

The Magic Lantern



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Lanterns at the Fairground

A two-day event organized by the B-magic Project with the Magic Lantern Society

5-6 April 2019
Brussels

Venues:
Cinemathek, Rue Baron Horta 9
Greylight Projects, Rue Brulmont 11

The program will feature

- Exciting keynotes by Vanessa Toulmin, David Jones and Jeremy Brooker
- Amazing exhibition *Blackout* curated by Julian Ross
- *Frankenstein Phantasmagoria* show by Jeremy and Carolyn Brooker
- Inspiring presentations of ongoing magic lantern research
- Marvelous demonstrations by Magic Lantern Society members
- Film screening *Divinations* by Sarah Vanagt in avant-première
- Book launches, a media archaeology market and book fair

Keep an eye out for the full programme on www.B-magic.eu

This symposium is organized by the research centre CIASp (Université libre de Bruxelles) and KASK - School of Arts, in collaboration with the other B-magic consortium partners, the Magic Lantern Society and with the kind support of Scientific Research Community 'Cultures of Spectacle' (FWO), and kindly hosted by Cinemathek and Greylight Projects.

ROLL UP – ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR!

The *B-magic* project was officially launched in March 2018 with the aim to “write the as yet unwritten history of the magic lantern as a mass medium in Belgium” (see *TML* 15, p.12). In doing so, it will study the various functions of magic lantern performance within the Belgian public sphere – scientists and entertainers, teachers and priests, political movements and organisations all used projected visual narratives to inform, entertain, educate and mobilise audiences. The project will research the pivotal role of the magic lantern in Belgian society from the country's independence (1830) up to 1940 when the magic lantern's use had

declined in all spheres of activity. On 5 and 6 April 2019 the *B-magic* project is joining up with the Magic Lantern Society for a special two-day event at the Cinemathek, Brussels, looking into the use of magic lanterns at the fairground. The exciting programme (see www.B-magic.eu) ranges from talks about the latest research on fairground culture to magic lantern shows of what the audiences might have seen there. MLS members, including our Chairman Jeremy Brooker, are taking part and we hope other members will be there. To set the mood, *Gwen Sebus* has provided images from her circus slide collection.

