



KINGDOM OF BELGIUM
Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Trade and
Development Cooperation



Belgium Unlimited

News from Belgium

USA honours Belgium



Belgium on the international stage



► Belgium strengthens its ties with the USA

At the end of June, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Philippe and Princess Mathilde of Belgium led a Belgian economic mission to the USA. The objective was to highlight the extraordinary opportunities for investment, trade and innovation offered by Belgium's dynamic economy. Over nine days, the delegation visited New York, Washington DC and Boston.

Numerous seminars, visits and networking events were organised as part of this mission. For example, the Belgian delegation visited the headquarters of Johnson & Johnson and IBM. HRH Prince Philippe opened the Belgian pavilion at the International Biotechnology Industry Convention and presided over the signing of numerous cooperation agreements between Belgian and US companies or institutions, notably between:

- 4DDynamics & Digital Signal Corporation
- Septentrio & Altus & BMI/SBI
- Van Hool & Coach USA
- Press Club Brussels Europe & The National Press Club
- Brewery Corsendonk & L Knife and Son
- Brussels-Capital Region & District of Columbia
- Visit Brussels & Destination DC



HRH Prince Philippe with James C. Greenwood, President and CEO of the Biotechnology Industry Organization.

In addition to the purely economic aspects, the mission was also aimed at highlighting themes of a more social nature such as child literacy, the fight against cancer, poverty eradication, philanthropy and culture. It was in this context that HRH Princess Mathilde participated in events on microfinance and social entrepreneurship. The Princess visited a home run by the Little Sisters of the Poor and attended a meeting of the Council of Women World Leaders, during which she gave a very committed speech on combating violence against women.

This visit was also the perfect opportunity to emphasise the ties of friendship and solidarity which exist between the USA and Belgium. TRH Prince Philippe and Princess Mathilde spent a few moments of silence at Arlington National Cemetery, where the bodies of many American soldiers killed in Belgium, most notably at the Battle of the Ardennes, are buried. The Royal couple also visited the site of Ground Zero to pay their respects to the innocent victims of 11 September 2001.



Finally, there was also a political component to the mission, with Minister Vanackere making great use of the occasion to hold talks with Mr Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, in New York. The dramatic situations in Syria and Libya and the measures needed to respond to them, the prospect of elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Middle-East peace process all featured prominently on the agenda. In the US capital, Minister Vanackere held talks with Mr Joe Biden, Vice President of the United States, and conducted high-level meetings with Congress - Republican Senator John McCain and Democrat Senator John Kerry - and the Department of State. Among other topics, these talks centred on the “Arab Spring” and in particular on the ongoing Syrian crisis.



You can find a complete account of the mission at <http://belgianeconomicmissiontous.tumblr.com>

A delegation of almost 300 people

The CEOs of almost 200 companies in the biotechnology, pharmacy, financial services and information technology sectors were involved in this multi-sectoral mission. The delegation also included the heads of chambers of commerce, sector-specific federations, financial institutions and Belgian universities. The government was represented at federal level by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Steven Vanackere and at the Regional levels by Minister-President Kris Peeters for Flanders, Minister Jean-Claude Marcourt for Wallonia and Ministers Benoît Cerexhe and Jean-Luc Vanraes for Brussels.

► **Belgium: guest of honour at the Memphis in May festival**

This month-long festival is the largest in the United States. Each festival honours a guest country. This year, it's Belgium's turn.

Seven Belgian exhibitions: Magritte, Delvaux, diamonds, comics, as well as our traditional music, cinema and architecture, and not forgetting our culinary expertise; all feature in the wide range of **cultural activities** on offer.



This event has given many Belgians – researchers, diplomats, investors, etc. – the chance to show off our country's assets and produce in the heart of the United States.

Our presence has benefitted from extensive coverage in the American press. The following was written in the *Memphis Daily News*: "the small country possesses cultural and historical traditions that belie its size" or even "Belgium is a Mecca, a Holy Grail, a Paradise of the brewers' craft".

According to the organisers, the Belgian programme was one of the best of recent years.

www.memphisinmay.org

► **Belgium passes its big oral exam before the UN Human Rights Council**

On 2 May last, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Steven Vanackere, presented the national report, prepared for the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), to the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. The UPR is a new UN mechanism aimed at examining the human rights situation in all member states of the UN every four years.

During this exercise, the other states put questions and make recommendations to the state under review, based on three reports: that prepared by the state itself, the one containing the recommendations of the UN's human rights bodies and that containing the recommendations of the NGOs.

The Minister emphasised the importance given to respect for human rights by our country and to this reporting exercise which "must also enable an enhancement of the central role of the human being in its international, regional, national and local environment."



Steven Vanackere

Over the course of almost three hours, 49 delegations from other countries which had carefully studied the reports had the opportunity to question Belgium on a wide variety of topics.

At the end of the discussions, many delegations wanted to congratulate Belgium for its favourable action to promote and protect human rights.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/Highlights2May2011am.aspx>

► Liège bids for Expo 2017

Liège is a candidate to hold the International Exposition in 2017. This bid is supported by, amongst others, the federal government. This is a world-class project, which recalls the 1958 Universal Exposition in Brussels. If held in Liège, Expo 2017 will attract several million visitors to Belgium.

International Expositions are held between two Universal Expositions. They last for three months and are centred around a more specialised theme. The city of Liège's theme for its bid is based on connectivity, with the slogan "Connecting the World, Linking People". This theme is in keeping with the reality in Belgium and Liège: at the heart of Europe and open to the world. Coronmeuse, to the north of Liège, has been selected as the site where the 2017 Exposition will be held. After the Expo, the site will be converted into an eco-neighbourhood.

An application was submitted at the start of June by the federal government to the Bureau of International Expositions. The host city will be selected in December 2012 during the General Assembly of the Bureau of International Expositions, at which 157 States will each have a vote.

www.liege-expo2017.com



The economy & Business

► Belgium moves up two places in the World Competitiveness Ranking

Each year, the *International Institute for Management Development (IMD)*, the management school located in Lausanne, issues its ranking of the most competitive countries in the world; the *IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook*.

This year, Belgium achieved an index of 76 out of 100, taking it from 25th place to 23rd place.



www.imd.org/research/publications/wcy/World-Competitiveness-Yearbook-Results/wcy-2010-rankings

► Growth forecasts revised upwards for Belgium

On May 25, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) published its latest economic forecasts. It is predicting growth of 2.4% for Belgium this year, even though previous forecasts were banking on growth of closer to 1.8%.



On 15 June, it was the turn of the Belgian National Bank (BNB) to present its forecasts, which are also positive. The BNB states that the Belgian economy was able to take advantage of the recovery in global demand, while private consumption quickly recovered due to the unexpected resilience of the labour market. Investment by business and households should also gradually recover.

Growth in GDP might, therefore, benefit from several variables. Overall growth was 2.1% in 2010. It should, according to the BNB, hit 2.6% in 2011 then return to 2.2% in 2012, meaning higher growth rates than those in the eurozone. The continued growth in activity in Belgium is thought to mainly depend on the consolidation of the labour market.

www.oecd.org/document/4/0,3746,fr_2649_37443_20347588_1_1_1_37443,00.html
www.nbb.be/pub/01_00_00_00_01_06_00_00_01_06_01_00_00/2010615_aprojectie.htm?l=fr

► 68,000 jobs created in Belgium in 2010

The Belgian labour market is recovering from the crisis at astonishing speed. The results are better than expected and Belgium is doing better than most other EU member states.

