BRAFA
FAIR PROGRAMME

Saturday 23 to Sunday 31 January 2027

– except Monday 25 January –

In collaboration with



CELEBRATING ART IN ALL ITS FORMS

Free access to the Art Talks and film screenings
with a valid BRAFA entrance ticket

DELEN
PRIVATE BANK

FAIR PROGRAMME

AT THE KING BAUDOUIN FOUNDATION STAND N° 161

12 noon – Film screenings by KBF (King Baudouin Foundation)
In collaboration with CINEMATEK.
Marking the 30th anniversary of the Myriam Garfunkel Fund, which supports the restoration of historic films, these screenings celebrate the Fund's contribution to preserving film heritage.

2 pm - KBF Art Talks
A series of talks by specialists devoted to works of art from the King Baudouin Foundation's collection, presented by experts and art historians.

4 pm - BRAFA Art Talks
Leading figures from the art world, including curators, museum professionals and art market experts, will share their insights and expertise across a range of fascinating topics.

AT THE IXELLES MUSEUM STAND N° 137

5 pm – Focus Talks by Ixelles Museum
A series of 20-minute talks by specialists devoted to masterpieces from the collection of the Ixelles Museum.

VENUE
Brussels Expo, Halls 3, 4 and 8. Entrance via Hall 4

CONTACT
info@brafa.be – brafa.art

FOLLOW US ON



BRAFA 2026 © Olivier Pirard

SATURDAY
23.01



KBF ART TALK AT 2 PM > Language: FR

A BOOK'S JOURNEY: *LES CÔTES NORMANDES* FROM LIBRARY TO MUSEUM

Catheline Périer-D'Ieteren, Périer-D'Ieteren Foundation and Sophie Briard, Wittockiana, Brussels

This Art Talk will spotlight *Les Côtes normandes* by Michel de Saint-Pierre, beautifully illustrated by Raoul Dufy. Through the combined perspectives of the Wittockiana and the donor family, the speakers will explore the artistic, historical, and bibliophilic significance of this remarkable work. The talk will also highlight the donation through which the book entered the museum's collections, illustrating the vital role that donations play in preserving and sharing cultural heritage.

BRAFA ART TALK AT 4 PM > Language: EN





MUSEUMS AND OBJECTS: ETHICAL OWNERSHIP, PROVENANCE RESEARCH, INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Sara Menato, Coordinator of the Interpretation, Accessibility and Sharing Department, Museo Egizio, Turin; Federico Zaina, Head of Research and Curatorship Department, Museo Egizio

The presentation examines the Museo Egizio's policy in managing a collection of universal value. Provenance research and the complexity of collecting inform a reflection on the contemporary museum's responsibilities towards society, whilst acknowledging the diasporic nature of the collection. It addresses issues of ownership and belonging, questioning the categories through which museums have built their narratives and legitimacy. Decolonising our gaze means recognising the complexity of objects' histories and rethinking how they are curated, studied and made accessible.

SUNDAY
24.01



KBF ART TALK AT 2 PM > Language: FR

MIG QUINET: THE POWER OF COLOUR

Laura Neve, Mig Quinet Foundation and Eve Delplanque, Museum of Fine Arts Charleroi

A leading figure in Belgian lyrical abstraction, Mig Quinet developed an intense, free and deeply personal body of work. Through colour, texture and gesture, her compositions convey a creative energy that continues to resonate today. This talk offers a fresh look at a major artist of Belgian modern art and the enduring relevance of her legacy.

BRAFA ART TALK AT 4 PM > Language: EN



BEYOND THE GENDERED GENIUS: A REDISCOVERY OF JAN AND CATHARINA VAN HEMESSEN

Dr Maarten Bassens, Chief Curator, Museum Snijders&Rockoxhuis, Antwerp

This BRAFA Art Talk offers an exclusive look at *Van Hemessen & Father: The Antwerp Workshop of Jan and Catharina van Hemessen*, the first major exhibition focused on this sixteenth-century family (Snijders&Rockoxhuis; Oct 15, 2026 – Jan 31, 2027). Dr. Maarten Bassens reveals how this forgotten dynasty reshapes our view of the Antwerp Renaissance. Moving beyond the myth of artistic genius, the talk explores the workshop as a dynamic family enterprise run by Jan and his daughter Catharina - the earliest Western European female painter with a surviving oeuvre. Attendees will gain unique insights into new discoveries, technical imaging and rare international loans.

