

**Marc Sleen Museum**  
[www.marc-sleen.be](http://www.marc-sleen.be)  
**Temporary exhibitions**  
**2011-2012**

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**Nero, Yuri Gagarin, and other astronauts**  
**From 5 April 2011 until 25 September 2011**

On 12 April 2011, it was fifty years ago since Russian-born Yuri Gagarin was launched into space in Vostok 1. Even though this Russian's adventure put a human being into space for the very first time, his space travel was preceded by various comic strip heroes. Not least Nero, who as early as in 1951, already set foot onto the planet of Pompelanium in the comic strip album *De zwarte voeten* (The Black Feet). And it was not just in this story that comic strip characters took to space, as

Nero and his friends enjoyed plenty of adventures well beyond our terrestrial frontiers.

**Marc Sleen and Brussels**  
**From 27 September 2011 until 4 March 2012**

In 1947, Marc Sleen and his wife moved from Ghent to Brussels. They finally settled in the village of Hoeilaart in the suburbs of Brussels, which is also famous for greenhouse-grown grapes. Given the fact that Marc Sleen spent so much of his time in the Belgian capital, it is no wonder that Brussels features so prominently as the background for the adventures of his comic strip heroes. Two Nero stories are even set entirely in Brussels: *De zwarte toren* (The Black Tower) (1983) and *De verdorven stad* (Sin City) (1984).



# MARC SLEEN FOUNDATION



## Marc Sleen and 't Kapoentje From 6 March until 3 June 2012

The first edition of *'t Kapoentje* [*The Little Rascal*] was first published on 3 April 1947, even though the early beginnings of this children's magazine date back as far as 1932 when it was published under the name of the comic strip *Ons Volkske*. Numerous artists (including Vandersteen, Nys, De Moor, Butth and Pink) produced cartoons for these children's magazines but it is primarily Marc Sleen whose name remains linked to the legendary *'t Kapoentje*. Besides the unforgettable series *De Lustige Kapoentjes* [*The Jolly Little Rascals*] and *Piet Fluwijn en Bolleke*, he produced countless covers and illustrations for the free supplement to the daily newspaper *'Het Volk'* until 1965.

## Being a guest at Nero's table *Waffles, Chips and Nero Beer* From 5 June until 30 September

Nero stories always finished with a magnificently indulgent banquet. However, all this was changed with the publication of *De Kille Man Djaro* in 1962, when the customary banquet was turned into a feast of waffles. Famous and not-so-famous personalities queue at Nero's good friend Jan Spier's [*John Muscle*] chip stand for a yummy portion of chips. However, Nero would not be a true Belgian if he did not regularly indulge in wonderfully tasty Belgian beers and champagne. In *Het Bierkanaal* (1983), the comic strip hero Nero even launches Nero beer, an example which the Marc Sleen foundation have duly followed last year.

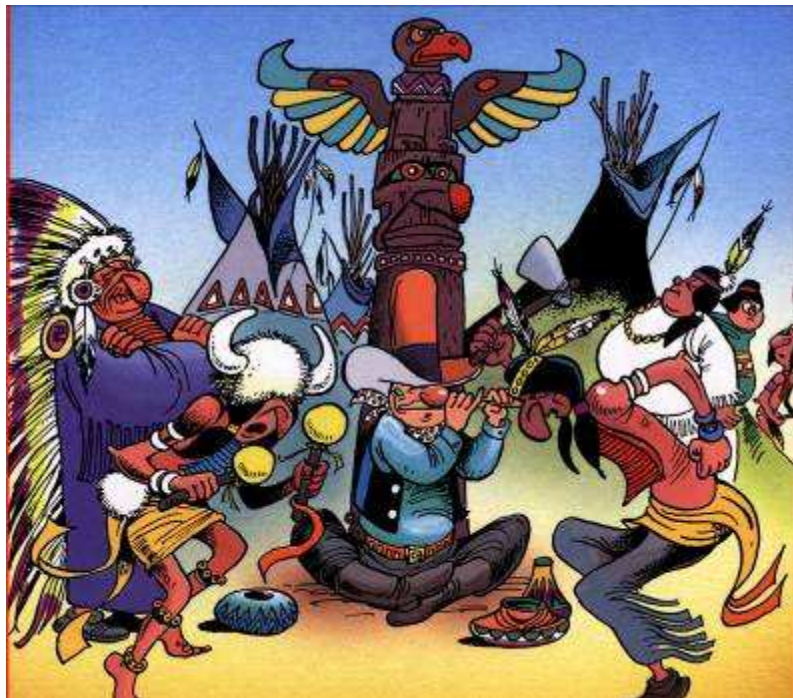
*As part of the Brussels gastronomy theme year Brusselicious 2012*



## Nero in the Far West

From 2 October until 18 December 2012

Marc Sleen is renowned for his safari travel. However, this renowned cartoonist has not limited his travel experiences to the African continent. His most famous comic strip hero Nero also travels around the world and regularly ends up in the Far West. Marc Sleen has been sending his hero to the Wild West since 1949. In order to collect his 80 million inheritance, Nero has to complete five tasks in *De Erfenis van Nero [Nero's Inheritance]*, and this includes stealing a feather from the headdress of the last chief of the Sioux. Even after that, Nero still regularly has to head to the Far West to seek out adventure.



**Marc Sleen Museum**  
Zandstraat 33-35, 1000 Brussels  
Open every day (except on Monday)  
11am- 1pm and 2pm - 6pm.  
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