



News & Events

April 2016

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The American Club of Brussels is one of the oldest American clubs in Europe. An international club with an American heart, it was founded in 1921 to foster Belgian-American relations.

www.americanclubbrussels.org – info@americanclubbrussels.org



[Photo Gallery](#)

Editorial



Dear American Club Members and Friends,

We are greatly saddened by the events of March 22nd. The Board of Governors would like to offer its deepest sympathies to the victims and all their families and friends.

Our adopted home has come under attack. The city of Brussels and more so Belgium, will survive this terrible attack and, with the help and support of its inhabitants, will thrive!

Unless we are advised otherwise by the Belgian government, the US Embassy, or the venues where we hold activities, we plan to continue hosting all planned events.

We will be placing some new security measures to ensure the safety of our guests, the most notable being that we will require prior registration for all events, even ones that didn't require registration in the past. Please also be sure to check the website or e-mails before any event to insure that the event in question will be held as planned.

Je Suis Bruxelles!

The Board of Governors
The American Club of Brussels

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Upcoming Events – see p. 6 ff.



Final Friday Drinks

Friday, March 25 – 6:30-9:00 p.m.

[Event details](#)



CCB/ACB/AWCB Reading Group

Wednesday, April 13 – 7:00-9:00 p.m.

[Event details](#)



Dine-out at Le Petit Pont

Thursday, April 14 – 7:30 p.m.

[Event details](#)



English Comedy: Rayguns Look Real Enough & Dylan Gott

Tuesday, April 19 – 7:30 p.m.

[Event details](#)



Italian Art & Wine Night – Exhibition *The Hidden Treasures of Murano and Positano*

Friday, April 22 – 6:30 p.m.

[Event details](#)



Van Doesburg Exhibition

Sunday, April 30 – 1:45 p.m.

[Event details](#)



"Grease" Party

Friday, May 20 – 7:00 p.m. to midnight

[Event details](#)

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Other Dates to Remember



- Friday, April 29 – Final Friday Drinks
- Sunday, May 15 – Brewery Introductory Course

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Corporate Profile

S O F I T E L
HOTELS & RESORTS

BRUSSELS LE LOUISE

&

S O F I T E L
HOTELS & RESORTS

BRUSSELS EUROPE

In our ongoing series of corporate profiles, we would like to highlight this month Accor Hotels, mother company for Sofitel Brussels Le Louise and Sofitel Brussels Europe. To introduce you to Sofitel Brussels Le Louise, you are invited to a private viewing of an exciting exhibition supported by UNESCO, Google and the Region.



Stargate – ©Sofitel

This is not only heritage by Méta-Morphosis

As of April 1, 2016, Sofitel Brussels Le Louise is delighted to host a new exhibition entitled "This is not only heritage" by Méta-Morphosis, organized in collaboration with "Mazel Galerie".

Axel Ruhomaully and Franck Depaifve, Belgian artists, were accustomed to palaces and luxury settings but in 2015 they were seduced by the poetry of an old coal mine. Heavy industry rapidly became their new playground. In 2015, they created Meta-Morphosis with one goal: to save the beauty of industrial wasteland and to transmit the memory of the former workers.

Their project essentially involves photographs and is organized around four axes: heroes, accessories, logos, and settings. "This is not only heritage" is notably supported by the UNESCO, Google and the Brussels Region.

The exhibition at Sofitel Brussels Le Louise focuses on the symbolic accessories from a deserted universe at the mercy of time. The pictures exposed in the hotel lobby as well as in the Crystal Lounge Restaurant trace the history of the machinery and tools of those days.

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“Achieving an aesthetic poetry of a forsaken place and allowing the world to discover it”: this is the objective of Méta-Morphosis through this emotionally moving exhibition.

Because this exhibition is above all the story of an encounter between two artists, a visionary gallery and a hotel brand committed to contemporary art, it seemed logical to celebrate this collaboration with an exceptional **private viewing**. This will take place on **Thursday, 14 April from 6.30 p.m.** (reservation mandatory). The objective is to exchange about artistic sensibilities, and prove that a hotel can be a place of memory transmission and patrimony.

For information and participation in the private viewing, kindly contact Quentin Guiraud at quentin.guiraud@sofitel.com or [register here](#).

