer days in Brussels!
www.vauxhallsummerbrussels.com

Alkmaar Cheese Market

Every Friday until 29 September, Alkmaar, the Netherlands
The Cheese Market in Alkmaar is an event that draws thousands of visitors annually. The market is a beautiful show reenacting the traditional cheese market that has been part of the city since the 1600s. Visitors have the opportunity to see how cheese is weighed, the price negotiations and learn about the history of the market.
www.visitalkmaar.com/en/cheese-market



Werner Herzog Exhibition, Photo: Beate Prieser. Photo: Werner Herzog Film und Deutsche Kinemathek



Van Gogh in Auvers. Fields near Auvers-sur-Oise, 1890, oil on canvas, 50 x 101 cm, Belvedere Museum, Vienna. Photo: Van Gogh Museum

Van Gogh in Auvers

Until 2 September, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
The Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam presents a major exhibition focusing on the final months of the artist's life. During his stay in the French village of Auvers-sur-Oise, Vincent van Gogh was very prolific. He painted many of his masterpieces there, including *Wheatfield with Crows*. This exhibition offers a rare chance to see a remarkable collection of paintings brought together from other museums and private collections.
www.vangoghmuseum.nl/en/visit/whats-on/exhibitions/van-gogh-in-auvers-sur-oise

Julidans

2-15 July, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Julidans is an unmissable international contemporary dance festival that will captivate any dance enthusiast! Over the course of two

weeks, 40 performances and shows take place in various locations throughout Amsterdam, with the International Theatre Amsterdam as the central hub. The shows are outspoken and inspiring, with a long tradition of bringing on stage the newest trends in contemporary dance and not shying away from making bold statements.
www.julidans.nl

Werner Herzog Exhibition

Until 1 October, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
This exhibition and film programme at the Eye Filmmuseum features the work of acclaimed filmmaker Werner Herzog. His films explore the relationship between people and the crazy world around them, focusing on rebels, outsiders and dreamers. The event has enchanted audiences for more than a decade.
www.eyefilm.nl



Vaux-Hall Summer, Photo: Eric Dierckx



Out & About

August is known as the month of abundance, and that holds true for the events calendar in Benelux as well. As temperatures soar, we're enticed to spend more time outdoors, enjoying each other's company and savouring the fragrant summer nights. Embrace this delightful season as opportunities for shared experiences and memorable moments abound.

TEXT: DANA MARIN



Schueberfouer. Photo: Sabino Parente

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Schueberfouer

23 August – 11 September, Luxembourg City, Luxembourg

One of the biggest funfairs in Europe, the Schueberfouer, is coming to Luxembourg at the end of August. The origins of this fair go all the way to 1340 when John the Blind, Count of Luxembourg, organised an eight-day market in celebration of Saint Bartholomew's Day. Today, the fair hosts 200 stalls and expects to welcome two million visitors. Themed days, such as Family Day or Day of the Queens, will add to the excitement, ensuring there's something enjoyable for everyone.

www.vdf.lu

Steampunk Convention

5-6 August, Echternach, Luxembourg

For two days in August, the oldest city of Luxembourg will play host to the sixth edition of the Steampunk Convention. The theme for this year is 'The Transformation of the Little Marquise'. Expect many creative costumes, intricate ma-



Amersfoort World Jazz Festival. Photo: Die Nozzem Fotografie



Steampunk Echternach. Photo: Uli Fietz

chinery and gears, a market, music and photo shoots. The convention will end with a glorious costume competition.
www.vistechtermach.nl