In collaboration with

CODART
International council
for curators
of Dutch and Flemish art

TUESDAY
26.01



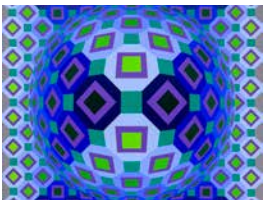
KBF ART TALK AT 2 PM > Language: NL

THE LINE OF GENIUS: DISCOVERING A DRAWING BY RUBENS

An Van Camp, Rubenshuis, Antwerp

What can a single sheet of paper tell us about one of history's greatest artists? Combining an autograph sketch and a handwritten letter by Peter Paul Rubens, this exceptional document offers a rare glimpse into his creative process and the artistic networks that shaped seventeenth-century Europe. A fascinating encounter with the man, the artist and the diplomat behind one of the masters of Western art.

BRAFA ART TALK AT 4 PM > Language: FR







ART4ALZHEIMER: ART IN THE FACE OF COGNITIVE DECLINE

Renato Walkowiak, founder of Move4Alzheimer and Ping4Alzheimer; Leisa Paoli, Director of FAMM (Femmes Artistes du Musée de Mougins)

Developed through a partnership between Ping4Alzheimer and FAMM, the first museum outside the United States dedicated to women artists, and supported by France Alzheimer, Art4Alzheimer is a pilot arts engagement programme designed to help address cognitive decline. Launched at FAMM in September 2026, the programme brought together residents of care homes in Mougins and their caregivers. The experience combines a multisensory museum visit engaging all five senses with a creative workshop. This immersive and participatory approach, centred on movement, sensory exploration and reminiscence, aims to stimulate cognitive abilities and enhance the well-being of people living with Alzheimer's disease. The conference will examine the potential for replication in museums, art fairs and foundations across Belgium and Europe.

WEDNESDAY
27.01



KBF ART TALK AT 2 PM > Language: FR

EVERYDAY BEAUTY: FURNITURE AT HANNON HOUSE

Grégory Van Aelbrouck, Hannon House, Brussels

Furniture is more than decoration: it reflects ideas, craftsmanship and ways of living. Drawing on examples from the Hannon House, this talk explores how furniture helped shape Art Nouveau interiors and how it contributes today to the preservation of a unique cultural heritage. A captivating story of design, innovation and everyday beauty.

BRAFA ART TALK AT 4 PM > Language: FR





PRESERVING ART, FUNDING RESEARCH: THE ESSENTIAL ROLE OF PHILANTHROPY

Kim Oosterlinck, General Director of the Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium, Brussels

In an international context marked by a reduction in public spending on museums, private and corporate sponsorship represents an important means of enabling museums to fulfil their missions. Drawing on examples from the Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium, this presentation will highlight how such partnerships can contribute to advancing research into museum collections, whilst also supporting the restoration of works of art and the acquisition of new pieces.

In collaboration with

Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium

THURSDAY
28.01



KBF ART TALK AT 2 PM > Language: NL

HENRI EVENEPOEL, PAGE BY PAGE

Davy Depelchin and Sarah Van Ooteghem, Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium, Brussels

Nearly one thousand drawings and documents preserved in nineteen albums provide an exceptional insight into Henri Evenepoel's artistic evolution. This intact archive reveals how ideas moved from first sketch to finished work, offering a unique perspective on one of Belgium's leading modern artists. A rare journey through the making of an oeuvre.

BRAFA ART TALK AT 4 PM > Language: EN





LISTENING FIRST: WHAT DO MUSEUMS NEED FROM PHILANTHROPY TODAY?

