A musical stroll through the heart of Brussels
**OPENING EVENT**

- **14:00**
  - CINEMA DADA(DAAA)

- **14:30**
  - DE TOVERFLUIT IN EEN NOTE(N)DOP

- **15:00**
  - VESPERS IN THE DARK

- **15:30**
  - VESPERS IN THE DARK

- **16:00**
  - A ROYAL BRASS BANQUET

- **16:30**
  - VOODOO JAZZ TRANCE

- **17:00**
  - MINDFUL STRINGS

- **17:30**
  - JAZZ@HOME

- **18:00**
  - A POCKET SYMPHONY

- **18:30**
  - LOVE AND LOVE, ETC.

- **19:00**
  - GIPSY STRAUSS

**YO! GOES CLASSICAL**

- **14:00**
  - TRY ME, GOOD KING!

**CLOSING EVENT**
INTRODUCTION

Artists from the Belgian National Orchestra, La Monnaie and BOZAR will be taking over the streets during the third edition of United Music of Brussels, and this year their aim is to surprise you! In unexpected corners of Brussels, they will catch you unawares with mini-concerts that will combine classical music and dynamic DJ sets, or jazz beats and dance. They will turn a great opera into a light-hearted musical, and a historic concert hall into a film set. It’s a way for musicians to interact with the city, whilst giving you the opportunity to interact with the musicians! You’ll be amazed by the innovative power of music.

Hans Waege, Intendant of the Belgian National Orchestra

Peter de Caluwe, Director General – Intendant of the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie

Paul Dujardin, CEO – Artistic director of BOZAR, Centre for Fine Arts
Imagine, you’re just setting off on a Saturday afternoon shopping spree, when, as you try to make your way towards rue Neuve through the crowd of passers-by, you see something... What are these strange sounds? Come closer!

La Monnaie is opening its doors for a few measures of The Magic Flute. Pamina, Papageno, the Three Boys and all the inhabitants of this magical world await you with a few colourful excerpts from Mozart’s famous opera. It’s a fairy tale start to an afternoon full of surprises!

**With:** soloists and 40 singers from La Monnaie Choruses and the MM Academy.

**Accompaniment:** Alberto Moro
Piet Van Bockstael, Maaike guides you in her own particular style through the fascinating world of this unforgettable opera, to the delight of its admirers. An hour of laughter, clever outbursts of anger and emotion, with influences from Mozart, Benjamin Britten, Isang Yun and Heinz Hollinger. All that while you are comfortably settled in an art deco armchair ... Cinéma Galeries is where it’s at, alstublieft!

With: Maaike Cafmeyer (text), Bram Nolf (oboe), Piet Van Bockstal (oboe)

When you pass in front of the Cinéma Galeries, the earth suddenly starts to tremble beneath your feet. But don’t run away! It’s the Ensemble Contr’Air which has just started up an excerpt from Rachmaninov’s Vespers, in the gallery’s magnificent basement. The composer wrote profundi for his Russian choir and it was enough to make the walls shake and send shivers down your spine. The harmonies of this work for eight voices are sublime to the ear. Rachmaninov even requested this music for the day of his own funeral, that’s how much he loved it! The artists have a particular format for this fascinating programme and it will be an immersive concert, which you need to experience for yourself!

With: Jasmine Daoud (soprano), Pauline Lebbe (soprano), Lotte Verstaen (alto), Marle Virot (alto), Hwanjoo Chung (tenor), Alain Pierre Wingelinckx (tenor), Damien Permentier (baritone), Emmanuel Junk (bass), Hugo Seghers (direction, video)
What a pleasure it is to take a stroll through the magnificent Galeries Saint-Hubert... Did you know that people have been wandering through them for more than 170 years? Since 1847, customers have been drawn to its luxury boutiques, theatres and restaurants. Renowned artists and writers also came to escape the gloomy Belgian climate for a few hours. As you take a leisurely stroll, admiring the exceptional glass roof of the arcade, be sure not to bump into one of the musicians from the Belgian National Orchestra! The orchestra's brass section will bring the passage to life in the course of an entire afternoon, with a medley of varied works, from Bach to Granados, and Gabrieli to Hazell: a luxurious selection that has been perfectly adapted to this royal setting!

