

These retro swing parties teach you the moves you need to know to rock around the clock. On 20 June, it's Drew Davies Rhythm Combo at Brussels' Beursschouwburg

→ [www.radiomodern.be](http://www.radiomodern.be)



## Postcards from Brussels

REBECCA BENOOT

Dave McKean is a Renaissance man. The multi award-winning illustrator and comic book artist is: a filmmaker (visionary), a photographer (haunting), a graphic designer (inventive) and, last but not least, a musician (jazz pianist).

He is probably most famous for his numerous collaborations with fellow Brit and fantasy writer Neil Gaiman. Together the 40-somethings have created cult classic graphic novels like *The Sandman* series and *Black Orchid*. Most recently, McKean illustrated Gaiman's celebrated children's novel *The Graveyard Book*, and he also created the images for Gaiman's now-immortalised 2002 novella *Coraline*.

McKean's style is not just unique, it's downright uncanny. By incorporating techniques such as painting, drawing, collage and glued on objects like leaves, rocks and even dolls that create a kind of relief sculpture. With qualities both scattered and artificial, these disturbing portrayals of the human psyche jump out and grab

his love for mixed media and illustrates his trademark magical cum ominous, out-of-this-world quality.

*Postcards from Brussels* – the title says it all – is a compelling exhibition for us Belgians. The fourth in a series (after Vienna, Paris and Barcelona), it is based on McKean's stay in our wonderful – and dirty and hodgepodge – capital last year. Images from Brussels, like the infamous Manneken Pis, become dreamlike, aided by the simple elegance of pen-and-ink. Pages from his own graphic novel *Cages* are also featured in this show at Petits Papiers in Brussels.

There are also several of McKean's mesmerising nitrate paintings. These larger and darker works are a combination of oil paint, papier-mâché, collage and glued on objects like leaves, rocks and even dolls that create a kind of relief sculpture. With qualities both scattered and artificial, these disturbing portrayals of the human psyche jump out and grab

you by the throat.

The icing on the cake, however, is a painting of Coraline. Yes, that would be the same Coraline that is now a 3D stop-motion movie by Henry Selick, now playing across Belgium (and the rest of the world).

The painting on show (above) beautifully illustrates the duality in not only the character but in the story of a girl who finds a peculiar door in a room of her parents' new, rambling country home. Behind it is a portal to... her own house. But nothing there is quite like it should be.

### Postcards from Brussels

Until 27 June  
Petits Papiers  
Fontainasplein 1, Brussels

→ [www.petitspapiers.be](http://www.petitspapiers.be)



## MORE GRAPHIC ART THIS WEEK

In Search of the Atom Style → *Atomium, Brussels* →

Belgian Comics → *Museum of Fine Arts, Brussels*

Willy Vandersteen → *Town Hall, Brussels*



### Antwerp

**Queen Elisabeth Hall**  
Koningin Astridplein 26; 0900.26.060  
JUNE 21 20.00 Ry Cooder & Nick Lowe

**Sportpaleis**  
Schijnpoortweg 119; 0900.26.060  
JUNE 18 20.30 The Eagles

### Borgerhout

**Trix**  
Noordersingel 28; 03.670.09.00,  
[www.trixonline.be](http://www.trixonline.be)  
JUNE 19 19.00 Cro-mags + Death Threat + No Turning Back + Betrayed + Nothing Gold Can Stay  
JUNE 20 16.00 Voivod + Coalesce + Torch + Kylea + Oathbreaker + Sardonis + Moroccan

### Bruges

**Het Entrepot**  
Binnenweg 4; 050.61.02.48,  
[www.het-entrepot.be](http://www.het-entrepot.be)  
JUNE 24 17.00 Mans Ruin, Trapped Under Ice, Stick to Your Guns, Morda, Diablo Boulevard, Born from Pain, Terror

### Brussels

**Ancienne Belgique**  
Anspachlaan 110; 02.548.24.24,  
[www.abconcerts.be](http://www.abconcerts.be)  
JUNE 26 20.00 Flo Rida

**Beursschouwburg**  
Auguste Ortstraat 20-28; 02.550.03.50,  
[www.beursschouwburg.be](http://www.beursschouwburg.be)  
JUNE 19 22.00 Yuko