Géraldine David, Director General of the Art & History Museum, Brussels; Dr. Stefaan Huygebaert, Curator Mu.ZEE – Permekemuseum – Peire Museum. Moderator: Melanie Coisne, Head of Heritage & Culture, King Baudouin Foundation

Museums currently face challenges that go far beyond exhibitions and acquisitions. Conservation, research, public engagement, digitisation and social inclusion all require significant resources, many of which remain invisible to visitors. Drawing on their experiences at two leading Belgian museums, Géraldine David and Stefaan Huygebaert will discuss how museums and philanthropic partners can work together to preserve heritage, strengthen collections, support research, broaden access and create lasting societal value.

In collaboration with

King Baudouin Foundation

FRIDAY
29.01



KBF ART TALK AT 2 PM > Language: FR

REDISCOVERING ANTOINE MORTIER

Camille Brasseur, Paul Delvaux Foundation and Antoine Mortier Fund

Antoine Mortier developed a powerful visual language that placed him among the leading figures of post-war abstraction. Through selected works and recent research, this talk explores the intensity, scale and emotional force that characterise his oeuvre. Marking the 10th anniversary of the Antoine Mortier Fund hosted by the King Baudouin Foundation and the launch of the online catalogue raisonné, it offers an opportunity to rediscover one of Belgium's major abstract artists.

BRAFA ART TALK AT 4 PM > Language: EN



HIDDEN TREASURES: THE VALUE OF PUBLIC ART IN STORAGE

Nancy von Breska, PhD, Lapislazul; Laura D'hoore, PhD researcher at the University of Antwerp; Marieke De Baerdemaeker, Head Curator at Brussels City Museum; Eric Hemeleers, Chairman of the Eeckman I PatrimOne Group in Belgium. Moderator: Anne-Sophie V. Radermecker, Associate Professor in Cultural Management (Université libre de Bruxelles)

Belgium's public collections are highly decentralised, with no single official total of artworks held in storage. As in the global museum sector, an estimated 80–90% of collections may remain in storage. Yet storage conditions and incomplete documentation - such as photographs, measurements, provenance and condition reports - can affect an artwork's value and future safekeeping. In times of shrinking public funding, how can these 'hidden treasures' be re-evaluated, valorised and made accessible to the public?

In collaboration with

ENCATC
The European network on cultural management and policy

SATURDAY
30.01



KBF ART TALK AT 2 PM > Language: NL

RIK WOUTERS, FROM VISION TO FORM

Véronique Van Passel, Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp

Why do some artists fulfil their potential while others remain undiscovered? This terracotta portrait of Madame Giroux tells the story of a woman who, together with her husband Georges Giroux, believed in Rik Wouters and helped make his career possible. A fascinating glimpse into the world of art, friendship and patronage surrounding one of Belgium's most celebrated modern artists.

BRAFA ART TALK AT 4 PM > Language: FR



IS BEAUTY STILL ENOUGH?

Beatrice le Hodey, Artist, Emilie De Pauw, Collector, Jean-Pierre Buyle, Lawyer and Chairman of Quartier des Arts, Dirk Snauwaert, Director of WIELS, Marc Hemeleers, Partner at Eeckman. Moderator: Eric Hemeleers, Chairman of the Eeckman I PatrimOne Group in Belgium

Is beauty still enough? This question may seem simple but is undoubtedly not quite so straightforward. For centuries, we have viewed works of art primarily in terms of their beauty, harmony and the emotion they evoke. Nowadays, we are also interested in their history, their provenance, the artists' backgrounds, the context in which they were created, the ideas they convey, and sometimes even the debates they provoke. Are works of art still viewed solely for what they show, or also for everything they tell us? And does this shift alter the way we appreciate, collect, exhibit or pass on art?

In collaboration with

Eeckman
YOU TRUST · WE CARE

SUNDAY
31.01



KBF ART TALK AT 2 PM > Language: FR

WORDS TO SEE, IMAGES TO READ

Laurence Boudart, Archives and Literature Museum

Poet, co-founder of CoBrA and creator of the celebrated logograms, Christian Dotremont pushed the boundaries between literature and visual art. Through a free and spontaneous gesture, he transformed words into works that are both read and seen. This talk explores the singular world of an artist whose innovations left a lasting mark on post-war poetry and the European avant-garde.