These are the conclusions drawn from the latest results of the Labour Force Survey carried out by the General Directorate of Statistics and Information of the Federal Public Service Economy and the 26 other member states of the EU. This survey examines the main changes in employment and unemployment according to international definitions, from which a certain number of important indicators for the labour market are established.

In 2010, the rate of employment in Belgium was 62.0%, the unemployment rate 8.4% and the activity rate 67.7%. The number of people working increased by 68,000 units, that is 1.5%, compared to 2009. This increase in employment is almost entirely down to the workforce of over-50s and is particularly tangible amongst private-sector employees.

The fourth quarter of 2010 saw a drop in unemployment, a positive trend which should continue this year.

http://economie.fgov.be/fr/binaries/3,1,2,1.EAK%20opersbericht%20trim4%202010%20-%20F_tcm326-126815.pdf

► Barco strengthens its position as uncontested leader in the digital cinema sector

Cinema production is going through enormous change. Giant reels of film are a thing of the past: films today are delivered in digital format to completely digitalised multiplexes where 3D will soon be available everywhere. Barco's mission is to spearhead this change by supplying high-quality digital projectors and using state-of-the-art technology. And it works! Barco digital cinema division sales had already made a giant leap of 154% in 2010 amounting to 255 million euros. The start of 2011 is heading in the same direction as 2010.

In the first quarter of 2011 for instance, Barco received orders for more than 1500 digital projectors for China, where it has more than 65% market share in this sector. In order to continue meeting this strong market demand, the Barco factory in Beijing increased its production capacity from 200 to 500 digital cinema projectors per month. Barco has also set up a new R&D centre in Beijing dedicated to digital cinema thus underlining its long-term commitment to the Chinese market and the region (Barco's market share in Hong Kong and Taiwan is more than 80%).

Here in Europe on 3 May, Barco announced that it had been selected to be the exclusive partner of Blitz-CineStar, the leading cinema operator in Croatia. Blitz-CineStar recently inaugurated its brand new totally digital multiplex in the prestigious new Arena Centre in Zagreb.

This multiplex, the most modern in the Croatian capital, has ten Barco DP2K digital projectors. Blitz-CineStar, together with Barco, will convert all nine of its other multiplexes into digital cinema complexes in the next year.

In the Netherlands cinemas have also opted for digital technology as part of the Digital Cinema Plan. Barco was chosen among almost 20 other companies including large cinema chains such as the Wolff Cinema Group, to carry out the conversion of a total of 200 screens.



In Brazil, CineSystem, one of the biggest cinema chains with 81 screens in six states, opted for DP2K-23B digital projectors for the first totally digital cinema complex in Rio de Janeiro. Barco whose headquarters are located in Kortrijk, is an important IT company that designs and creates visualisation and display solutions for professionals. Barco has operations in more than 90 countries and employs approximately 3,500 people around the world. In 2010, Barco posted a turnover of 897 million euros.

www.barco.com

► Belgium spearheads the digital revolution

According to a report by the European Audiovisual Observatory, the number of digital screens more than doubled in 2010 (boosted in particular by 3D) and no other country is as advanced in this digital cinema revolution as Belgium. Last year Belgium boasted 334 digital cinemas, which represents an average of 6.8 digital cinemas per complex. The closest in ranking are Portugal and Luxembourg, that have an average of 4.8 digital cinemas per complex. This leading position in Belgium is indisputably connected to the presence here of the world leader in digital cinema: Barco.

www.obs.coe.int/about/oea/pr/digitalcinema2011.html

► The Belgian stars were shining in Cannes

Belgian cinema was once again spoiled rotten at the most recent Cannes film festival. Our national cinema was honoured, first by the considerable number of Belgian films entered in the various selections of the festival and, then, by the prestigious prizes won.

A very, black, yellow and red selection

Three Belgian films were selected for the Directors' Fortnight. Dominique Abel, Fiona Gordon and Bruno Romy's *La fée* was chosen for the opening night film. Gust Van den Berghe presented his film, *Blue Bird*, inspired by the work of Maurice Maeterlinck, and, finally, Bouli Lanners' *Les Géants*, brought this heavily Belgian accented Fortnight to a close.

In the official Short Films Competition, *Badpakje 46* was awarded a place on la Croisette. The film tells the story of a young, rather chubby, 12-year old girl, who is having trouble finding her way and making friends. This short film was the final year project by Wannes Destoop for the KASK film school in Ghent.

The short film *Bento Monogatari (Lunchbox Story)* by the Belgian, Pieter Dirx, was also selected for the Cinéfondation programme. The young director completed his studies with a presentation of this film at the St-Lukas school of higher education in Brussels.

A shower of awards

The Belgian short film *Dimanches*, by Valery Rosier, in competition in the Critics' Week, won the KODAK Discovery short film award.

Liegeois Bouli Lanners, won the SACD Award (Society of Dramatic Authors and Composers) as well as the Art Cinema Award from the International Confederation of Art-house Cinemas (CICAIE). The film is about three adolescents seeking freedom who are beginning the greatest, most dangerous adventure of their lives.

And finally, last but not least, Luc and Jean-Pierre Dardenne received the *Grand Prix of the Jury*. *Le gamin au vélo* tells the story of Cyril, a young 12-year old boy, who has only one thing on his mind: finding his father who placed him in a home on a temporary basis. He happens to meet Samantha, who owns a hair salon and agrees to allow him come over during the weekends. However, Cyril is not yet aware of Samantha's love for him, a love which he nevertheless needs in order to calm his anger.

As well as the remarkable directing, the film was especially appreciated for the exceptional quality of its main actors: Cécile de France, Thomas Doret and Jérémie Renier.

