

BRIDFAS News

BRITISH DECORATIVE AND FINE ARTS
SOCIETY OF BRUSSELS

www.bridfas.org

October 2009

COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Inaugurating the New Season

Welcome to another enjoyable year of lectures and assorted art activities at **BRIDFAS**! This year we've got more activities planned than ever before. To start off we will be having a "Pot Luck Party" at my home on September 30. It will be an informal occasion for the **BRIDFAS** family to get together, renew old acquaintances and make new friends. Please feel free to bring a date or family member. The more smiling faces the better! The invitation is located on page 2.

Then on October 7 we will be opening the lecture season. Paul Atterbury, of the BBC "Antiques Road Show", will deliver the first lecture of the year on the Life and Works of A.W.N. Pugin and the Gothic Revival. This promises to be very intriguing because Pugin was so influential yet so little known. He is probably most famous for his work on the Palace of Westminster in London. However, he was also responsible for many churches and was a key proponent of the Gothic Revival, a very important architectural movement in 19th Century England.

But wait! The evening won't be over yet! After the lecture we'll be going to a local pub so that we can keep chatting with Paul, get a bite to eat and continue the merrymaking. The pub will be announced at the start of the lecture.

And then

As you will see from the complete programme on page 3, the other lecture topics this year will deal with France, Africa and our own little corner of the world, Belgium. Not only will we get an in-depth look at the Waterloo battlefield panorama painting, but we will also be treated to a talk about the diamond industry by an expert from the Antwerp World Diamond Centre.

And let's not forget our annual study day in London. The chosen exhibition for this fall is "Moctezuma: Aztec Ruler" at the British Museum. It will certainly be a very full as well as enlightening day as it will explore the Aztec civilization in Mexico through the divine, military and political role of Moctezuma II, its last ruler. It is the first exhibition ever to deal with the legacy of this exceptional emperor, so it will be a unique occasion to learn more about him. If you would like to join us for the day, the application form is on page 4.

So welcome to the 2009/2010 season and enjoy yourself!

Paula Cagli

BRIDFAS

The British Decorative and Fine Arts
Society of Brussels

*cordially invites you to inaugurate
the
2009 – 2010 Lecture Season
at a
“Potluck Party”*

at: Paula and Alessandro Cagli's Home

on: Wednesday, September 30 *from:* 7:30 pm *to:* 9:30 pm

respond: paulacagli@skynet.be

☺ Please bring a plate of finger food for all to share. ☺



DON'T FORGET

The **BRIDFAS** newsletter is your newsletter! The more you participate, the more fun you have. Plus it really is gratifying to see your name in print. A few members had the thrill last year and we are hoping that more members will take advantage of the occasion this year. Whether you've seen an exhibition or a museum, read a good book or have personal news to communicate, the **BRIDFAS** newsletter is the place for you to share your opinions and experiences with your friends.

Who went to the new Magritte Museum? What did you think? What were its pros and cons?

Don't be shy, just pick up your pen or mouse, write a few lines and send or give them to me (your editor). I will do the rest.

Paula Cagli paulacagli@skynet.be

WHILE YOU'RE AT IT

Check out the new features on our website www.bridfas.org Activities complete with photographs have been added from last season on the events page, and the links page has been updated to include lists of expat groups, museums and other institutions around town. The improved **BRIDFAS** website is now your one stop resource for all you need to know about art and contemporary culture in Brussels!

BRIDFAS PROGRAMME 2009/2010

- 7 October 2009 *Paul Atterbury (BBC's Antiques Roadshow)*
**Life and Work of A.W.N. Pugin
and the Gothic Revival**
- 4 November 2009 *Kate Williams (author of Tatler's book of the year)*
**Queen Victoria: Success through Portraiture
and her Struggle for the Throne**
- 9 December 2009 *Jenny Baten (Antwerp World Diamond Centre)*
Diamonds are Forever
- 13 January 2010 *Ian Beckett*
**The Waterloo Panorama and the Art of the
Panorama and Cyclorama**
- 3 February 2010 *Helen McCabe*
Houses and Gardens of Normandy
- 3 March 2010 *Christopher Bradley*
The Splendours of North Africa
- 14 April 2010 *Colin Lattimore*
The History of the Long Case Clock
- 12 May 2010 *James Taylor*
Ocean Liner Art

(Change of venue for the May lecture: *Salle de Conférence à l'Eglise des Dominicains, avenue de la Renaissance 40, 1000 Bruxelles* **)**

Lectures are held at 8 p.m. on Wednesdays
Maison Communale of Woluwe St. Lambert,
Ave. Paul Hymans 2 (metro Tomberg).
Welcome drinks are served from 7.30 p.m.