With: musicians from the brass section of the Belgian National Orchestra

«Mâãk!» This is how musicians like to express their enthusiasm in this group that is celebrating its twentieth anniversary this year. What makes this crazy collective so special? The way their improvised and very precise jazz weaves together music from a variety of traditions, and does so in an audacious concert format. Alongside KOJO, Michel Massot and his partners seek incorporate Benin ritual voodoo music. Dance and percussion enhance the trance-like effect, which is both a therapeutic and sacred practice. Suddenly you find that your legs have a mind of their own as you get swept up in the crazy rhythms! This is the “Mâãk” effect, come and experience it for yourself in the Galeries and other surprise venues!

With: Michel Massot (tuba, trombone), Grégoire Tirtiaux (saxophone), Bart Maris (trumpet), Simplice Anato, Agla Chayemi Anagoko, Mahinou Kissinon Anagoko, Houedanou Anagoko, Vignon Maxime Anagoko, Jovence Joseph James, Bidossessi Stanislas Anagoko (percussion, dance, vocals), Sadky Goudou (vocals)
The “coworking” is a shared working space but also a great place to form relationships. It is a space that encourages encounters between all kinds of people who are enthusiastic about their projects. This Saturday the elegant royal hall will host a project that encapsulates the philosophy of the place: a collaboration between two musicians from the national orchestra and the founder of Pop-Up Yoga Concepts, who will guide you in a gentle and meditative session of yin yoga. Discover your inner harmony through the sounds of the violin and the cello into an evocative minimalist composition by Estonian Pēteris Vasks. He draws his inspiration from a 16th century mystical work by Teresa of Ávila: *Castillo Interior*.

**With**: Maria Elena Boila (violin), Lesya Demkovych (cello), Michel Van Cauter (yoga teacher)

If you look up you’ll see that the Royal Galleries are also home to around a hundred apartments, which discretely look down over the floors of the passage. As you part company with the crowds on the ground floor, you might even get the chance to be one of Eric and Simon’s guests.

Their colourful apartment will form the exclusive setting for the velvety tones of an incredible musical trio. Be transported by the standards, tip your hat to Gershwin, Cole Porter and the “Duke” as they pass by and, last but not least, enjoy a mini wine tasting which will help you appreciate this musical interlude all the more.

**With**: Sergej Gorlenko (double bass), Victor Da Costa (guitar), Eric Ineke (percussion)

Beethoven himself believed that his Seventh Symphony was his best... For Wagner, this music is an irresistible invitation to dance and move tables, chairs and even grandmothers! In the evocative context of the Mary Magdalene Chapel, you will hear this work in a transcription from the time for a harmony orchestra, with eight musicians. For listeners of that time (who didn’t have a radio) the scaling down of orchestral works was common practice, making it possible to reach a wider audience. United Music is using this principle from the past for you today!

**With**: musicians from the wind section of the Belgian National Orchestra
**15:00-15:30 & 16:45-17:15**

**LOVE AND LOVE, ETC.**
Soloists from the la Monnaie Choir
#coleporter #musicals #lovesongs

Je t’aime, moi non plus... The American Cole Porter exquisitely developed this eternal theme in dozens of musicals that have set Broadway alight, from his very first hits in the 1930s up until well after his death in 1964. His enchanting melodies and ingenious texts, like *Let’s Do It, Night and Day, I’ve Got You Under My Skin* are still some of the great standards of contemporary jazz. Bernard and Pati bring you a delightful medley that is both casual and tender, in the brightly shining renovated hall of la Madeleine. Are you ready to fall in love (again)?

**With:** Bernard Villiers (baritone, concept, direction), Pati Helen-Kent (soprano), Paule Van den Driessche (piano)

**BORTIERGALERIJ**

**15:15, 16:15 & 17:15**

**VOICES AND VERSES**
Quatuor Calliope
#renaissancemusic #recitedpoetry #vocalquartet #acappella #bibliophilehangout

Fancy discovering one of Brussels’ secrets? Then why not venture into the intimate Galerie Bortier, just a stone’s throw from Central Station. A contemporary of the Royal Galeries, it was designed by the same architect, J. P. Cluysenaer and is an essential stop-off for booksellers and fans of precious books. But on the 8th of September, its intimate acoustics will resound with the mellow voices of the Quatuor Calliope, which has put together a programme combining love songs from the Renaissance and poetry recitals from all different eras to pay homage to this special place. “Ô temps suspends ton vol”, savour its ephemeral delights on this most beautiful of days.