Cannes or the Dardenne brothers success story

1999: Palme d'or for *Rosetta*

1999: Best Actress award for Emilie Dequenne in *Rosetta*

2002: Best Actor award for Olivier Gourmet in *Le fils*

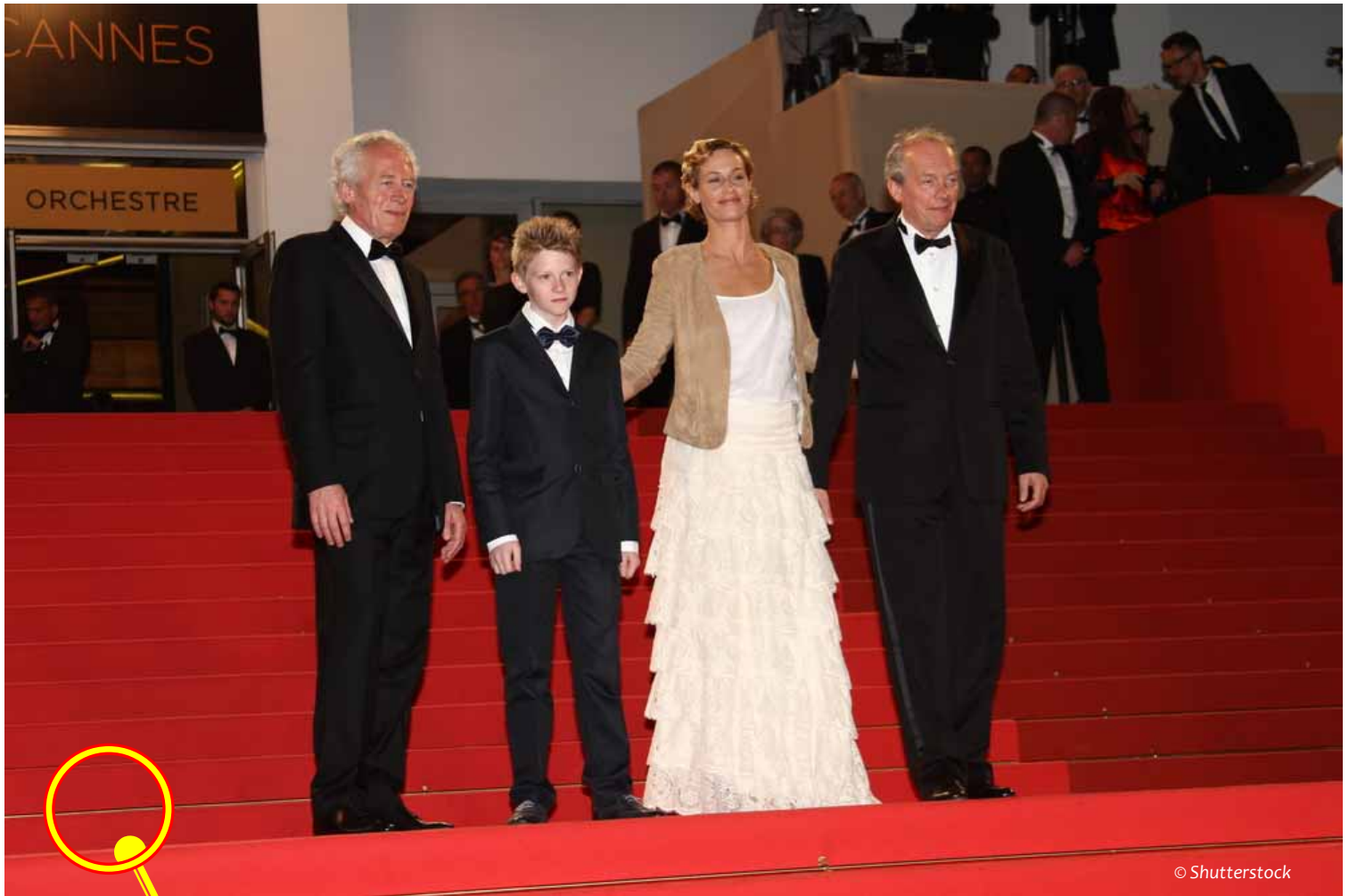
2005: Palme d'or for *L'enfant*

2008: Best Screenplay award for *Le silence de Lorna*

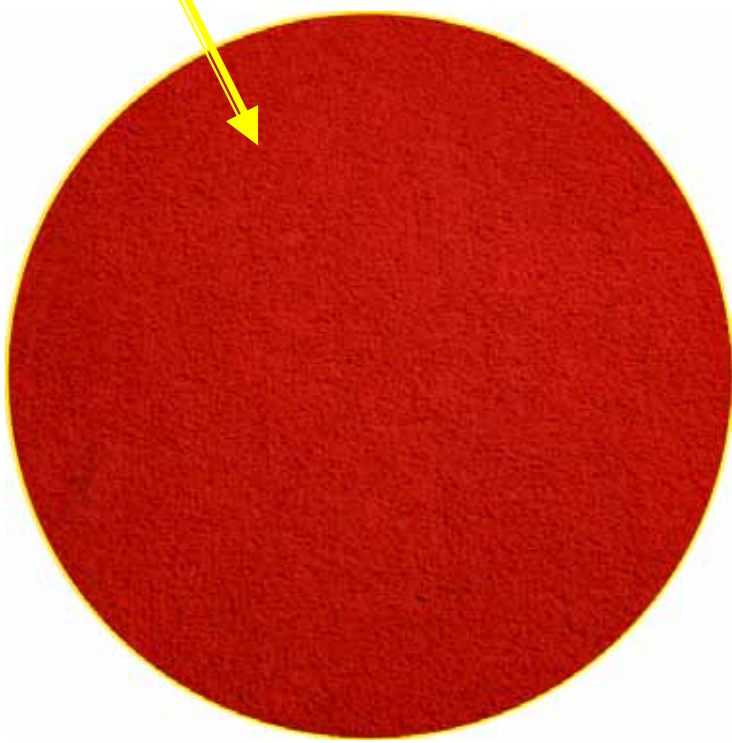
2011: Grand Prix of the Jury for the *Le gamin au vélo*



© Shutterstock



© Shutterstock



► ***A red carpet... that's more green and Mons than red and Cannes***

Cannes' famous red carpet, on which many of the world's greatest movie stars have set foot, is manufactured from biopolymers, a material made from renewable resources. These biopolymers were developed by Materia Nova, an R&D centre attached to the University of Mons (UMons).

www.materianova.be

► Belgian tenor Thomas Blondelle comes 2nd in the International Queen Elisabeth Competition

Of the 88 candidates accepted to participate in this session, devoted this year to voice, two Belgians were placed among the 12 laureates in the Queen Elisabeth Competition: Thomas Blondelle and Sébastien Parotte.

But it was the 28 year old from Bruges, Thomas Blondelle, who obtained the highest position as he was second on the podium behind the Korean soprano Hong Haeran who won the international competition.



A graduate of the Bruges Conservatory and the University of Leuven (KUL), the smiling Thomas Blondelle has already won several international competitions.

He regularly receives acclaim for his performances on many foreign opera and music festival stages, primarily in France and Germany. He is, however, also a composer and a talented librettist having written a requiem and a musical.

www.cmireb.be

► The best French actor is Belgian!

Like every year in Paris, the Association Professionnelle et Artistique du Théâtre (APAT - Professional and Artistic Theatre Association) handed out the French national theatre awards: the Molières. And the award to beat all awards; the most anticipated and sought after Molière, the best actor award, was given to our fellow countryman, Christian Hecq, for his performance in Feydeau's *Un Fil à la Patte* staged at the Comédie-Française. With the winning of this prestigious award, he follows in the footsteps of such giants of French theatre as Michel Bouquet, Michel Aumont, Robert Hirsch and Jean-Pierre Marielle.

Born in Nivelles, Christian Hecq initially decided on a career in science before taking mime classes and discovering his stage power. A bombastic show-off, he was to need all the experience of his INSAS teachers to harness his energy and pour it into his characters. A mission that was soon accomplished as, hardly out the door of the famous Brussels school of performing arts, in 1989, he received the EVE for best Belgian actor for his performance in *Baptême*.



He then launches himself into a dual film and stage career. He can be seen in such films as *Fauteuils d'orchestre*, *Belphegor* or *Cash* alongside Jean Dujardin and Jean Reno.

However, it's most definitely on the boards where he excels at his gestural art form. A brilliant mime, he embodies his characters with an extraordinary physical power. His first recognition from Paris will serve to confirm his growing success: in 2000, he received the Molière for best new actor for Feydeau's *La main passe*.

