

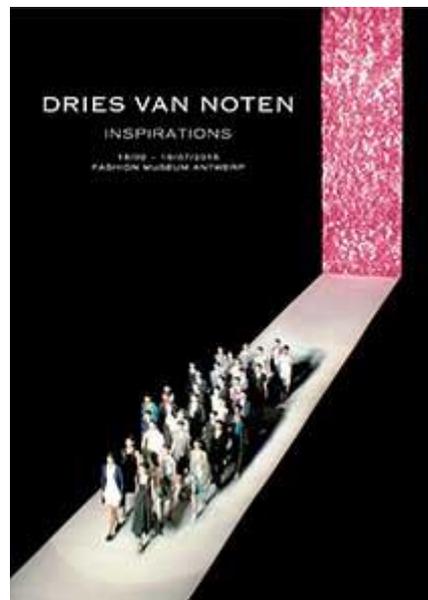


The American Club of Brussels
News & Events
An International Club with an American Heart

March 2015

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Dries Van Noten's *Inspirations*



Dries Van Noten discloses his oeuvre for the first time in his career as a designer in an exhibition entitled "*Inspirations*" at the ModeMuseum in Antwerp. Join your fellow ACB members for a fascinating journey through Van Noten's creative process, the opposite of a static retrospective!

The exhibition brings together various artistic fields to illustrate Van Noten's distinctive techniques and stylistic vocabulary. Explore the role of the decorative and fine arts, historical events, ethnic influences, cinema –and, of course, fashion design– as the inspiration for Van Noten's collections. The exhibition range includes works by Picasso and Hirst as well as iconic fashion from Christian Dior and Schaparelli. Be inspired. Be amazed.

Please note that this tour is limited to 20 persons.

An optional lunch will be held after the tour at the charming, traditional La Porte restaurant, located in a lovely courtyard off Kloosterstraat (known for its antiques and vintage shops).

The lunch menu will be:

Glass of cava
Choice of
vol au vent or *stoofvlees* (beef stew)
Appeltaart (apple pie) with ice cream
One glass of red or white wine,
water, coffee or tea

If you are joining us for lunch, please indicate your choice of main course when registering.

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, March 21, 2015

Time:

- 11:00 a.m. for the tour (Note: please meet in the MOMU lobby at 10:45 a.m.!)
- 12:45 p.m. lunch

Place:

- MOMU, ModeMuseum, Nationalestraat 28, 2000 Antwerpen
- La Porte restaurant, Oever 2, 2000 Antwerpen

Price:

- For lunch and the museum tour: €45 for ACB and AWCB members, €55 for non-members
- For museum tour only: €15 for ACB and AWCB members, €20 for non-members

Public Transportation: Tram 3 from the Centraal Station to the stop "Groenplaats"

Sign up: Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, March 18, online at www.americanclubbrussels.org, by email (info@americanclubbrussels.org) or by telephone to the ACB office manager (0476/996.870). Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Please be sure to mention "Dries Van Noten" in the communications section of the *virement*.

If you are joining us for lunch, please indicate your choice of main course when registering. Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, March 18. Participants cancelling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

ACB Joins Forces with the American Women's Club

The American Club of Brussels and the [American Women's Club of Brussels](#) are pleased to report that the two clubs have decided to collaborate. As of today, ACB members will be able to attend AWCB events at member prices and AWCB members may register for ACB events at member prices.

Our first joint event will be a wine-tasting seminar to be held on Thursday, April 30 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the AWCB's clubhouse in Rhode-St-Genèse. Complete details and registration information will be available in the April ACB newsletter, which will be sent to all AWCB members.

We are all looking forward to this cooperation and hope that you, as members, will also appreciate these new and additional opportunities.

Marcia Doyle
President

Dates to Remember

- February 27 – Final Friday
- February 28 – Guided Visit to the Coudenberg Palace
- March 14 – Guided Visit to the Magritte Museum
- March 14 – Irish Club's Saint Patrick's Day Ball
- March 19 – Financial Forum
- March 21 – Guided Visit to the Dries Van Noten Exhibition, followed by lunch
- March 27 – Final Friday
- April 18 – Guided visit to the Chagall retrospective
- April 24 – Final Friday
- April 30 – Joint ACB and AWCB Wine Tasting Seminar
- May 9 and June 13 – Expat Club's Outings to Bastogne and Verdun, respectively

Final Friday Cocktails

**Friday, February 27
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**



**Metropole Hotel
(ground floor near the bar)
Place De Brouckère 31 – 1000 Brussels**

The American Club of Brussels is happy to welcome our friends from [ACAB](#) (American Clubs and Associations in Belgium). And anyone else that would like to join us...

Cash bar open to all.

Newcomers to Belgium and prospective ACB members are especially welcome.

No reservation is required. Bring a guest or two.

A Guided Tour of the Coudenberg Palace



Join us on Saturday, February 28, for a fascinating guided tour of the Coudenberg Palace where we will discover the remnants of the palace of Charles V.