**With:** Maria Portela Larisch (soprano), Estelle Defalque (alto), Gaëtan Waterkeyn (tenor), François Hurel (bass)
Feeling thirsty after all these adventures? Then why not head for the Central Station! The former sorting office has been converted into a café-brasserie with the very latest installations. As you sip a stout or pale-ale, treat your ears to the sound of excellent musicians from the Belgian National Orchestra. They will narrate the adventures of the mischievous Uylenspiegel, in a scaled-down version of Richard Strauss’s superb score. It seems like the musicians have been taken over by some kind of gypsy madness! If Uylenspiegel starts dancing a Manouche waltz that means Tcha and his friends are here and fully intend to get the entire café caught up in their crazy antics... Hold on tight because even the trains are going to swing!

With: musicians from the percussion section of the Belgian National Orchestra

On this exceptional Saturday, DJ Keso will get you moving with classical loops in the Half Circus, with live accompaniment from the violin and cello. Abdeslam El Manzah, alias Manza, will also enter into battle with his slam poetry. Maybe you’ll want to imitate Greg Lox, our breakdancer? If you’re not an athlete be sure to take it slowly on the downrocks and other back spins! You’ve understood correctly, one year on from the exhibition Yo!, hip-hop is returning to BOZAR for the afternoon, mixing with a touch of classical, in a cocktail that’s very United Music of Brussels.

With: DJ Keso, Laure Bardet (violin), Léa Besançon (cello), Abdeslam Manza (rap), Greg Lox (hip-hop dance)
Henry VIII had six wives and all English school children learn “divorce, beheaded, died, divorce, beheaded, survived” by rote. The fate of his first five wives wasn’t a happy one! This theme inspired American composer Libby Larsen to compose her cycle for voice and piano, created in New York in 2001. Intermingled with courtly songs from the Elizabethan era, each of the melodies puts a text written by one of the unlucky Queens to music. Lisa and Thomas are performing a staged recital of this intense work, for which the Royal Room will provide a fitting backdrop... if you’re not afraid for your head that is!

With: Lisa Willems (soprano), Thomas Eeckhout (piano)

“A new journey through the landscape of Vivaldi’s Four Seasons”, is how the composer Max Richter describes his exploration of the famous score. In 2011, irritated by the excessive commercial uses of the music that he admires so much, he decided to re-appropriate the notes of the Venetian maestro. Even though he rewrote 70% of them, Vivaldi’s DNA impregnates the entire composition. With a violin solo from Belgian virtuoso Lorenzo Gatto, the strings of the national orchestra immerse you in a captivating sound universe at the very heart of Victor Horta's magnificent arts centre, the final stop on our voyage of discovery. A surprising and eventful experience awaits, so be sure to head to BOZAR for a mind-blowing finale!

With: Lorenzo Gatto (violin), musicians from the string section of the Belgian National Orchestra
THANKS TO

Our partners 2018:
- European Commission (Directorate-General for Human Resources and Security)
- Brussels Expo / La Madeleine
- Coworking Les Galeries
- Pop-Up Yoga Concepts, bringing yoga to urban spaces around Brussels and Beyond.
- Choux de Bruxelles - Théâtre du Vaudeville
- Cinéma Galeries
- Les Galeries Royales Saint-Hubert
- Eric Terlinden & Simon Mathieu
- Fr. Viktors Jermakovics and the Church of St. Mary Magdalene community
- The Galerie Bortier bookshops
- Café Brasserie 28
- Muntspunt
- Met-X Moving Music
- Broedbloeders production house
- Music Fund

Our team 2018:
- The participating musicians and artists of the Belgian National Orchestra and la Monnaie
- Volunteers from the European Commission and the EC coordination team
- Curator Bob Permentier and all the United Music 2018 coordination team, the Belgian National Orchestra, la Monnaie and BOZAR.

Our institutional partners:
The City of Brussels; Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, responsible for Beliris and the Federal Cultural Institutions; Office of the Vice President of the European Commission responsible for the Budget and Human Resources; the Loterie Nationale.

Seeking the delights of the city?

Discover a unique sound and light show on Franz Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody no.2 in the Galeries Royales Saint-Hubert at 9pm.

Come and savour delicious dishes at the Eat! Brussels festival in the Parc de Bruxelles.
PRACTICAL INFORMATION

· Information stands: Place de la Monnaie and in front of Central Station

· Distance between the different venues: max. 10 min. walking

· If a venue is full, the front desk staff will point you in the direction of the nearest concert.

Photobooth 13h > 18h

Want to immortalize the 3rd edition of United Music of Brussels? Have your picture taken at our stand opposite to Brussels Central Station and leave with your personalized vintage badge.

#unitedmusicofbrussels