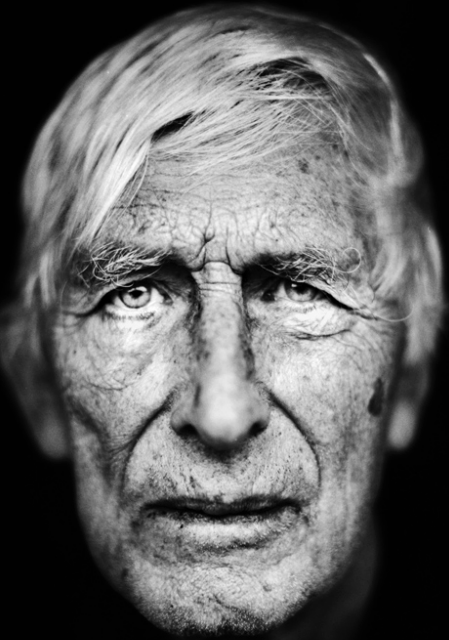
Alternating between slapstick theatre, vaudeville and the classics, Christian Hecq continues with his Paris career which has attracted considerable attention. In 2008, he became a resident of the house of Molière, joining the Comédie-Française. Since then, he has played, always in the same eclectic style, Beaumarchais, Shakespeare, as well as Dario Fo and Feydeau.

► Michèle Nguyen adds to the list of Belgian awards

The Schaerbeek native Michèle Nguyen also won an award at the 25th Molières, receiving the Molière for best show for a young audience for *VY*, a piece which she wrote and in which she is the sole actor on stage.

Created in the *Théâtre de la Vie* in Brussels, this play is an underground journey back to the actress's childhood, to the shy, awkward little girl living with her racist grandmother whose secret dream was to become a dancer.

<http://www.lesmolières.com>



► **The photographer Stephan Vanfleteren wins an award in Hamburg**

Stephan Vanfleteren has won the Henri Nannen Award, one of the most prestigious awards for photography in Germany. He received this award for his black and white reportage on the Swiss artist Tomi Ungerer, entitled *Es gibt was Neues hier seit gestern* which was published in the Swiss culture magazine *DU-Zeitschrift für Kultur*. Receiving his award, Stephan Vanfleteren dedicated it to the photographer Tim Hetherington who was killed in Libya in April.

Originally from Courtrai, Stephan Vanfleteren studied photography at the *École Supérieure Saint-Luc* in Brussels. He began his career by publishing his photos mainly in the newspaper *De Morgen* before working for other well-known publications such as *Humo*, *Paris Match*, *Knack* and *Die Zeit*.

The photographer presents a powerful work in black and white which he describes as “documentary”. His many portraits of artists and unknown people shed light on the details of everyday life in our country as well as in the world’s conflict zones.

www.henri-nannen-preis.de
www.stephanvanfleteren.com

► **European Museum Award for the Gallo-Roman Museum in Tongeren**

The European Museum Award is the most prestigious museum award in Europe, it was awarded to the Gallo-Roman Museum in Tongeren in May of this year at the annual assembly of the European Museum Forum held in the German city of Bremerhaven.

After shortlisting 34 museums from 15 different countries, the European Museum Forum sent a professional judging panel to visit the locations and observe visitors. It is this judging panel that put the archaeological museum in Tongeren at the top of the podium as it particularly liked the way it very intelligently managed to interest different types of visitors in a world from the distant past without pontificating or boring.

The judging panel also made its choice based on the fact that “the museum does not shy away from the task of dealing with the uncertainty, and the presentations guide the audience through the issues but do not assert firm conclusions. The exhibitions are authoritative but not authoritarian. They provoke thought and provide the visitor with the information needed to take a view.”



The Gallo-Roman Museum is one of the jewels of the province of Limburg. It reopened its doors in May 2009 after a very successful architectural transformation and a thorough reworking of the design and displays to enhance the collections. The new permanent exhibition is structured in layers, with more than 2,000 authentic objects and numerous explanatory texts, but it also makes use of modern media, such as films, interactive games, models and life-size synthetic figures. The museum has already welcomed over 220,000 visitors since it reopened.

With this museum, Tongeren, Belgium’s oldest town, brings our past to life from prehistory to the end of the Roman period and effectively reminds us that a society does not function as it does by chance. That there are reasons why a culture is what it is, why people do what they do and why we are what we are.

www.galloromeinsmuseum.be
<http://europeanmuseumforum.ru>



► **The MAS opens in Antwerp**

Since 17 May this year the port city has been welcoming visitors to its new museum with its unique design. The MAS (*Museum Aan de Stroom*) tells us new stories through the many remnants left from the long tradition of trade between the city of Antwerp and the world. Stories of the city, the river and the port. But also of the world in all its diversity and of the ancient links Antwerp had with it. **This is what makes the MAS unique: it is about both Antwerp and the world.**

The collection

The MAS brings together the collections of former museums, in particular the *Etnografisch Museum*, the *Nationaal Scheepvaartmuseum* and the *Volkskundemuseum*. They have been given a new home at the MAS along with part of the collection from the *Museum Vleeshuis* and the Paul & Dora Janssen-Arts collection.

The collection includes more than 470,000 objects and continues to grow. The MAS displays the collections using an innovative approach to highlight the close links Antwerp and the world have always enjoyed. To this end, five floors of the museum are devoted to four universal themes of interest to everyone:

- Displays of power: prestige and symbols (+4)
- Metropolis: here and elsewhere (+5)
- World port: trade and shipping (+6)
- Life and death: men and gods (+7) – the underworld and the world above (+8)

The collections are not displayed side by side. They are connected through a dynamic design linking the different floors. They are there to do more than just inform. The collections tell stories and enthrall. They are also actors in an ever-changing play.

Each floor is an amazing new world. The message to the visitor is not just look, but also let yourself be captivated by the music of the Belgian composer Eric Sleichim. Or enjoy the many, increasingly wide panoramas over the city in motion.

State-of-the-art architecture

For in addition to being a museum, the MAS is also an extraordinary building on an extraordinary site, in the heart of an extraordinary area. As well as everything there is to see, do and experience inside the museum, the building itself and its surroundings form part of the “MAS experience”.

The building immediately catches your eye. Antwerp’s new tower reminds us of the 16th century warehouses typical of the port area of the city. The MAS is designed as a giant warehouse where the floors are piled up like containers ready to be collected. This original architecture gives rise to a superb spiral path. Ascending you discover changing views over the town and river. The 360° panorama that awaits you at the top is breath-taking.

The MAS is more than a museum. It is a new urban area, a new meeting place where there is always something to experience or see.

www.mas.be

Masterpieces at the MAS – Five centuries of images in Antwerp

A prestigious, inaugural temporary exhibition shows the development of the visual culture from the Middle Ages to the present day, through masterpieces from Antwerp collections. It provides an unusual opportunity to bring together works by old masters and contemporary artists.