BRAFA ART TALK AT 4 PM > Language: FR





IXELLES MUSEUM. FROM SLAUGHTERHOUSES TO AN ART MUSEUM: 135 YEARS OF EVOLUTION IN THE SERVICE OF ART.

Claire Leblanc, Director-Curator at Ixelles Museum

From former slaughterhouses to a twenty-first-century art museum, this lecture explores 135 years of history marked by profound transformations. From the creation and expansion of the collections to the evolution of the museum's remit, by way of the spectacular conversion of its built heritage, it traces the journey of an institution that has become a key player in Brussels' cultural life. An immersion in the unique history of a municipal museum where architecture, memory and contemporary creation engage in dialogue over time.

In collaboration with

musée d'ixelles
museum van elsene

FOCUS TALKS BY IXELLES MUSEUM
A closer look at a work of art

Every day at 5 pm, visitors are invited to the Ixelles Museum's stand n° 137 for an intimate encounter with a work featured in the exhibition, which will be brought to life through a short presentation of 20 minutes.

These talks, featuring works by Dürer, Magritte, Ensor, Delvaux, Panamarenko, Rik Wouters, Spilliaert, Gustave De Smet, Miró and Toulouse-Lautrec, offer a unique opportunity to see masterpieces from the collection in a new light.



Gustave De Smet (1877-1943), *De Zeearend*, 1926
James Ensor (1860-1949), Le Christ apaisant la tempête, 1906 (predated 1891)
Jules Schmalzigaug (1882-1917), Untitled, v. 1914
Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1864-1901), *Moulin Rouge. La Goulue*,1891
All of these works are part of the collection of the Ixelles Museum in Brussels.

Through fascinating insights, anecdotes and little-known details, the museum team offers fresh ways of looking at these works, unveiling their richness and revealing new layers of meaning.

More than just a cultural interlude at the heart of BRAFA, these talks invite visitors to reconnect with the Ixelles Museum - or encounter it for the first time - ahead of its much-anticipated festive reopening on 19, 20 and 21 March 2027.

BRAFA
ART FAIR

EXPLORING ART, INSPIRING DIALOGUE

From restored historic films to expert talks on remarkable works of art and current issues in the cultural sector, BRAFA's daily programme invites visitors to discover art from different perspectives.

Developed in partnership with cultural and academic institutions, organisations and art-market professionals, BRAFA's cultural offer aims to spark curiosity and foster dialogue. Leading figures, internationally renowned curators, scholars and art-market specialists will be sharing their expertise, revealing the stories behind works of art and exploring a wide range of fascinating topics.

These encounters will enrich visitors' understanding of art whilst shedding light on the challenges and debates that are shaping the current cultural landscape.

BRAFA is more than an art fair: it is a crossroads of ideas, disciplines and voices from across the art world!

23.01 2 PM - Raoul Dufy © Philippe D. Photography

24.01 2 PM - Mig Quinet © Andy Simon Studio
4 PM - Jan van Hemessen, *Portret van een meisje, 'de goudweegster'*, ca. 1528-29, Gemäldegalerie, Staatliche Museum zu Berlin © Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Gemäldegalerie / Christoph Schmidt

26.01 2 PM - Peter Paul Rubens, Three Men in Classical Attire (recto) © Rubenshuis
4 PM - Victor Vasarely, *Agew*, 1991, 120 x 120 cm © Galeria Jordi Pascual

27.01 2 PM © Emulation, 1905, Archives Maison Hannon
4 PM - Kim Oosterlinck © Hatim Kaghat / Abel Grimmer (Antwerp, c. 1570–c. 1619), *L'hiver*, wood, 30 x 43 cm © Royal Museums of Fine Arts Museum of Belgium, Brussels

28.01 2 PM - Henri Evenepoel © Philippe D. Photography

29.01 2 PM - Antoine Mortier © Philippe D. Photography

30.01 2 PM - Rik Wouters © Rik Klein Gotink

31.01 2 PM - Christian Dotremont © L'atelier de l'Imagier - AML
4 PM - Théo Van Rysselberghe (1862-1926), *Le Thé au jardin*, 1900-1904, gift Octave Maus, collection of Ixelles Museum