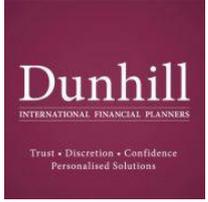
The exhibition is accessible for free as of the opening on April 1, at

**Sofitel Brussels Le Louise
Avenue de la Toison d’Or 40
1050 Brussels**

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Our Corporate Sponsors

The American Club of Brussels is supported by the following companies:
(Special ACB member benefits listed below company logo)

				
			Sponsor of major ACB events	
				
Sponsor of major ACB events	One free initial consultation (1 hour)			

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Sponsor of major ACB events				
				
		One free initial consultation (½ hour)	Free account with no transaction charges	
				
	10% discount for ACB members			



In partnership with:



More info?
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Final Friday Drinks

Friday, March 25, 2016
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.



Renaissance Brussels Hotel
Rue du Parnasse 19
1050 Brussels

The American Club of Brussels invites you for an evening of fun, socializing and chatting! Everyone is welcome! Bring friends!

We've arranged special deals on beer and wine and the cash bar is open to all.

Final Friday events are held the last Friday of each month and take place at different and great locations throughout the city. So have a look at future events as well.

Please make sure to check your e-mails and website for any changes prior to coming out to the event. Due to the heightened security **we will require pre-registration for Final Friday.**

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

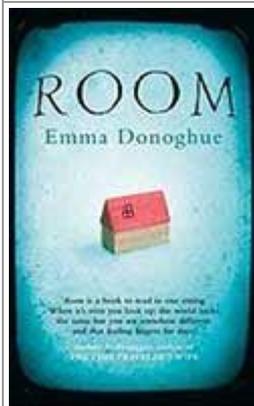
The Canadian Club of Belgium, The American Club of Brussels
& The American Women's Club of Brussels
welcome you to our **Reading Group** on the **second Wednesday** of the month
[7:00–9:00 p.m.]
(CCB, ACB and AWCB members only)

We ask you to present a book of your choice (American or Canadian authors preferred) that you have read and really enjoyed. This will give all members, passionate about reading, a chance to read and discuss different literary genres.

Even if you have not read the selected book and if you do not have a book you wish to present, please feel free to join us anyway – even at the last minute.

Reading Group Contact (also for venue details): **Geneviève Bergiers**
Tel. 02/660.57.65 – genevieve@chiropractorbergiers.be

April 13 – Presented by Kim Masiero



ROOM

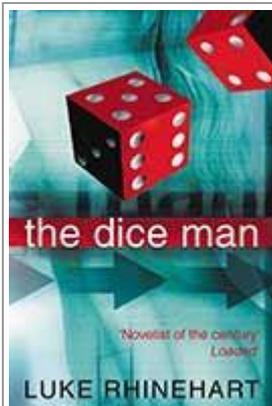
by Emma Donoghue (Ireland-Canada)

Emma Donoghue is an Irish-Canadian playwright, literary historian, novelist and screenwriter. She was born in Dublin, Ireland, received her PhD from the University of Cambridge and finally settled in London, Ontario. From age 23, she earned her living as a writer.

Her 2010 novel "ROOM" was a finalist for the Man Booker Prize and an international best-seller. It is the story of a five-year-old called Jack, who lives in a single room with his Ma and has never been outside. When he turns five, he starts asking questions, and his mother reveals to him that there is a world beyond the walls. Told entirely in Jack's voice, ROOM is no horror story or tearjerker, but a celebration of resilience and the love between parent and child.

Venue: Geneviève's place

May 11 – Presented by Jean Minutello



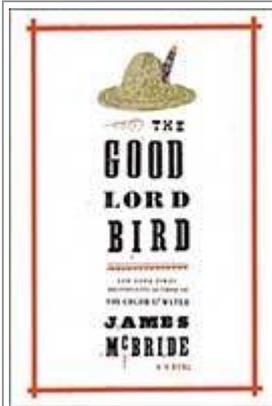
The Dice Man

by Luke Rhinehart (U.S.A.)

