



Press Release

The Belgian Comic Strip Center is celebrating its 25th anniversary on 4th and 5th October 2014

This coming 4th and 5th October, the Belgian Comic Strip Center will be offering its visitors various activities on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

Over a period of just over 2 decades, the Belgian Comic Strip Center, which was inaugurated by the Belgian royals on 3rd October 1989, has built up a great reputation as a first-class internationally renowned museum. This is the first comic strip museum in the world to have reached its 25th anniversary, and in that time it has made a major contribution to promoting this art form by holding no less than 150 temporary exhibitions. The Belgian Comic Strip Center not only acts as the custodian of original works of art and publications, but also as a documentation center, a scientific and teaching tool, hosting up to 200,000 visitors every year from all the four corners of the world.

To celebrate this 25th anniversary event, the Belgian Comic Strip Center invites its audience to come and discover its new permanent section, which is a particularly funny one dedicated to Peyo, the father of the Smurfs, and to his world-famous oeuvre. This new section, which has been designed and created with the assistance of Papa Smurf and his representatives in the land of humans, will appeal to both children and adults. Furthermore, in the auditorium named after Pieter De Poortere, visitors will be delighted to discover a new dimension in the work of the creator of Dickie (Glénat), and this with amazing 3D effects.

At the same time, the BCSC is launching an impressive new temporary exhibition in the mezzanine located at the front of the building. 'Picturing Brussels' is a fascinating walk through the various districts of Brussels, and this through the works of comic strip artists who have illustrated contemporary Brussels over the past 25 years. The exhibition contains more than 130 original drawings accompanied by numerous large prints, which will enable the audience to discover how, over the years, the Brussels local residents have captivated the authors' interest even more than the background scenery and monuments. From Frank Pé and Jean-Claude Servais to Judith Van Istendael or Max de Radiguès, present-day comics enrich the city's power of imagination.

It would certainly not be realistic to cover all the changes and the thought that has gone into this very important anniversary of the Belgian Comic Strip Center or to simply list the 25 years of exhibitions and events. So, Google has been absolutely right in allowing the public to view the extensive Art Nouveau halls inside of the Belgian Comic Strip Center by simply clicking on Street View (beginning of October). However, in order to hear the din of the party and the various types of activities laid on for both children and adults to the sound of a jazz tune or a Congolese rumba, nothing will surpass a visit to the Belgian Comic Strip Center this coming 4th and 5th October. And as a 25th birthday only happens once in a lifetime, **those young people lucky enough to have been born in 1989 will be able to enjoy a visit free of charge!**

The BELGIAN COMIC STRIP CENTER

The Belgian Comic Strip Center? In the land of Smurfs and Tintin, visitors can discover a range of permanent exhibitions, illustrated with original comic strip drawings and unique objects. Simultaneously, there are also several temporary exhibitions on display.

The Belgian Comic Strip Center is also the former Waucquez Warehouse, a gem of Art Nouveau by grand master Victor Horta (1906).



Photo by Daniel Fouss

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