**BRIDFAS STUDY DAY:
Visit to the British Museum
14 November 2009**

The 2009 **BRIDFAS Study Day** is planned for **Saturday, 14th November 2009**, to take advantage of the exhibition "**Moctezuma: Aztec Ruler**". This major exhibition explores Aztec civilisation through the divine, military, and political role of the last elected ruler, Moctezuma II (reigned AD 1502–1520). From his capital in Tenochtitlan, Moctezuma's empire comprised much of modern highland Mexico, stretching from the Gulf Coast to the Pacific Ocean. His power was reflected in the splendour of his capital's architecture, his command of the prestigious Jaguar and Eagle military orders, and his sacrificial rituals to the gods. Moctezuma's world was unrivalled, and this remained so until the devastating arrival of strangers – Cortés and his Spanish fleet. The legacy of this tumultuous event and the semi-mythical status of Moctezuma will be reassessed through the display of imposing stone sculptures, rare gold, and turquoise objects, many of which will be seen for the first time in the UK. Rediscover the world of the Aztecs and trace the foundation of modern Mexico in the **British Museum's** next major exhibition on great rulers.

The programme will include:

- 09.45 Private coffee in the Clore Education Centre (CEC) Foyer.
- 10.30 Private DVD showing, in the CEC Sackler Rooms.
- 11.30 Private lecture by Dr. Colin McEwan or Dr. Elisenda Villa Llonch, co-curators.
- 12.30 Private lunch of soup, sandwiches, fruit, water, & coffee/tea, in the CEC.
- 14.00 Timed admission to the Moctezuma exhibition, Reading Room.
- 15.30 Private tea & cookies commences, in the CEC.
- 16.30 Study Day ends [or earlier for those who have a train to catch].

The group will be limited to **35 persons** maximum. The charge for the visit will be **EUR 50.= per person**, which covers all aspects of the above programme. The British Museum requires payment 1 month in advance, so please book by the **10th of October**.

Participants are responsible for arranging their own travel to/from London. **This is a great opportunity for a weekend or an extended visit to London.** Currently Eurostar day returns are available for +/- EUR 80.= from Brussels. **Eurostar** trains to London arrive at the **St Pancras International** terminal, a short distance from the British Museum [31 min walking, or 14 min by bus]. We will meet in the Clore Education Centre (CEC), located downstairs below the Great Court of the British Museum, from **09.45 onwards**.

BRIDFAS Study Day 2009, British Museum, London – 14th November 2009

Please reserve _____ places for the Saturday, 14 NOV 09, visit to the British Museum, London, in the name(s) of _____

A **EUR** _____ Euro Bank Transfer payment of has been made to **Victor de Vries**, KBC account **427-1159671-90**, with the message "**BRIDFAS Study Day 09**".
[IBAN: **BE34 4271 1596 7190** BICC: **KREDBEBB**].

Places will not be reserved until payment has been received.
No refund will be made in the event of non-attendance.

_____ (bank account name)

_____ (telephone) _____ (e-mail)

e-mail to:

victor@skynet.be

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Looking for Officers and Helpers

As per **BRIDFAS** tradition, we will be holding our annual general meeting in November or December. This is when the entire society gets together to review our finances and elect officers for the coming year. The officers are our main concern as the committee is presently undergoing a number of changes.

We have added the position of vice-chairman to which Katie Moncheur has accepted the nomination. This will give us greater flexibility to work on special projects.