Since the middle ages, a castle has overlooked Brussels from Coudenberg hill. As of the 12th century, the successive monarchs and their representatives transformed a small fortified castle into a sumptuous residential palace, one of the most beautiful palaces of Europe and one of Charles V's main residences.

This prestigious building was severely damaged by fire in 1731. Some forty years later, the ruins of the palace were pulled down and the ground flattened out for the construction of the new royal district. The remains of this palace make up the Coudenberg archaeological site.

During our visit we will discover the Rue Isabelle and the old structures of the main buildings of the former palace of Brussels, which are now the foundations for today's royal district and the Hoogstraeten House where the most interesting discoveries made during the various archaeological excavations conducted on the Coudenberg are displayed.

This guided tour is limited to a maximum of 20 people.

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, February 28, 2015

Time: 2:45 p.m.

Place: Place des Palais 7, 1000 Brussels (entry through the BELvue Museum)

Price: €20 for ACB and AWCB members, €25 for non-members.

Public Transportation: Metro: Parc/Park or Trone/Troon; buses 38, 71 and 95: Ducale; bus 54: Trone/Troon; trams 92 and 93: Royale/Koning.

Sign up: Reservations are due by noon on Thursday, February 26, , online at www.americanclubbrussels.org, by email (info@americanclubbrussels.org) or by telephone to the ACB office manager (0476/996.870). Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "Coudenberg" in the communications section of the *virement*.

Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, February 25. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

A Guided Visit to the Magritte Museum

Join us on Saturday, March 14, for a guided visit of the Magritte Museum. Opened in June 2009, the Magritte Museum displays works of the surrealist artist for which it is named. Located in the heart of Brussels at the Place Royale, the museum is housed in the neo-classical landmark Altenloh Hotel, superbly restored in 1984 with the generous support of the Franco-Belgian group GDF SUEZ and the Magritte Foundation. It operates as part of the Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium. Instantly popular, the museum welcomed over 500,000 visitors in its first year of operation.

The museum's multi-disciplinary collection is unrivaled. It contains more than 200 works consisting of oils on canvas, gouaches, drawings, sculptures and painted objects as well as advertising posters, musical scores, vintage photographs and films produced by the artist. The collection is comprised of purchases by the Royal Museums of Fine Arts, which owns the collection, and gifts from the Irène Hamoir-Scutenaire and Georgette Magritte estates. Additionally, many private collectors, as well as public and private institutions, loan art to the museum through an ambitious lending program.

This is a tremendous opportunity for you to delve into the splendor of Belgian surrealist art! Our guide will once again be the excellent Lieve De Jonghe.

Please note that this visit is limited to 20 people.

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, March 14, 2015

Time: 10:45 a.m.

Place: Royal Museum of Fine Arts, Place Royale 3, 1000 Brussels (Gresham entrance)

Price: €20 for ACB and AWCB members, €25 for non-members.

Public Transportation: Metro: Gare Centrale/Centraal Station or Parc/Park; buses 27, 38 and 71: Royale; Trams: 92 or 94: Royale

Sign up: Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, March 11, online at www.americanclubbrussels.org, by email (info@americanclubbrussels.org) or by telephone to the ACB office manager (0476/996.870). Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "Magritte" in the communications section of the *virement*.

Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, March 11. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

Irish Club's St. Patrick's Day Ball

The Irish Club of Belgium's annual St. Patrick's Day Ball will take place on **March 14** at the Steigenberger Grand Hotel on Ave. Louise 71, 1050 Brussels. Again this year, the American Club will host a table and members may attend for the Irish Club member price.

The evening will commence at 7:00 p.m. with a champagne reception and will be followed by a five-star meal. After dinner there will be entertainment by "Damhsa" and dancing to music from the 60's and 70's and more.

Ticket prices are €80 for members of the Irish Club of Belgium and the American Club of Brussels and €95 for non-members.



St. Patrick's Day Ball
14th March 2015
Steigenberger Grand Hotel.
Avenue Louise 71. Brussels

Champagne reception 19.00
5-star dinner with Irish beef

Entertainment by "Damhsa"
After-dinner dancing until late.

80€ for Irish Club of Belgium members
95€ for non-members
All over 18's welcome.
Reservation necessary
Contact ann.douglas@yahoo.ie to book.
Tables of 8, 10 and 12 also available for groups

Strictly black-tie



IRISH CLUB
OF BELGIUM

The event is strictly black-tie and only open to adults (minimum age of 18). Please sign up, mentioning any dietary needs, before noon on Friday, March 6, at the ACB office, by e-mail (info@americanclubbrussels.org) or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (0476/996.870). Payment should be made to The Irish Club of Belgium, account number BE76001719741995. Please mention "ACB ball" in the communications section of the *virement*.

American Financial Forum



Planning for your financial future can be complicated. Add the complexities of being an expat and the new FATCA regulations and it is that much harder.