The Dice Man captures the "Wheel of Fortune" for real. He embarks on a personal journey of self-discovery by taking chances and dancing with fate/the devil. Rhinehart, being a psychiatrist, as well as a family man, decides to "pick up the dice", in an effort to steer his ship into the unknown. We will discover why, how and where throughout his journey. The author sets out to challenge the "controlled aspects" of life and states, in no uncertain terms, that "life is an adventure or nothing at all"!

Venue: Cité du Dragon (Asian cuisine), Chaussée de Waterloo 1024, 1180 Brussels.
Tel. 02/375.80.80.

June 8 – Presented by Geneviève Bergiers



The Good Lord Bird

by James McBride (USA)

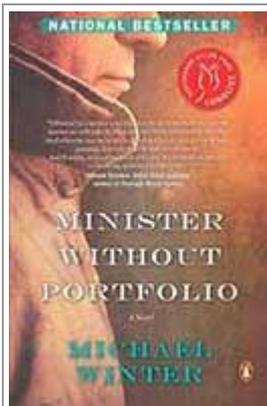
James McBride was born in Brooklyn - U.S. He is an accomplished musician (saxophone) and a journalist.

He is a Distinguished Writer in Residence at New York University. His notable works are *The Color of Water* and *The Good Lord Bird*. Thanks to "The Grande Librairie", where he was a guest, I got to know this great personality!

The author treats the subject of slavery in the Kansas Territory in 1856, a battleground between anti- and pro-slavery forces, as a rousing adventure and a moving exploration of identity and survival. He transcends history and makes it come alive with a fabulous sense of humor!

Venue: Geneviève's place

Date tbd – Presented by Kim Masiero



Minister Without Portfolio

by Michael Winter (Canada)

Short story writer and novelist Michael Winter was born in England and grew up in Corner Brook, Newfoundland. Bachelor of Arts from Memorial University of Newfoundland, he became a most appreciated founding member of, contributor to, co-editor of and judge of different publications and journals. His sister, Kathleen Winter has written *Annabel*, a book that was previously presented in our Reading Group.

This book is part of the Canada Reads series. It examines the lengths people will go to for a fresh start, and is an exploration of guilt, lost hope and struggle. Set in Newfoundland and Afghanistan, it is a masterful exploration of the very marrow of life.

More info about the Clubs:

- The Canadian Club of Belgium:
www.cbcCanada.be
- The American Women's Club of Brussels:
www.awcb.org
- The American Club of Brussels:
www.americanclubbrussels.org

Dine-Out at Le Petit Pont



Please join us for our April Dine-Out on April 14 at Le Petit Pont, a very popular Uccle brasserie, on the old town center surrounding the 18th century Eglise Saint-Pierre. At different times throughout its history, it has been a restaurant, a cinema, a presbytery, two homes, and a water mill. This restaurant welcomes with atmosphere, great food and service, and with the interesting warm décor, elegant curving stairway, and beautifully forged ironwork. They feature seasonal fare and fresh produce in their extensive menu. This will be the first American Club Dine-Out at this restaurant, and we are being offered the lower level semi-private area. There is room for overflow, which we hopefully will need!

Dine-outs are a great opportunity to meet old friends and make some new ones. If you have not yet been to a Dine-Out, or are looking to discover new restaurants in Brussels, this is the event for you!

MENU

Apéritif

Choice of starters

Carpaccio de saumon à l'aneth, citron vert et huile d'olive

or

Cassolette de scampis, tomates et basilic

or

Duo de croquettes, crevettes et fondu parmesan

Choice of Main Courses

*Emincé de mignon de boeuf, sauce choron,
pommes frites et tomates*

or

*Blanc de volaille à l'estragon,
tagliatelles et petits légumes*

or

*Pavé de cabillaud rôti, jus aux épices du monde,
polenta et légumes*

Choice of Desserts

Crème brûlée maison

or

Dame blanche

or

Mousse au chocolat

Please indicate your menu choices when registering. Thank you.

Event Details:

Date: Thursday, April 14, 2016.

Time: 19:30 p.m.

Place: Le Petit Pont, 114-116 rue du Doyenné, 1180 Brussels (Uccle).

Public Transportation: Bus 98 and Trams 4, 92, 38 and 41. The closest stop is Square des Héros. There is a convenient city parking (150 meter walk), if needed, located at Rue du Doyenné 63, 1180 Uccle. The parking lot closes at midnight!