**Bozar**  
Ravensteinstraat 23; 02.507.82.00,  
[www.bozar.be](http://www.bozar.be)  
JUNE 22 20.00 Ry Cooder & Nick Lowe with Flaco Jimenez, Joachim Cooder

**Flagey**  
Heilig Kruisplein; 02.641.10.20,  
[www.flagey.be](http://www.flagey.be)  
Brussels XL Flagey Summer Festivals:  
JUNE 26 18.00 Fanfare mobil: Va fan Fahre 20.00 Marry Me 21.00 OK Cowboys

**Le Bar du Matin**  
Alembergsesteenweg 172;  
02.537.71.59  
JUNE 25 21.00 aNoo

**Le Botanique**  
Koningsstraat 236; 02.218.37.32,  
[www.botanique.be](http://www.botanique.be)  
JUNE 20 22.30 25 Years Botanique: local and international DJs

**Recyclart**  
Ursulinenstraat 25; 02.502.57.34,  
[www.recyclart.be](http://www.recyclart.be)  
JUNE 19 22.30 Fête de la Musique: Darko, Chloé, Byetone, Alva Noto

**Vorst-Nationaal**  
Victor Rousseulaan 208; 0900.00.991  
JUNE 26 20.30 Steely Dan

### Ghent

**Kinky Star**  
Vlasmarkt 9; 09.223.48.45,  
[www.kinkystar.com](http://www.kinkystar.com)  
JUNE 21 21.00 Shotgun

**Vooruit**  
St Pietersnieuwstraat 23; 0900.26.060,  
[www.vooruit.be](http://www.vooruit.be)  
JUNE 23 19.30 M83 + Yuko

### Hasselt

**Muziekodroom**  
Bootstraat 9;  
[www.muziekodroom.be](http://www.muziekodroom.be)  
JUNE 18 20.00 Tom Helsen



### Ardoonie

**Cultuurkapel De Schaduw**  
Wezestraat 32; 0479.80.94.82,  
[www.deschaduw.net](http://www.deschaduw.net)  
JUNE 19 20.30 Nico van Gendt Project

### Borgerhout

**De Roma**  
Turnhoutsebaan 327; 03.292.97.40,  
[www.deroma.be](http://www.deroma.be)  
JUNE 19 20.30 Jef Neve Trio

GET YOUR  
TICKETS NOW!

## Lucinda Williams

11 July, 20.30

### Rivierenhof Open-Air Theatre

Just when we all thought the country music world had been completely destroyed by the Shania Twains and Billy Ray Cyrus-es, out came Cars Wheels on a Gravel Road, propelling Lucinda Williams to the top of the charts 20 years after her professional debut and reminding us what real country music was supposed to be all about: sublime blues, scratchy and raw. Her latest album is every bit as strong as usual, and this venue is perfect for summer shows.

→ [www.openluchttheater.be](http://www.openluchttheater.be)



### Brussels

**Jazz Station**  
Leuvensesteenweg 193-195;  
02.733.13.78  
JUNE 18 20.00 Public concert: Ensemble of the academies of Watermaal-Bosvoorde and Evere  
JUNE 23-25 11.00-17.00 Public exams: Royal Conservatory ensembles

**Sass'n Jazz**  
Koningsstraat 241; 0475.78.23.78,  
[www.sazznjazz.be](http://www.sazznjazz.be)  
JUNE 17 20.30 Green Dolphins  
JUNE 20 20.30 Moyera T'Chavera

**Sounds Jazz Club**  
Tulpenstraat 28; 02.512.92.50,  
[www.soundsjazzclub.be](http://www.soundsjazzclub.be)  
JUNE 18 22.00 Marc Demuth Quartet with Sofia Ribeiro  
JUNE 19 22.00 Jean-Paul Estievenart Quartet

**The Music Village**  
Steenstraat 50; 02.513.13.45  
Concerts at 20.30:  
JUNE 17 WiRDo JUNE 18 Cachito Pa' Querer JUNE 19 Fabien Degryse Trio & Thibault Dille JUNE 20 Richard