From 17/05/2011 to 31/12/2012





► **La Monnaie: a “compellingly beautiful” international creation in Brussels**

Two sisters, Matsukaze and Murasame, are smitten with a noble in exile. Years later, after their death, their souls continue to wander and lust after him. Matsukaze dances like a lunatic, wearing the hat and coat of her lover, and believes that she sees him in the silhouette of a pine tree. Plunged into an amorous frenzy, the two sisters throw themselves into an ecstatic dance around the solitary tree.

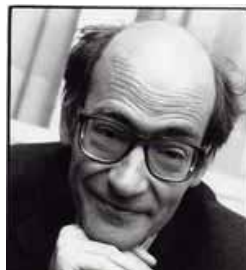


This is the plot of the third opera by the Japanese composer Toshio Hosokawa. Although based on the classic 15th century play, *Nô*, Hosokawa delivers a resolutely contemporary production which underlines the compelling force of enduring passions and desires. More opera-ballet than pure opera, the show is directed by the talented choreographer, Sasha Waltz.

This international creation by La Monnaie, which has attracted considerable attention, was given 5 stars in a glowing article in the *Financial Times* written by Shirley Apthorp: “*Matsukaze* is meticulously made and compellingly beautiful. *La Monnaie* has brought together a team whose work is so harmonious that it hurts, and the 80 minutes of the performance pass all too quickly.”

www.ft.com/cms/s/2/bd3beda8-7677-11e0-b05b-00144feabdco.html#axzz1LU4HF4nd

► **François Weyergans, the first Belgian immortal!**



François Weyergans was assigned to the 32nd seat of the *Académie française* at the end of a formal ceremony on 16 June presided over by the Perpetual Secretary, Hélène Carrère d’Encausse, accompanied by an audience of eminent guests from the world of arts and literature.

Founded in 1635 by Cardinal Richelieu, the *Académie* is one of the oldest French institutions. It is made up of 40 members elected by their peers and charged with regulating the French language, giving it rules, making it pure and comprehensible to everyone.

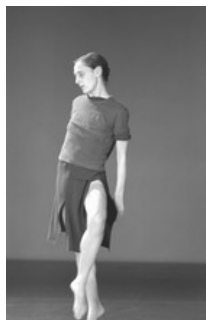
Originally from Etterbeek, Weyergans is the first Belgian to become a member of the *Académie française*. At almost 70, he is the author of some ten novels that have been translated throughout the world and the winner of several literary prizes: Goncourt, Renaudot, Méridien, Rossel, *Prix des Deux Magots* and Roger-Nimier.

www.academie-francaise.fr

► **A-T. De Keersmaeker receives an award at one of the most important dance festivals**

On 11 June 2011 the American Dance Festival (ADF) presented the Samuel H. Scripps / *American Dance Festival Award for Lifetime Achievement* to Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker for her unique contribution to the development of modern dance.

Introduced in 1981 by Samuel H. Scripps and the American Dance Festival, this award has been presented annually ever since to choreographers who have “dedicated their lives and talent to the creation of modern dance”.



Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker received the award from Stuart Hodes – former member of the *Martha Graham Dance Company* and partner of Martha Graham – in a special ceremony at the Reynolds Industries Theater, in Durham (North Carolina), where Rosas later performed *Rosas danst Rosas*. The choreographer’s company is appearing at the festival for three nights.

This annual award, one of the most prestigious, comes with a cheque for \$ 50,000, the largest monetary award given in the United States for lifetime achievement.

www.americandancefestival.org

► **Belgian scientist discovers a giant marine predator**

Peter Van Roy of the University of Ghent has just written a new chapter in the large tome on the evolution of life on earth after his discovery, close to Zagora in the South-East of Morocco, of the fossil of an anomalocaridid, a sort of giant shrimp measuring one metre in length, which was the top predator during the Cambrian period (around 540 million years ago).

The discovery, published by the British scientific review *Nature*, has shaken the scientific world, as the exceptionally preserved specimens, show that these animals survived much later than was previously believed. This marine predator did not live during the Cambrian period, but during the much more recent Ordovician period, which was marked by an explosion in the number of species. The new finds show that these animals continued to thrive until at least 480 million years ago, while the youngest anomalocaridid fossils known previously are ca 505 million years old.



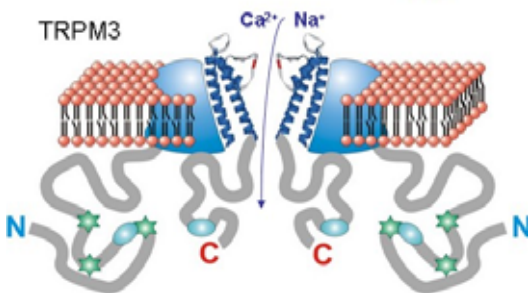
“This new discovery, made in Morocco, shows that animals such as anomalocaridids, common during the Cambrian period, continued to have a considerable impact on the biodiversity and the ecology of marine communities many millions of years later”, explained scientist Peter Van Roy who carried out part of his research at Yale University (USA) and still collaborates with colleagues at this institute.

www.ugent.be

► **Molecular fire detector**

The protein responsible for detecting extreme heat and pain caused by inflammation has been identified by a team of researchers at the *Katholieke Universiteit van Leuven* led by Professor Thomas Voets.

A rapid symptomatic response to extreme temperatures is essential, for example, to avoid burning oneself on a hot object or accidentally swallowing boiling hot soup. Detecting temperature is the job of sensory nerves, including those in our skin and mucous membranes. These nerves are more reactive in people suffering from inflammation or nerve damage. This can lead to oversensitivity to innocuous temperatures and chronic pain.



The cellular wall surrounding the nerves contains ion channels that react to certain stimuli and then transmit an electrical signal to the brain. Some ten years ago American researchers discovered the capsaicin's receptor.

This is an ion channel that is responsible for the detection of heat. Capsaicin is also the substance that gives spicy peppers their hot taste. However, the Leuven study showed that capsaicin's receptor is not responsible for all heat detection and that there must be other molecular detectors for extreme heat.

Research conducted by Dr Joris Vriens with colleagues from the *Leuvense Laboratorium voor Ionkanaalonderzoek* and in collaboration with German researchers showed that the ion channel TRPM3 is also a molecular sensor for heat.

This important discovery, therefore, makes the TRPM3 protein a promising target for the development of new analgesic medications.

www.kuleuven.be

► The E-cube, the DIY solar-powered house, reaches the final in Washington

Four students in civil engineering and architecture from the University of Ghent formed "Team Belgium: Ghent University" to take part in the Solar Decathlon competition organised by the US Department of Energy. This is a prestigious competition in which the universities go head-to-head to create low-energy, affordable housing which is practical to live in.



Their project sailed through the two pre-selection rounds, and the team has been selected as one of twenty finalists for the competition. This September, their prototype will be exhibited in the legendary Mall in Washington, DC. Team Belgium is the only European team to reach the final.

The E-Cube is a do-it-yourself kit house offering a high level of modularity. This enables each person to adapt it according to his or her tastes, needs and budget. Made from wooden panels and a metal frame, it has a basic, functional interior.

The E-Cube is an opportunity for our country and the Belgian companies which offered the construction materials as sponsorship to establish themselves in the field of contemporary, creative and sustainable construction.

www.solardecathlon.ugent.be

► Belgian trains are also turning to solar power!