Price: €45. ACB/AWCB/CCB members receive a discounted price of €40.

Price includes water, half a bottle of red or white wine and an apéritif per person. Coffee is extra.

Reservations are due by Tuesday, April 12, at:

<http://www.americanclubbrussels.org/event-2205185>

Payment in advance to ACB account BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB). Please mention "April Dine-Out" in the reference section of the bank transfer. Online payment with a credit card is also possible (through PayPal, but no actual PayPal account is required); pay when registering or use the link provided in the invoice.

Cancellations are possible until noon on Tuesday, April 12. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

Comedy Night: Rayguns Look Real Enough & Dylan Gott



They were one of the English Comedy Night's best acts in 2015, here they are again!

Rayguns Look Real Enough (GB)

"Spinal Tap meets Morcambe and Wise, with the comedy circuit's most unique double-act. The self proclaimed "World's Greatest Stadium Rock Band" features Ray Gunn and Luke Reel as they reveal what it takes to be a Rock 'n' Roll Superstar. Combining character comedy with high energy musical mash-ups, Rayguns Look Real Enough are not to be missed."

Press:

"My favourite opening act" - Steve O - Jackass

"Fast and Funny" - The List

"The British answer to Tenacious D but way funnier" - Broadway Baby

"A big hit" - The Sun

And together with them and for the first time in Brussels,

Dylan Gott (Can)

Dylan Gott has been nominated for a Canadian Comedy Award, performed at prestigious comedy festivals such as Just For Laughs Toronto, North By Northeast, appeared on Bite TV with his own televised special on iChannel called 'No Kidding' and hosted his own radio show on Sirius XM Radio 'The Sport Brahs'.

* * * * - Torontoist

'Delightfully Bizarre' - AV Club

'Major Revelation' - Now Magazine

Website: <http://englishcomedybrussels.com>
American Club of Brussels Corporate Member

Event Details:

Date: Tuesday, April 19, 2016.

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Place: The Black Sheep, Chaussée de Boondael 8, 1050 Brussels.

Price: €15 for ACB, AWCB and CCB members; €20 for non-members.

Sign up: Reservations are due by Monday, April 18, at:

<http://www.americanclubbrussels.org/event-2205216>.

Payment in advance to ACB account BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB). Please mention "Comedy April" in the reference section of the bank transfer. Online payment with a credit card is also possible (through PayPal, but no actual PayPal account is required); pay when registering or use the link provided in the invoice.

Cancellations are possible until noon on Monday, April 18. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

To find the ACB or for additional information:

Text (or call) Carl Mir at 0494.27.97.63 and he will let you know where the group is sitting.

Italian Art & Wine Night – Exhibition
The Hidden Treasures of Murano and Positano



Join us on Friday, April 22 for an exclusive pop-up art exhibition displaying wonderful Murano glass sculptures and landscape paintings of Positano.

A unique opportunity to get an insight in the hidden artisan world of contemporary Murano glass making and the wonderful land of Positano. The 'The Hidden Treasures of Murano and Positano' exhibition takes the viewer on a wonderful journey that gives an inspiration to the soul. The featured artists are Mario and Francesco Badioli, Murano glass artists, and Nazario Fusco, a painter from Positano.

The event gives the possibility for members to learn about contemporary Italian art and socialize in a nice laid-back pop-up art exhibition setting. Members arriving in the first half hour will be greeted with a nice glass of Italian wine and some snacks. Afterwards, there is a possibility to buy Italian wine and additional snacks at the cash bar.

This event is organized by one of our new corporate members, ArtWeShop.com

Please note that this event is limited to a maximum of 100 participants and only people who signed up for the event will be admitted at the door.

Event Details:

Date: Friday, April 22, 2016.

Time: doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the official exhibition opening is at 7:30 p.m.

Place: Eno Atelier, Rue de Dublin 42, 1050 Brussels.

Price: Free event for ACB/AWCB/CCB members. Non-members: €5.

Public Transportation: Metro 2 & 6: Porte de Namur.

Reservations are due by Wednesday, April 19 at:

<http://www.americanclubbrussels.org/event-2206316>.

For non-members, payment in advance to ACB account BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB).