Amersfoort World Jazz Festival
15-20 August, Amersfoort, the Netherlands

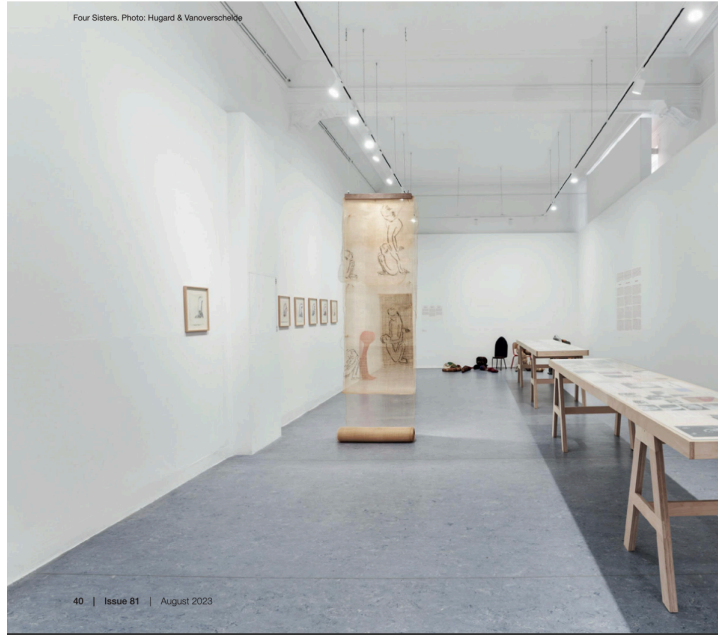
Jazz lovers in the Netherlands are in for a treat this summer with the 44th edition of the Amersfoort World Jazz Festival. Visitors can choose from more than 80 concerts at indoor and outdoor locations. At the Lieve Vrouwekerk, you can listen to sounds from the Latin

America and Caribbean Islands, fado and gypsy jazz, and more. Dutch jazz talents will present their latest music at various locations, and you can attend intimate acoustic concerts in the Sint Aeghterkapel.
www.amersfoortjazz.nl

Pride Amsterdam
1-6 August, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Pride Amsterdam brings a week of celebration to a city known for its important role in the queer community. Throughout the week, parties, concerts and other events will take

place across the Dutch capital, culminating in the spectacular boat parade on the canals on Saturday, 5 August. This year's theme is #YouAreIncluded, and it's about diversity within the LGBTI community.
www.pride.amsterdam

Richard Long in the Rijksmuseum Gardens
Until 29 October, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
For the past ten years, the Rijksmuseum has organised yearly sculpture exhibitions in its garden. Open to everyone, the museum's garden is a green spot in the city centre where you can

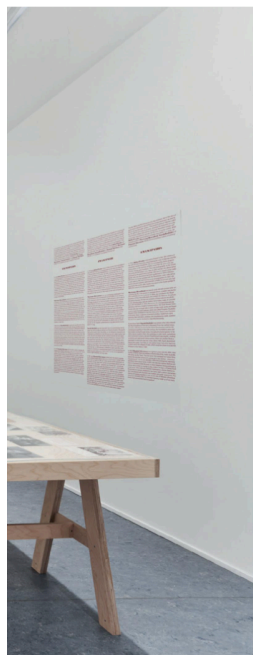


Four Sisters. Photo: Hugar & Vanoverschelde

stop for a relaxing break, read a book and appreciate the beauty of flowers and sculptures. The 10th edition of the annual sculpture exhibition in the Rijksmuseum Gardens will celebrate the work of Richard Long, a British artist who is known for his subtle intervention in landscape, which can be explored by walking.
www.rijksmuseum.nl

Grachtenfestival

11-20 August, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Having the beautiful canals of Amsterdam as a backdrop, the Grachtenfestival is an annual cel-



Pride Amsterdam. Photo: Jeroen Proffers



Richard Long. Time after Time, 2023. Photo: Rijksmuseum, Janes Linders



Grachtenfestival. Photo: Melkweg



Utrecht Early Music Festival.
Photo: Manelka Wijntjes

ibration of classical music, jazz and music from various cultures. Young musicians from all over the world will captivate the audience over ten days, and, as night falls, the streets of the city centre will come alive with the resounding melodies of this vibrant festival.
www.grachterfestival.nl

European Para Championships

8-20 August, Rotterdam, the Netherlands
This multi-sport event, hosted every four years, is coming to Rotterdam in 2023. It will mark the first edition where the European Para Championships of ten different sports will be organised simultaneously. There are 1,500 Paralympic athletes from 45 different European countries enrolled for the competitions, promising a captivating event.
www.europeanparachampionships.com

Utrecht Early Music Festival

25 August-3 September, Utrecht, the Netherlands
Celebrate the early European art and music at the Utrecht annual Early Music Festival. This year, the festival embraces the theme of 'Revival' and will feature music from the Renaissance. The festival challenges musicians to create new ways of exploring musical heritage.
www.oudmuziek.nl