On Monday 6 June, the first Belgian train running on solar power left the Antwerp-Central train station. This achievement was made possible through the installation of photovoltaic panels on the roof of the railway tunnel for the Antwerp-Amsterdam high-speed line.

It is a unique piece of work: 16,000 solar panels installed on the roof of a 3,4 km long tunnel covering a total area of 50,000m², which is equivalent to around 8 football pitches.

What is even more amazing is that the photovoltaic panels installed in the tunnel generate the solar energy used not only to power the rail infrastructure (signalling, lighting, station heating, etc.) but also the trains running on the Belgian rail network, which is a European first!

The annual amount of electricity generated by the installation is 3,300 MWh, which is the average annual consumption of almost 1,000 homes. The volume of CO₂ saved with this project amounts to 2,400 metric tons.

Carried out by Infrabel, the manager of the Belgian railway network, and by the Belgian companies Enfinity and Solar Power Systems, in partnership with the municipalities of Brasschaat and Schoten, the Solar Tunnel is today a significant and innovative producer of solar energy.

Each year, around 4,000 trains will be able to fully run on solar power, which is the equivalent of all the trains which operate during one full day in the country.

www.infrabel.be



► For its first flight, the solar-powered plane will land in Brussels. The revenge of Icarus!

On 13 May 2011 at 21h39 after a flight lasting 12 hours 59 minutes and fuelled exclusively with solar energy, Solar Impulse HB-SIA landed successfully at Brussels Airport. A crowd of supporters came to welcome the solar plane that was designed by Bertrand Piccard and André Borschberg and to celebrate its arrival in the European capital.

Solar Impulse, with pilot André Borschberg in the cockpit, took off at 08.40 from Payerne Airport in Switzerland and followed the original designated flight path. It flew over Alsace heading towards Nancy, then Metz, flew over the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and ended its journey in Belgium on runway No. 2 of Brussels Airport.

Technological prowess

Solar Impulse is a revolutionary concept that has surpassed all boundaries in terms of materials, energy management and the interface between man and machine. With a wingspan that is equal to that of an Airbus A340, and weighing proportionally very little, the plane has construction and aerodynamic characteristics that are hitherto unknown putting it in an aeronautical league that is as yet unexplored. The carbon fibre structure, the propulsion chain, the on-board instruments; everything has been designed to save energy, to resist the hostile conditions that materials and pilots are subjected to at high altitude and to ensure resistance in spite of the weight restrictions.

A militant adventure

The mission of Solar Impulse is to contribute to the world of exploration and innovation on behalf of renewable energies. To show the important role of new technologies in sustainable development and of course to create a place for dreams and emotions at the heart of scientific adventure.

In a world that is dependent on fossil fuels, the Solar Impulse project is like a paradox, almost a provocation. But making it possible for a plane fuelled exclusively with solar energy, to take off and fly autonomously, at night as well as during the daytime, and to stay aloft for several days without any fuel and to produce no pollution is no longer an inaccessible dream!

For the initiator of the project, Bertrand Piccard, *“Adventure is not necessarily a spectacular act, but more of an ‘extraordinary’ act, something that forces us to step outside our usual way of thinking and behaving. Something that forces us to venture out of our box of certainty in which we act and react automatically. Adventure is a state of mind in the face of the unknown, a way of seeing our existence as an experiment in which we are forced to develop our inner resources, to pave the way for our personal development and to assimilate ethical and moral values that we need as our travel companions.”*

Solvay, one of the principal partners in the project

The Belgian chemicals group SOLVAY made a great deal of R&D resources available for the Solar Impulse project. This contribution from SOLVAY was decisive in the research into innovative materials (plastics and polymers), technical solutions, models and simulating their behaviour in extreme environments, their technical evaluations and carrying out batteries of tests.



► **Leuven Urologists honoured**

As happens each year, the European Urology Association awarded prizes to researchers during its annual conference in Vienna. These are authors of the best scientific papers and who, through their work, have contributed to the development of this medical speciality. On this occasion, the Department of Urology of the University Hospital of Leuven had performed particularly well and was awarded several prizes.

Dr Steven Joniau for instance was awarded the main prize: the *Cristal EAU Matula Award 2011*. This prestigious prize is awarded to promising young urologists who have the potential to become figureheads in a university environment. Dr Joniau also received the International Oncology Prize 2011.



Dr Wouter Everaerts received the *Prize for the Best Paper published on Fundamental Research in the Urological Literature in 2010*. And finally, Dr Joost Berkers received the *First Prize for the Best Abstract by a resident*.



www.uroweb.org

► **Belgian educational psychologist honoured in Senegal**

The University of Dakar (UCAD) has just awarded the title of Doctor Honoris Causa to Professor Jean Marie de Ketele during a ceremony chaired by the Rector of the UCAD, Professor Saliou Ndiaye and in the presence of eminent personalities from the academic world.

Professor Jean Marie de Ketele is the 26th person to be promoted to the position of Doctor Honoris Causa of the UCAD.

He was proposed by the Science and Technology Faculty of Education and Training for services rendered to the institution and to research as well as for his participation in reinforcing the co-operation between Belgium and Senegal.

The recipient, who has stayed in Senegal many times, was the linchpin for promoting educational sciences.



As an educational psychologist, researcher and professor emeritus of the *Université Catholique de Louvain*, Jean Marie de Ketele works on projects for different scientific associations and sits on scientific committees, as well as writing for a number of scientific publications.

He is an international consultant for various institutions such as UNICEF, UNESCO and the EU, created the UNESCO chair for educational sciences at Dakar, and has been chair of the *Bureau d'Ingénierie en Éducation et en Formation* for many years.

www.ucad.sn

► A dental revolution

The dental laboratory of Gerland Vanderbeken, called Innodema, located in Ostend, has completely automated its production of dental prostheses. This unique international innovation enables it to remain competitive within a global economy.

Another Belgian company, Melotte, is responsible for automating the manufacturing processes. Client data is entered into an IT model using a 3D scanner.

The IT partners then redefine this data for the DDM (direct digital manufacturing). Laser beams blend the successive layers of metal powders together to create a perfect dental prosthesis, perfectly made to measure.



© Shutterstock

There are many advantages to the new manufacturing process: a considerable reduction in manufacturing and delivery times and a 50% drop in salary costs for technicians.

The quality is superior and there are no unpleasant odours during manufacturing. The manufacturing process is also very ecologically-friendly as it enables the company to reduce its carbon footprint: no more shipping around the globe, no more toxic chemical products and no more wasted raw materials.

www.innodema.com
www.melotte.be

► 3 Montois scientists in the top 100 chemists in the world

Each year in several scientific sectors, the Thomson Reuters press agency publishes its classification of the 100 international researchers who have had the biggest impact in their fields through their scientific publications. These rankings compiled from 500,000 researchers around the world are based on two criteria: the number of publications in the field concerned and the number of recorded citations of these publications between 1 January 2000 and 31 October 2010.

The least that can be written about the University of Mons (UMons) is that it has distinguished itself. And not only once; but three times; and right slap bang in the middle of the international year of chemistry!

In the first of these Top 100 lists, the one specifically dedicated to the most influential chemists specialising in material sciences over the past decade, Philippe Dubois (Vice-President of Research at UMons) came in 18th place. He was ranked as the number 3 European researcher! One of his articles was cited 2,350 times by his colleagues.