Julian Hartland-Swann has stepped down from being Publicity Secretary, so we are looking for help doing his duties. These consist of mostly clerical work such as sending reminders to the membership, notifying "The Bulletin" each month of our new lecture and updating the programme on the website, all of which can be done from the comfort of one's own computer. The work is limited to an hour or so per month.

Robert Perry, our treasurer, will be stepping down as well at the end of the year, and he would very much like to train his replacement. This would be the best way to ease into the job. It is not time-consuming, but it is of fundamental importance.

As a non-committee position, it would also be nice to add a bar minder (perhaps the most important job of all!). The bar minder would simply have to transport the wine to each lecture and to ensure that there is always an adequate supply. This job would not require any work or meetings during the month, so it would be quite easy.

Please consider what you can do to lend a hand so that we can all work together to ensure the welfare and continuity of **BRIDFAS**.

Paula Cagli

MY LAST YEAR ON THE COMMITTEE: Laughs, Rewards and a Bit of Nostalgia

To coin an inspiring – but now rather well worn – phrase, "Think not what **BRIDFAS** can do for you, but rather what you can do for **BRIDFAS**!!"

OK – so I didn't step up to the plate of my own accord; but, shortly after my joining **BRIDFAS** as a member, I had my arm twisted by Gordon Brett to have my name put forward at an AGM to serve on the committee of the Society. And I have never regretted one day of my close involvement since that weak moment. I have served on the committee for the past 11 years – initially focusing on activities with other organisations (NADFAS central in London; the National Trust members in Belgium; etcetera), but subsequently also in looking after the refreshments at each lecture, organising Study Days, and for the past 5 years as Treasurer (and therefore as one of the 3 official Administrateurs of the asbl).

I would be being economical with the truth if I were to say that committee membership does not bring any work with it, but I have never found this to be burdensome. On the contrary, even the Treasurer-ship at its busiest period in September when the membership applications are coming through involves only an occasional hour's work per week – plus a pleasant evening at someone's home once per month for a meeting of the committee (and supper is provided!). Set against that, the delights of being involved in the smooth running of the Society and seeing lectures come and go while being much enjoyed by the attending members and non-members provide enormous personal satisfaction. It really is very much a question of having the pleasure

of giving something to the English-speaking community here in Brussels. Of course, the more individuals who are prepared to give of themselves in this small way, the less work each of those individuals has to undertake.

Personally, I have found my years on the committee to have been immensely rewarding and I would recommend the experience to all the members of the Society. I have found and made new friends from our joint close endeavours; we have had many laughs in committee as we discuss the success or otherwise of particular lectures or events and plan for the future; and the satisfaction of seeing your faces and hearing your comments after each lecture or Study Day has been ample reward in itself for the time I have given for the benefit (hopefully!) of the Society.

Robert Perry

A TOAST TO THE HOSTS

Starting with the month of January I am looking for members to host lecturers. Whether you are a Waterloo battlefield buff, an antique clock fanatic, interested in ocean liner art or like architecture, there is a lecturer out there who is waiting to meet you.

Hosting is fun! All you need to do is pick the lecturer up at the train station, get him/her to the lecture hall in advance, make sure they receive their meals, supply a bed for them to sleep and put them back on the train. **BRIDFAS** will reimburse you for expenses incurred.

So what are you waiting for? Contact me at pkwakernaak@yahoo.com for more details, or speak to me directly at the next lecture.

Pauline Kwakernaak

YOUNG ARTS EXHIBITION

During the 2008-2009 lecture season **BRIDFAS** sponsored a Young Arts Project at the British Junior Academy of Brussels called "Storytelling through Textiles". It came to an exciting conclusion in the month of June with the children's art exhibition. I was happy to represent **BRIDFAS** at the event. After being officially thanked with a gift of flowers, I was given the honor to cut the ribbon and inaugurate the exhibition.

Although I made periodic visits to the school to photograph the progress the children were making, nothing could have prepared me to see the works all properly framed and hung together as if they were in a professional art gallery. What a joy: they had become real true works of art! Even greater than the sense of satisfaction at having sponsored such a lovely project was the feeling of pride the children demonstrated as they pointed out their individual works to their parents.