The American Club of Brussels is proud to be hosting the second annual American Financial Forum. This event will include several speakers on such topics as Financial Planning, Currency Transfers, Immigration, Accounting and Estate Planning.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and the presentations will end at 7:30 p.m. with a Question and Answer session. An optional dinner will follow.

Further details will be published on the Club website as they become available.

Event Details:

Date: Thursday, March 19, 2015

Time: 5:30 p.m., registration; seminar, 6:00–7:30 p.m.; followed by Q&A and optional dinner.

Place: Renaissance Brussels Hotel, Rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels

Price:

– Free for ACB and AWCB members, €5 for non-members

– Optional two course dinner: €25 for ACB and AWCB members, €35 for non-members

Sign up: Reservations are due by close of business on Tuesday, March 17, online at www.americanclubbrussels.org, by email (info@americanclubbrussels.org) or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (0476/996.870). Payment to ACB at BE55 4279 1958 8144 (BIC/SWIFT: KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "Financial Forum" in the communications section of the *virement*.

Cancellations are possible until noon on Monday, March 16. Participants cancelling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

Final Friday Cocktails

**Friday, March 27, 2015
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**



**Sheraton Brussels Hotel
O-Bar
Place Rogier 3
1210 Brussels**

The American Club of Brussels is happy to welcome our friends from [ACAB](#) (American Clubs and Associations in Belgium). And anyone else that would like to join us...

Cash bar open to all.

Newcomers to Belgium and prospective ACB members are especially welcome.
No reservation is required. Bring a guest or two.

Expat Club Events

Expat Club, our newest corporate member, is offering two of its events at discounted prices to American Club members. Be certain to use the code when you register. You must be a paid-up member of the ACB to receive the discount. You will find all the necessary details on the Expat Club website (www.expatsclub.org).

Saturday, May 9 – Bastogne WWII Battlefields



Learn about the Battle of the Bulge and the battle for Bastogne during a one day trip, with visits to the War Museum and a guided bus tour.

<https://expatsclub.org/event/bastogne-wwii-battlefields/>

ACB members should use code Bastogne05ACB for a €10 discount.

Saturday, June 13 – Verdun WWI Battlefields



A daytrip to Verdun, the capital of the Great War, including guided tours at the American Meuse-Argonne cemetery and Douamont monuments.

<https://expatclub.org/event/wwi-battlefields-of-verdun/>

ACB members should use code Verdun06ACB for a €10 discount.

Corporate Profile: EXPAT CLUB

We are pleased to introduce to you this month Expat Club, our newest corporate member. Please see the previous article for their special offer to ACB members.



Expat Club is Brussels' premier international community. It helps expats feel at home quickly by connecting them online and through the organization of a variety of unique local events and trips. Each of them is professionally organized and introduces the participants to the best of Brussels, Belgium and beyond.

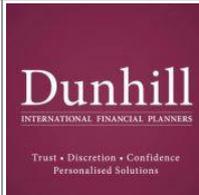
The community was founded in 2013 by Edgar Hütte, a Dutch expat who lived, worked and studied in several countries, including the United States, before moving to Brussels. In 2001, he interned at the Carter Institute, founded by former President Jimmy Carter, in Atlanta. A year later he studied as a Netherlands-America Foundation Fulbright Fellow in the joint Masters program of Public Administration and International Relations at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University.

Expat Club's key philosophy is that making lasting connections requires a shared experience that goes beyond shaking hands and having a drink. That is why, for instance, we always start our city trips with professionally guided tours and have lunch together. Another cornerstone concerns its mission to show expats this wonderful city and lovely country, before they move back home or to their next destination.

Expat Club takes its members to places one would normally not go to, such as a car factory, a nuclear power plant, and the UPS Air Hub at Cologne-Bonn Airport. But we also go kayaking, make private visits to local museums and enjoy a zoo backstage tour. Our daytrips lead us to the major cities and regions in Belgium and surrounding countries, such as Amsterdam, Düsseldorf, Paris, Rotterdam Harbor and even the best air shows. And of course we organize regular local meet-ups, such as coffee mornings, dinners, and bar meetings. A few events are of particular interest to our American members, such as the Verdun WWI and Bastogne WWII battlefield tours.

Everybody is welcome to become part of Expat Club, including families with children for some events. Just register on www.expatsclub.org and join the community that loves to do the same things that you do.

The American Club of Brussels is supported by:



The American Club of Brussels

c/o Renaissance Brussels Hotel
 Rue du Parnasse 19
 B-1050 Brussels
 Tel. 0476/996.870
info@americanclubbrussels.org
www.americanclubbrussels.org

The American Club of Brussels is one of the oldest American clubs in Europe, founded in 1921 to foster Belgian-American relations. Although our members comprise more than twenty other nationalities from all walks of life, the ACB retains its American flavor. Some of us are long-time residents in Belgium. Many of us are newcomers. We all enjoy ourselves and the club's wide variety of social and cultural activities.

The ACB is a great way to expand your circle of friends and to discover more of the delights of Belgium. Try us.