Please mention "Murano" in the reference section of the bank transfer. Online payment with a credit card is also possible (through PayPal, but no actual PayPal account is required); pay when registering or use the link provided in the invoice.

Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, April 19. Non-members canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

A Guided Visit to the van Doesburg Exhibition



Join us on Saturday, April 30, for a guided visit of the van Doesburg exhibition, one of this year's Europalia activities.

Travel back to the beginning of the twentieth century with Theo van Doesburg and inhale the revolutionary atmosphere of the avant-garde in the exhibition *Theo van Doesburg: A New Expression of Life, Art and Technology*. Having founded the art movement De Stijl in the Netherlands with Piet Mondrian in 1917, van Doesburg set off across Europe to promote their abstract visual language internationally. In Paris, he encountered the art of the Dadaists and began writing Dadaist poetry himself. In Weimar, he presented his new awareness of beauty to the Bauhaus architects. He travelled around Europe and made his pioneering visual language appear not only in paintings, but also in buildings, furniture and interiors.

Our guide will once again be the excellent Lieve De Jonghe.

Please note that this visit is limited to 15 people and is a members-priority event. Non-members may sign up as of April 15.

After the visit, those who wish to may join us for a drink or a coffee in the neighborhood.

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, April 30, 2016.

Time: 1:45 p.m.

Place: Bozar, rue Ravenstein 23, 1000 Brussels.

Price: €30. ACB/AWCB/CCB members receive a discounted price of €25.

Public Transportation: Metro: Gare Centrale/Centraal Station; buses 38 and 71: Bozar; trams 92, 93: Palais/Palaizen.

Sign up: Reservations are due by Wednesday, April 27 at:

<http://www.americanclubbrussels.org/event-2205199>.

Payment in advance to ACB account BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB). Please mention "Europalia" in the reference section of the bank transfer. Online payment with a credit card is also possible (through PayPal, but no actual PayPal account is required); pay when registering or use the link provided in the invoice.

Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, April 27. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

GREASE Party



The American Club of Brussels invites you to come celebrate the 1950s at our "Grease" Party based on the 1978 movie, "Grease," one of the most successful movie musicals of all time! This is the third event marking the ACB's 95th anniversary after the Holiday Reception in December and the gala dinner dance in January.

The ballroom of the Renaissance Hotel will be transformed into Rydell High School. The doors open at 7:00 p.m. and there will be entertainment during the aperitif. From 8:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., there will be all-you-can eat food stands serving hamburgers, hotdogs, pizza, and frites. From 9:30 onwards, popcorn, nachos with melted cheese, brownies and cookies will be served. Guests will receive two tokens for beer or wine. Additional beer or wine can be purchased at the cash bar at Final Friday prices. Soft drinks, water and fruit juices will be available free of charge all evening.

A DJ will provide music from the period (and, of course, the film), so get ready to rock 'n roll! (Or just dance any way that moves you!)

Dress code is casual and period dress is a great plus, but not a requirement. And, if you haven't seen or don't remember "Grease," there's still time to see it again for inspiration.

With lots of young professionals present thanks to our collaboration with other international clubs here in Brussels, this will be an ideal opportunity to meet new people in a fun way!

In the event you would like to spend the night in Brussels, the Renaissance is offering a special rate that includes a full American breakfast buffet. The price for a single room is € 109 and a double is € 129. The city tax of € 7.58 is not included in the above prices.

This is a great way to celebrate the ACB's 95th anniversary in a relaxed, fun environment. Everyone is welcome; feel free to bring a friend or two.

Event Details:

Date: Friday, May 20, 2016.

Time: 7:00 p.m. to midnight.

Place: Renaissance Hotel, rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels.

Price: €50. ACB, AWCB, CCB and Irish Club members receive a discounted price of €45.

Public Transportation: Buses 12, 21 22, 27, 34, 38, 64, 80 and 95: Luxembourg.

Reservations are due by Tuesday, May 17 at:

<http://www.americanclubbrussels.org/event-2149577>.

Payment in advance to ACB account BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB). Please mention "Grease" in the reference section of the bank transfer. Online payment with a credit card is also possible (through PayPal, but no actual PayPal account is required); pay when registering or use the link provided in the invoice.

Cancellations are possible until noon on Tuesday, May 17. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.