On a formal level the children learned how to conceive and execute an art project, but on a personal level they learned the many ways in which art can enrich their lives. Thank you to Head Teacher Diane Perry for overseeing the project and congratulations to the budding young artists of the British Junior Academy!

Click on <http://bridfas.org/events.htm> to see photographs of the exhibition.

Paula Cagli

MEMBERS' FORUM

BRUSSELS: ***Midis du Cinema***

The Musée d'Art Ancien will be inaugurating its winter series of « MIDIS DU CINEMA » on Thursday, October 1. Every Thursday from October to March the museum will feature a film which starts at 12:30 and lasts around an hour, entry is € 4. The short films are documentaries about a wide range of arts. There are many about China including an excursion on the Imperial Canal by David Hockney. Other subjects include Delvaux, Magritte, Ancient Egypt, James Ensor, Renoir, Calder, Claudel, Kandinsky and the Mayas.

Andrew McCubbin

The Magritte Museum

Remodeling finally complete, the building next to the Museum of Fine Art at 1 Place Royale was opened on June 2 as the new Magritte Museum. Don't be fooled by the neo-classical exterior, though, the inside of the building is completely modern and painted with a brand new color, "Magritte blue", in harmony with the works on display. There are three floors chock full of Magritte paintings, photographs, sculptures and drawings, and there's an additional floor showing a documentary on the life of Belgium's favorite modern painter.

René Magritte (1898-1967) began his career as an illustrator, and although he went through several artistic phases from fauvism to cubism to impressionism, he is best known and loved for his surrealist paintings. On show are some of his finest pieces like *The Domain of Arnheim*, *La Magie Noire*, *The Ready-Made Bouquet*, *The Empire of Light* and *The Return*. All are linked by a common and coherent theme: a light-hearted play on different perceptions of reality.

The works are represented and dated in chronological order, with bite-sized historical explanations which bring the man as well as his artwork to new life. The vivacious and jocular feeling continues in the many photos of Magritte, his wife and friends as they play, dawn silly masks and pose for the camera. The homage to the man and artist is probably what the museum accomplishes best.

The museum's structural problems and lack of preparedness greatly diminish the enjoyment, though. For instance, things are not clearly marked and spaces are small. There are no signs indicating where the visit begins in order to see the material in chronological order. Considering that the visit begins on the third floor, the public should have been warned that the elevator was broken. The walk is prohibitively long and steep for the elderly and handicapped. Then the foyer is so small that it is unpleasant to buy tickets and rent audio guides.

Some of the problems can be ameliorated by purchasing tickets at the Museum of Fine Art ticket counter. However, not much can be done about small exhibition areas filled with more visitors than they are designed to hold. The best suggestion is to wait another few months before embarking on the adventure.

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

Paula Cagli

The Portrait of Nicolaes van Bambeek

For a really gratifying experience, Rembrandt's *Portrait of Nicolaes van Bambeek* (1641) from the Fine Arts Museum in Brussels has been recently cleaned and reunited with its companion piece, the *Portrait of Agatha Bas* from the British Royal Collection. Two rooms of the Fine Arts Museum have been dedicated to these splendid husband and wife portraits along with works by contemporaries and a comprehensible description of the restoration.

Van Bambeek, a wealthy cloth merchant, is seen at a window soberly dressed and in a dynamic three-quarters pose. As his hands reach beyond the windowsill and enter into the viewer's space, he clutches his glove in his fist as if to claim mastery of his household. He looks directly outward, and the interior of the home is illuminated thus demonstrating which partner dominates the intellectual realm.

His wife, instead, is seen at the same window in a more passive, frontal pose. She is bejeweled. With one hand she holds an elaborate fan which overflows into the viewer's space, and with the other she touches the inside of the window frame. Although she looks outward, she bends her head down in an attitude of obedience and modesty. The hand she holds within the window frame is ingratiating and quietly welcomes visitors into the warm but shaded home.

The van Bambeek portrait is special because it is the only uncontested Rembrandt portrait in a Belgian collection. Unlike its partner piece, it had never been restored before and had been varnished at least six times in the past. Therefore, it was very, very yellow. Since its restoration the lace collar has turned white, the eyes gleam, and the husband and wife are once again compatible.