Four Sisters

Until 27 August, Brussels, Belgium
Four Sisters is a must-see moving exhibition at the Jewish Museum in Brussels, showcasing the work of four Jewish artists: Chantal Akerman, Marianne Berenhaut, Sarah Kaliski and Julia Protte. They are sisters from different parents and different generations, but they all

lived in Brussels and have in common that they lived through disaster and created work that expresses their lives.
www.mjb.org/en/four-sisters

Quintanilha: Visual Chronicles of Brazil

Until 27 August, Brussels, Belgium
The Comics Art Museum in Brussels hosts an exhibition by the Brazilian artist Marcelo Quintanilha. Drawing inspiration from everyday life in Brazil, his captivating stories are imbued with tension and feature striking characters. Quintanilha aims to expose the country's social inequalities and inequities through storytelling.
www.comicscenter.net

Out & About

The beautiful autumn is here and the colourful foliage and crisp air invite walks in the park, warm drinks and cosy evenings. It's the time for harvest festivals and indoor activities. From markets to film festivals, from music to photography exhibitions, the golden season has a lot to offer for Benelux!

TEXT: DANA MARIN



Luxembourg Art Week. Photo: Sophie Margue



Jazz Brugge. Photo: Arthur Wollenweber

'Crossing cultures'. New and established artists from all over the world will enchant the audience during the three days of concerts. www.concertgebouw.be/nl/jazz-brugge-2023

Art Nouveau Brussels

Until December, Brussels, Belgium has declared the year 2023 as the Art Nouveau Year, celebrating 130 years since architect Victor Horta put the finishing touches to Tassel House, the seminal work that founded the Art Nouveau movement in Brussels. The programme includes a variety of events organised throughout the year in the Brussels region, featuring open access to architectural masterpieces, workshops, lectures, guided tours and more. www.brussels.be/art-nouveau-brussels-2023

Veiner Néssmoort

15 October, Vianden, Luxembourg
The nut market in Vianden takes place yearly, on every second Sunday of October. Néssmoort is a market with a long history: the first official nut market was

Film Fest Gent

10-21 October, Ghent, Belgium
This year, Film Fest Gent celebrates its 50th anniversary! Under the title of 'FFG Rewind', the festival reflects on its history through a campaign featuring iconic photos of film stars who have graced its presence over the years. The international film festival has been held annually in October since 1974. Around 100,000 visitors are expected to attend this special cultural event and enjoy the premiere of quality films. The festival places a particular focus on film music, organising film music concerts, seminars and workshops. www.filmfestival.be



Amsterdam Storytelling Festival. Photo: Raymond van Mijl

Jazz Brugge

17-19 November, Bruges, Belgium
The 9th edition of Jazz Brugge, organised by the arts centre KAAP and Concertgebouw Bruges will have as a keynote



Film Fest Gent. Photo: Jeroen Willems

held in 1935. The small village of Vianden welcomes around 20,000 visitors for this special occasion. While nuts and nut-related products take centre stage, the market also features stalls selling other local delicacies. Additionally, there's a designated area with music and entertainment for kids. www.nessmoort.lu

to discover amazing contemporary art. The event also serves as a platform for emerging galleries and artists' collectives. In addition to exhibitions, Art Week hosts conferences, performances, workshops and other special projects. www.luxembourgartweek.lu

Mensen Zeggen Dingen

19 October, Leiden, the Netherlands
Mensen Zeggen Dingen (People Say Things) is a platform for poetry and performance, orchestrating a multitude of spoken word events across the Netherlands and Belgium. These events gather poets, prose and theatre writers, musicians and other artists to craft remarka-

ble shows filled with captivating stories. This holds true also for the upcoming event scheduled for October in Leiden, which is awaiting its visitors with open arms (or microphones). www.nobel.nl/programma/mensen-zeggen-dingen-19-oct-2023

Afrofibes Festival

4-15 October, Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Utrecht, the Netherlands
Afrofibes is a festival of arts and performance from and about Africa. This year's theme is 'Liquid Traces', exploring the connection between oceans and Africa's history. An extensive programme will be brought on stage by artists from the Afri-

Luxembourg Art Week

10-12 November, Luxembourg City, Luxembourg
Luxembourg Art Week is an international contemporary art fair that presents a curated selection of galleries from around the world, offering visitors the opportu-