De gauche à droite : Philippe Dubois, Jérôme Cornil et David Beljonne

Another UMons researcher, David Beljonne, came in at 88 in the same classification. He is director of research for the FNRS [National Fund for Scientific Research] at the UMons and secretary of the Chemistry Institute.

In a second classification compiled by Thomson Reuters, the 40-year old permanent FNRS researcher within the new Materials Chemistry department of UMons, Jérôme Cornil, was ranked 99th in the Top 100 most influential chemists for the past decade. Between 2000 and 2010, Jérôme Cornil published 65 articles in chemistry-related scientific journals and his work was cited a total of 3,640 times.

Jérôme Cornil works on the theoretical modelling of organic materials for electronics (a field also referred to as "organic electronics"). "The applications of this research are mainly aimed at replacing silicium. Organic materials are used in the field of OLEDs for television screens or mobile phones, in integrated circuits or even solar cells".

www.thomsonreuters.com

Miscellaneous

Belgium well ranked in the OECD wellbeing index

The OECD has unveiled a new interactive index which will enable each person to measure and compare his or her own quality of life beyond the traditional scope of Gross Domestic Product statistics.

Christened the "Better Life" index, this tool forms an integral part of the OECD's "Better Life" Initiative, which aims to measure wellbeing and progress. The index enables citizens to compare their wellbeing across 34 countries based on 11 aspects: housing; income; jobs; community; education; environment; governance; health; life satisfaction; safety; and work-life balance.

It is an opportunity to recognise that Belgium comes out very well in numerous measures of wellbeing, ranking amongst the top ten countries in several categories. We are, for instance, 4th for income, 5th for housing and 5th for work-life balance.

Finally, when asked, 76% of people in Belgium say they are satisfied with their lives, which is much higher than the OECD average, which is 59%.

www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org



Brussels: the 5th most important city in the world

According to a study of the world's great cities carried out by the property consultant Knight Frank, Brussels has moved up a place since last year and is now ranked the 5th most important city, just behind New York, London, Paris and Tokyo.

And in the more specific classification of cities with the greatest political power, Brussels has once again improved its ranking, with a 3rd place classification.

www.knightfrank.com/wealthreport/2011/global-cities-survey/



► **Belgian beers are working up a head in international competitions**

Troubadour Magma, a copper-red lager, has just won a silver medal in the American *Denver International Beer Competition*. The same competition also awarded a silver medal to Wittekerke Witbier, in the white beer category.

Last April, our beers shone in the United Kingdom, taking home no less than six prizes from amongst the 800 beers competing in the 125th prestigious *Brewing Industry International Awards* held in Burton-upon-rent in northern Birmingham.

- Mort Subite: gold medal in the *Fruit & Vegetable* category
- Premium Pils Estaminet: gold medal in the *Smallpack Lager* category
- La Guillotine: gold medal in the *Strong Speciality Beer* category
- Brugse Zot Brune: silver medal in the *Strong Dark Beer* category
- Affligem blonde: silver medal in the *Smallpack Ale* category
- Affligem triple: bronze medal in the *Strong Ale* category

And finally, in Australia, over twenty Belgian beers distinguished themselves in various categories at the *Melbourne Australian International Beer Awards*, where close to 1,200 beers from 34 different countries were tested by a jury of fifty members:

- Oude Kriek: gold medal
- Oude Geuze: silver medal
- Bersalis Kadet: bronze medal
- Triple Moine: silver medal
- Blanche de Namur: bronze medal
- Gauloise Brune: bronze medal
- Saint-Feuillien Blonde: silver medal
- Saint-Feuillien Saison: bronze medal
- Floreffe Prima Melior: silver medal
- Barbar: bronze medal
- St Bernardus Triple: bronze medal
- Bière des Grottes: bronze medal
- Straffe Hendrik Quadruple: silver medal
- Brugse Zot Brune: bronze medal
- Brugse Zot Blonde: bronze medal
- Straffe Hendrik Triple: bronze medal
- Saison Dupont: silver medal
- Bons Vœux: bronze medal
- Bière de Miel: bronze medal
- Bière de Belœil: bronze medal
- Grimbergen Double : bronze medal



www.denverbeercomp.com
www.brewingawards.org
www.beerawards.com

Get the latest news online: visit <http://www.belgium-unlimited.be>



► **Three European cultural heritage grand prizes awarded to Belgian projects**

The European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa Nostra Awards aims to promote quality and expertise in conservation practice and to stimulate trans-frontier exchanges in the area of heritage. Through the Power of Example, the prize aims to encourage further efforts and new high-quality projects throughout Europe. It is awarded jointly by Europa Nostra, the pan-European Federation for Cultural Heritage (the representative platform of almost 250 NGOs active in the area of heritage) and by the European Commission within the framework of its cultural programme.

The award ceremony took place in Amsterdam's Concertgebouw on 10 June in the presence of the European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, Mrs Androulla Vassiliou, and Plácido Domingo, world renowned tenor and President of Europa Nostra. Twenty seven laureates were chosen from almost 140 projects spread throughout 31 countries. And six of these 27 laureates received a grand prize which rewards the most outstanding projects devoted to heritage. The final decision was made by juries made up of independent experts from all over Europe.

Belgium particularly stood out at this ceremony as five Belgian projects figured among the 27 laureates and 3 of these received a grand prize. These were the ducal watermills in Aarschot, Antwerp Central Station and Villa Empain in Brussels.

The ducal watermills in Aarschot

's Hertogenmolens (literally "The Duke's Mills") in Aarschot is an outstanding Flemish watermill complex. It was built in 1505 by William of Croÿ, Lord of Aarschot, one of the most powerful noblemen in the Burgundian Empire. This daring building, with regular, stepped gables and natural slate saddle roofs, is unique in Western Europe because it spans the man-made branch of the Demer River and includes its own lock structure.

After eight years of meticulous preparation, in cooperation with private partners and the Flemish authorities, the City of Aarschot succeeded in bringing back to life one of the most important industrial monuments of Flanders as an economically-viable brasserie-hotel, while showing great respect for the cultural and historical elements of the monument.

Antwerp Central Station

Antwerp Central Station has been the "Railway Cathedral" for more than two centuries. The award recognises the exceptional achievement of turning a terminal station – typical of 19th century railway architecture - into a through station - a real necessity in the 21st century - while restoring this majestic railway station to its former glory. The jury liked the excellent quality of the work carried out at all levels: from the outstanding conservation of the station building and its huge glass roof to the redevelopment of the tracks on three levels. Modernity and tradition are in true symbiosis here. The positive interaction of the station with its surrounding urban landscape shows how significant the preservation of the existing station was. The drilling of the 3.8 km tunnel under the existing station, carried out by the National Belgian Railway Company, to allow TGVs to travel between Amsterdam and Brussels took 11 years – with no disruption to traffic.

Villa Empain in Brussels

In 2006 the Boghossian Foundation bought Villa Empain, a masterpiece of Art Deco heritage, to use as its headquarters and to create a centre of art and dialogue between the cultures of East and West. This beautiful residence, built between 1931 and 1934 for Baron Louis Empain, was in a state of complete disrepair and needed a thorough restoration. The conservation was carried out between 2008 and 2010 in collaboration with the Royal Commission of Monuments and Sites in the Brussels Region, the architects and Belgian and foreign craftsmen, as well as with a large number of private partners. Villa Empain opened its doors to the public in April 2010, and has since hosted many cultural, artistic and educational activities.