Open until September 27.

http://www.fine-arts-museum.be/site/EN/frames/F_expo.html and
<http://www.royalcollection.org.uk/eGallery/object.asp?object=405352&row=0&detail=about>

Paula Cagli

Stoclet House Included on the UNESCO World Heritage List

At the June 2009 meeting of UNESCO Belgium gained its tenth World Heritage site when the Stoclet House on Brussels Avenue de Tervuren was added to the list. Completed in 1911 for the Banker Adolph Stoclet and built by the Vienna Secessionist architect Joseph Hoffman, it is one of the finest examples of late Art Nouveau design. The interior, which was designed at the same time, has also been retained unaltered. Because the house is part of a protracted dispute between the Stoclet family, it is not open to the public.

The complete list of Belgium's World Heritage List is as follows:

- 1) The FLEMISH BEGUINAGES
- 2) The FOUR LIFTS OF THE CANAL DU CENTRE
- 3) The GRAND PLACE OF BRUSSELS
- 4) The BELFRIES OF FLANDERS AND WALLONIA
- 5) The HISTORIC CENTRE OF BRUGGE
- 6) The MAJOR TOWN HOUSES OF VICTOR HORTA IN BRUSSELS
- 7) The NEOLITHIC FLINT MINES AT SPIENNES
- 8) The NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL OF TOURNAI
- 9) The PLANTIN-MORETUS MUSEUM AT ANTWERP

10) The STOCLET HOUSE IN BRUSSELS

There are thirteen Beguinages on the list: Brugge, Dendermonde, Diest, Gent (x 2), Hoogstraten, Kortrijk, Leuven, Lier, Mechelen, Sint Truiden, Tongeren and Turnhout. All are worth a visit but Diest, Kortrijk, Leuven and Brugge are the finest.

There are 31 Belfries on the list in Flanders and Wallonia.

The Neolithic Flint Mines at Spiennes near Mons date from 4200 BC and cover 100 ha there is limited public access.

The Horta Houses listed are the Hotel Tassel at Avenue P. Janson 6, built 1894 and considered the first true art nouveau house (not open to the public); the Hotel Solvay at Avenue Louise 224, built 1900 (opened to groups with a prior reservation); and the Hotel van Eetvelde at Avenue Palmerston 4, built 1898 (only accessible on an ARAU tour). The Museum and Atelier Horta at Rue Americaine 23, built 1901 is open daily (x Mon) 1400/1730 hr.

Andrew McCubbin

AMSTERDAM: The State Hermitage Museum

On June 19 a new branch of the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg was opened in Amsterdam.

Getting to Amsterdam from Brussels is easiest by car (only 200 ks and no tolls), but central parking is now the most expensive in the world. The solution? Stay in a modern business hotel outside the central city and go in ten minutes to the center by tram.

The Hermitage museum is stunning and needs at least 3 - 4 hours. We were happy to have a guide. The building, converted from an old people's home built in 1624, is huge at 9,000 m² and has been designed with great style.

The current exhibition, "At the Russian Court: Palace and Protocol in the XIX Century" comes directly from the Hermitage and covers the 120+ years of the Romanov dynasty until its abrupt end with the 1917 revolution. It consists of 1,800 items (of the 3 m owned by the Hermitage) such as portraits, clothes and personal belongings. It is stunning and runs to the end of January 2010. Try to see it!

http://www.hermitagemuseum.org/html/En/13/hm13_5.html

Tony Dodd

THE US: Frank Lloyd Wright

Inspired by last year's lecture about Frank Lloyd Wright, I went to discover his architecture first-hand this summer in the US. I visited two sites which were probably his smallest and his biggest. They were the Pope-Leighey Home near Washington, DC and the Guggenheim Museum in New York.

The Pope-Leighey Home was initially built for a modest journalist who wanted a Wright house so badly that the architect actually invented a new type of economical house that Mr. Pope could afford. It is very streamlined with small rooms and narrow

passageways. Nevertheless, all of the Wright characteristics are present. The structure is based on strong horizontal lines intermitted with enigmatic relief motifs.

The Guggenheim Museum, instead, is Wright's masterpiece and was built for Solomon R. Guggenheim, one of the world's richest men. It is a modern art museum built in the form of a spiral. The spiral is so compact that its lines appear to be vertical. Once again, sparingly-used exterior relief motifs break up the solidity of the mass.

In the case of the home, there is almost no storage space for clothes, dishes or other essentials. When Wright was asked why he hadn't included these basic necessities he replied that the owner simply had to change his lifestyle to suit the house. And there was no fooling Mr. Wright by adding things after the fact because he was famous for going back to inspect his homes after they were constructed. All additions had to be expressly made with his permission or workmanship.

As for the Guggenheim, it is extremely difficult to look at works of art when one is standing crooked on the floor. Here, too, spaces are small and awkward. The café' is so badly conceived that one has to juggle plates and glasses on his/her lap.

I was left with the feeling that Wright had a profound knowledge of architecture history in different epochs and different cultures. One could detect references all the way from Bernini to Japanese tea houses to ultra-modern America. However, it also seemed obvious that he did not construct his buildings for practical use. They are rather monuments to a very personal idea of beauty and self-glorification.

http://www.peterbeers.net/interests/flw_rt/Virginia/pope_leighey/pope_leighey.htm
http://www.greatbuildings.com/buildings/Guggenheim_Museum.html

Paula Cagli

LONDON:

NADFAS Sponsors "Fame and Obscurity: the contrasting fortunes of Carl Fabergé and Henry Murphy, Master Goldsmiths"

NADFAS is planning a gold-and-jewelry-lovers extravaganza on October 20, 2009. It will be held in the Princess Alexandra Hall and will include coffee, a Fabergé lecture, a Henry Murphy lecture, lunch and a Jewellery Roadshow. The costs are 30 pounds for the combined lectures, 30 pounds for the two-course lunch, and 15 pounds for the Roadshow. There are 200 places available for the lectures and lunch, and 50 places for the Roadshow. Further information and a booking form can be found on pages 8 and 9 of the current issue of the NADFAS "Review". Some **BRIDFAS** members have attended similar NADFAS events in the past and have enjoyed them immensely.

With NADFAS in "The Medieval and Renaissance Galleries, V&A"

On November 25 NADFAS is also offering a lecture and tour of the new Medieval and Renaissance Galleries at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. The event will consist of a lecture by the Chief Curator on the Galleries Project followed by a tour of the galleries by a member of the curatorial team. The ticket costs 5 pounds and booking details can be found on page 9 of the NADFAS "Review".

EXHIBITION SCENE

Brussels:

“THE BRUSSELS SAGA”

@ Hotel de Ville, Grand Place 24/6/09 - 27/09/09

History of Brussels by Willy Vandersteen, the creator of “Bob and Bobette”

Open Daily x Mon 1030/1800, €5

“BRUSSELS, BY THE SENNE”

@ Maison de Folklore , Rue du Chene 19 3/9/09 - 25/10/09

A 1/5 scale model of the St Gery neighbourhood before the Senne was covered over

A little known museum up from the Mannekin Pis

“PORTRAITS OF ARTISTS”

@ BOZAR 20/3/09 - 13/9/09

80 years of photo portraits of the remarkable figures who have been associated and been artists

at the BOZAR, Daily x Mon, free

MAGRITTE MUSEUM

Place Royale

Newly opened flagship museum for Brussels, 100,000 visitors by 7th August!

Tickets can be booked on line

“THE PAINTERS OF THE FOREST OF SOIGNES 1850-1950”

@ Musee Beaux Arts de Ixelles 29/10/09 - 10/1/10

Open Dly x Mon 1300/1700

“THE TIME OF BOUTIQUES”

@ Fondation pour L'Architecture 27/1/09-18/10/09

Open Tue/Fri 12/18, S/S 1030/1800, €6

Rue de l'Ermitage 55

The architecture of shop facades through Art Nouveau & Art Deco

“EUROPALIA CHINA”

Arts festival 8/10/09 - 14/2/10

“SONS OF HEAVEN”