The jury very much liked the exemplary quality of the restoration of this emblematic Art Deco monument, both in terms of the technical work carried out and the choice of materials used. Furthermore, the new use of this building as the headquarters of a foundation which aims at spreading knowledge and at reconciliation between eastern and western cultures, is an additional merit of this project.

www.europanostra.org



Villa Empain

Antwerp Station



► **The Belgian Célestin de Wergifosse came third in the famous Lépine competition, winning the Prix de la Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Paris.**

The Lépine competition is an international competition for inventors created in Paris in 1901. Since then many famous inventions have won awards such as the vacuum cleaner, ballpoint pen, iron and contact lenses.

But for Célestin de Wergifosse, who is only 15 years old, it is not his first award. He has already won the silver medal in the “Leonardo de Vinci” prize awarded by the Association of European Inventors and been named “Best young inventor 2010” by the World Intellectual Property Organization.

He has been working on his invention for over two years: a mobile and ecological generator. This mobile generator supplies electricity without emitting CO₂ thanks to the installation of solar panels, a wind pump and dynamo.



C. de Wergifosse

The young inventor came up with this idea during a trip to Niger with his grandfather. He would now like to market his invention and make use of his patent, targeting the NGO market first and foremost.

<http://celestin.dewergifosse.be>

► **Belgian cyclists dominate the spring classics**

Not since the '70s has there been such a list of winners: of the seven one-day classics, six were won by Belgians. Although the Australian Matthew Goss took the first classic by winning the Milan-San Remo, the next six went to our compatriots.

Tom Boonen came out on top in the final sprint of the 73rd Ghent-Wevelgem race.



Ph. Gilbert

A few days later it was **Nick Nuyens** who won the Tour of Flanders at the end of a race full of twists and turns. In the Hell of the North it was **Johan Vansummeren** who outdid all the favourites and won the Paris-Roubaix.

And finally **Philippe Gilbert**, in incredible form, pulled off a great feat by stringing together three victories in a row: the Amstel Gold Race, the Flèche Wallonne and finally the doyen of the classics: Liège-Bastogne-Liège.

www.uciworldtour.com

► **Golf: Nicolas Colsaerts wins the China Open**

Four shots ahead of his nearest rivals the Belgian golfer clinched his first European tour victory by winning the Volvo China Open in Chengdu.

On his way to victory the Brussels man from the Waterloo Golf Club beat the world number 5 to advance himself into the semi-finals of one of the most prestigious events on the tour: the World Match Play Championship in Casares, Spain.

From a sporty family, Nicolas Colsaerts stepped onto the sports field at a very young age and sport became the passion of his life, regularly playing five different sports.



N. Colsaerts

Today Nicolas Colsaerts has moved into the top 100 in the world for the first time in his career. The 28 year old golfer, who was 152nd in the world at the start of the season, has actually risen to 81 in the new world golf rankings.

www.owgr.com



► **Inequality in decline in Belgium**

During the "Tackling inequality" political forum held in Paris on 2 May last, a document published by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) highlights the decline in inequality in Belgium over the past 25 years. Although the general trend in most other OECD member states is towards an increase in inequality, Belgium, along with 4 other countries, are positive exceptions.

Inequality in the distribution of income is calculated by the Gini coefficient which links the income of the poorest 10% of the population and the income of the richest 10%.

The Forum highlighted the important role that can be played by efficient public services in reducing inequality in areas such as health, education, housing as well as care services.

www.oecd.org/dataoecd/32/20/47723414.pdf?bcsi_scan_22DC9279E1547BF6=0&bcsi_scan_filename=47723414.pdf

Belgium ranked the 8th best country for mothers

On Mother's Day this year, the NGO *Save the Children* compiled an index of countries offering the best conditions for a woman to become a mum.

Amongst the 164 countries listed, Belgium came in 8th place. The criteria used to determine this classification mainly concerned indicators relating to healthcare, education, poverty and inclusion of women in the society.

Save the Children is an independent organisation working to bring about sustainable improvement in the living conditions of children and families facing serious problems.

<http://www.savethechildren.org/site/apps/nlnet/content2.aspx?c=8rKLIXMGlpI4E&b=6478615&ct=9378127>



Agenda

AGENDA

EVENEMENTS EN BELGIQUE

For general informations about Belgium :

<http://www.visitbelgium.com/>

<http://www.agenda.be>

<http://www.opt.be/accueil/fr/index.html>

[http://www.wallonie-](http://www.wallonie-tourisme.be/contenus/agenda_culturel/fr/181.html)

[tourisme.be/contenus/agenda_culturel/fr/181.html](http://www.wallonie-tourisme.be/contenus/agenda_culturel/fr/181.html)

http://www.cfwb.be/index.php?id=portail_theme_culture

<http://www.visitflanders.com>

<http://www.cultuurweb.be/CNETPortal/Home2.aspx>

<http://www.opbrussel.be/>

Horta, a Lost World

8th of April – 31st of December 2011

Autriquehouse, Schaarbeek

www.autrique.be

From Pablo Picasso to Joan Miro

1st of May – December 2011

Oud Sint Jan, Bruges

www.oudsintjan.eu

Unravel - Knitwear in fashion

16th of March – 14th of August 2011

MoMu, Antwerp

www.momu.be

Festival de Wallonie

5th of June – 16th of October 2011

Classical music

www.festivaldewallonie.be

Tutankhamen

20th of April – 6th of November 2011

Place de Belgique, Brussels

www.kingtutbrussels.be

ExPLOsition – Graffiti in Brussels

16th of June – 4th of September 2011

Museum of Ixelles, Ixelles

www.museedixelles.irisnet.be

Jorge Macchi, Music Stands Still

30th of April – 18th of September

Exhibition, S.M.A.K (Municipal Museum of Contemporary Art), Ghent

www.smak.be

Liege in Victor Hugo's Time

21st of May – 26th of September 2011

Exhibition, Palace Curtius, Liege

www.grandcurtiusliege.be

CULTURE

www.culture.be

www.agenda.be

www.wallonietourisme.be/contenus/agenda_culturel/fr/181.html

www.uitinvlaanderen.be

www.uitinbrussel.be

FESTIVALS

www.festivals.be

FAIRS ET SALONS

www.beurskalender.be

CONFERENCES

www.conferencealerts.com/belgium.htm

Formula One Belgian Grand Prix

26th - 28th of August 2011

Spa - Francorchamps

www.spagrandprix.com

Belgium Unlimited

FPS Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation



Communication Department
Rue des Petits Carmes, 15
1000 Brussels
Belgium
Content officer: Dirk Achten

www.diplomatie.be
www.dgpd.be
www.belgium.be
www.invest.belgium.be

Contacts:

ariadne.petridis@diplobel.fed.be
nicolas.petterie@diplobel.fed.be

The details contained in this publication are for information only; the FPS shall not be held liable by law for any details contained herein.
This Newsletter is protected under Belgian and international copyright law.