@ BOZAR 10/10/09 – 24/1/10

The history of the Chinese Emperors over 5000 years

“ASIA-EUROPE Faith and Trade”

@ BOZAR 25/6/10 - 3/10/10

“THE SILK ROAD”

@ Museum of Arts & History 23/10/09 - 7/2/10

The treasures of the mountains of Western China

“WESTERN TRAVELLERS IN CHINA”
@ Bibliotheca Wittochiana, Avenue du Bemel 23
Open Daily x Mon 10/17

“WU ZUOREN” ON THE CROSSROADS OF EAST AND WEST
@ Hotel de Ville Grand Place 15/10/09 - 17/1/10
Chinese painter 1908-1997 trained in Belgium

“SHANGHAI MODERN 1900-1949”
@ Centre d’Art de Rouge Cloitre 27/10/09 - 24/1/10
Posters etc illustrating design in pre revolutionary Shanghai

“THE ORCHARD PAVILLION AND CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY”
@ Royal Museum of Fine Arts 14/10/09 - 31/1/10
The Art of Writing in China

“DELVAUX AND THE ANCIENT WORLD”
@ Royal Museum of Fine Arts 23/10/09 - 31/1/10

“THE THREE DREAMS OF A MANDARIN”
@ ING Place Royale 22/10/09 - 14/2/10

ANTWERP:

“REUNION”
@ Cathedral of Our Lady 5/6/09 - 15/11/09
Open M/F 10/17, Sat 10/15, Sun 13/16, €5, audio guide in English €2
Many great works of art designed for the Cathedral will return for this magnificent exhibition

“ON THE HEELS OF BARTOK, LAJOS VAJOLA & HUNGARIAN SURREALISM”
@ Royal Museum of Fine Arts 17/10/09 - 17/1/01

“ROOM FOR ART IN 17th CENTURY ANTWERP”
@ Rubenshouse 28/11/09 - 28/2/10
Willem van Haechts treasure rooms

“DELVAUX 180 YEARS OF BELGIAN LUXURY”
@ MoMu Fashion Museum 17/9/09 - 21/2/10
This is Handbag-Delvaux not Nudes and Trams- Delvaux

GENT:

“CERAMICS BY RAOUL DUFY 1877-1904”
@ Design Museum Gent Autumn 4/7/09 - 11/10/09

LEUVEN:

“ROGIER VAN DER WEYDEN” (1400-1464)
@ M-Leuven 20/9/09 – 6/12/09
The reopening of Leuven’s city museum will be celebrated by one of the greatest of the Flemish primitives, over 20 works from Belgium, Europe and the USA

LIEGE:

GRAND CURTIUS

Now open the new museum that brings together the collections along the banks of the Meuse

LOUVAIN LA NEUVE:

HERGE MUSEUM

A new purpose built museum opened in May 2009 to celebrate Herge and his most famous creation Tin-Tin

OOSTENDE:

"BEAUFORT INSIDE & OUTSIDE"

28/3/09- 4/10/09

Art by the Sea, Expos and works of art along the coast

"MEMORIES - ARTISTS ALONG THE COAST 1830-1958"

@ Kunstmuseum aan Zee 28/3/09 - 4/10/09

Paintings , drawings and photos from artists on the Belgian coast

Exhibition in the new Kunstmuseum aan Zee (the old PMMK) at Romestraat 11

STAVELOT:

"ABBOT WIBALD OF STAVELOT"

@ Abbey of Stavelot 25/9/09 - 29/11/09

Wibald advised Kings and Emperors until his death in 1158

TONGEREN:

"AMBIORIX ROI DES EBURONS"

@ Museum Gallo-Roman 4/10/09 – 31/3/10

TREIGNES:

"IMAGES OF THE PHARAOH"

@ Musee Malgre-Tout 9/5/09 - 8/11/09

Pre-history of Egypt

LONDON:

"MOCTEZUMA – AZTEC RULER"

@ British Museum 24/9/09 – 24/1/10

The Aztec civilization through the life its last ruler (1502-1520)

"BEYOND BLOOMSBURY - DESIGNS OF THE OMEGA WORKSHOP"

@ Courtauld Gallery 18/6/09-20/9/09

"BEST OF BRITISH"

@ Dulwich Picture Gallery 8/7/09-27/9/09

The complete collection from the gallery including many not normally shown

"THE FACE OF SCOTLAND"

@ Fleming Collection 15/9/09-19/12/09

Masterpieces from the Scottish National Portrait Gallery

"TURNER AND THE MASTERS"

@ Tate Britain 23/9/09-24/1/10

"HENRY VIII DRESSED TO KILL"

@ Tower of London 3/4/09 – 17/1/10

It is 500 years since Henry's accession to the throne, this expo filling three floors of the White Tower has armour and arms of the period including Henry's own armour, this is the first time the collection has been seen together since the reign of Elizabeth I

"MAHARAJA – THE SPLENDOUR OF THE INDIAN ROYAL COURTS"

@ Victoria & Albert Museum 18/10/09 – 17/1/10

"ROYAL PAINTINGS OF JODPHUR"

@ British Museum 28/5/09 - 11/10/09

56 paintings from 17th and 19th century India

"THE SACRED MADE REAL"

@ National Gallery 21/10/09 - 24/1/10

Spanish Painting and Sculpture 1600-1700

"CHRISTEN KOBKE - DANISH MASTER OF LIGHT"

@ National Gallery 17/3/10 - 13/6/10

"VENICE , CANALETTO AND HIS RIVALS"

@ National Gallery 13/10/10 - 16/1/11

Expect heavy crowds, book in advance

OXFORD:

7th November the Ashmolean Museum reopens after major re-building

AMSTERDAM:

"AT THE RUSSIAN COURT"

@ Hermitage Amsterdam 20/6/09 - 31/10/09

Now in its new galleries at Amstel 51, this expo will illustrate the life of the Russian Court

DEN HAAG:

"CEZANNE-PICASSO-MONDRAIN"

@ Gemeentemuseum 17/10/09 - 24/1/10

PARIS:

"TITIAN, TINTORETTO AND VERONESE, RIVALS IN VENICE"

@ Louvre 17/9/09 - 4/1/10

"JAMES ENSOR"

@ Musee d 'Orsay 20/10/09 - 4/2/10

A major retrospective of one of Belgiums' greatest artists, previously shown in New York

"RENOIR IN THE 20th CENTURY"

@ Grand Palais 23/9/09 - 4/1/10

Works from the painters' last two decades

"LOUIS COMFORT TIFFANY - COLOURS AND LIGHT"
@ Musee du Luxembourg 16/9/09 - 17/1/10

LAUSANNE:

"EDWARD HOPPER"
@ Fondation Hermitage 25/6/10 - 24/10/10

MARTIGNY:

"FROM COURBET TO PICASSO"
Works from the Pushkin Museum Moscow
@ Fondation Gianadda Martigny 19/6/09 - 22/11/09

Andrew McCubbin

MEMBERS' MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE 4 SALE

A beautiful house in Sassoferrato, Italy:
Sassoferrato is a small city in the Marches near the border with Umbria and the hill town of Arcevia. It is a quarter hour, by car, from the famed Grottos of Frasassi, and 30 minutes from the town of Jesi, known for its fine wine, Verdicchio. Gubbio is just 30 minutes away, and Perugia and Assisi are an hour away.

Characteristics:

Main floor (piano nobile): ca. 3200 sq. ft.

Second floor: ca. 2200 sq. ft.

Ground floor, including a storage area and space for two shops: ca. 2200 sq.ft. One of those spaces is occupied by the town pharmacy

Garden at the main floor level: ca. 1900 sq. ft.

The house is historic, dating to the 17th century, and is in the very center of town.

If you are interested in the house, please contact Giulia Diamante at giuliadiamante@hotmail.com

FURNITURE 4 SALE

6 pieces of beautiful, hand-made, light-stained oak furniture in nearly-new condition:
Buffet, Bookcase, TV table, China cabinet, Coffee table top, Dining room table top

Can be sold together or separately

No reasonable offer will be refused

Contact Paula Cagli at paulacagli@skynet.be