



KMSKA

**THE
FINEST
OPENING
FESTIVAL**

24 & 25 September

ROYAL MUSEUM OF
FINE ARTS ANTWERP



MUSEA

**CELEBRATING
IS AN
ART TOO!**

Saturday 24 September 2022.
Ten thirty.
The museum square fills up.
Voices and trumpets resound.
Scissors cut a ribbon.
The moment has come.
After more than 10 years,
the KMSKA opens its
doors again. Let us celebrate!
With an unforgettable weekend
of festivities that extends far
beyond the museum walls!

Ready to experience
The Finest Feeling with us?

Once again, the KMSKA is able to do what it was built and renovated for: surprise visitors, enrich them and connect them with art. We will resolutely carry this through during the opening weekend. Expect a vibrant festival inside and outside the museum walls. With an eclectic mix of musical events. With surprising performances, from ballet to hip-hop. With colourful activities. And with lots of ambience.
Because celebrating is an art too.

All activities, performances, shows and experiences in the museum gardens, on the museum square and in the neighbourhood are free for everyone. Want to take a look inside? You can do so with a ticket. This way you will not only discover our renovated galleries, our brand-new museum section and the surprising presentation of the collection, but also music, inspiring crossovers and fascinating workshops for children and their families.

This brochure clearly outlines all the festivities and activities. Thus, you can get the most out of our opening weekend.

Welcome to the KMSKA.
Welcome to The Finest Feeling.

Luk Lemmens
Chairman KMSKA vzw

Carmen Willems
General Director KMSKA



SOLEMN OPENING

**Soul15 (led by Chantal Copello, Mieke Ketelslegers),
deCHORALE, Carmina
and La Passione (led by Paul Dinneweth),
Antwerps Thebaans Kwartet,
Royal Ballet School Antwerp,
Junior Ballet Antwerp**

The solemn moment we have been eagerly awaiting is upon us! Bells and Theban trumpets set the official opening ceremony in motion. The ribbon unfurls to the tones of Beethoven and in a poetic and festive scenography by Chantal Copello and Mieke Ketelslegers. The 120-strong deCHORALE choir, the Carmina children's choir and La Passione orchestra enhance this image ...

... until the solemn climax. The ribbon is cut, the champagne corks pop. The museum is open again! The opening festival breaks loose! That is The Finest Feeling.

**Saturday 24 September / 10:30 am
Museum square / Free**

EXPERIENCING ART IN A UNIQUE BUILDING

The interaction between architecture and masterpieces helps you to look beyond the art. Take the time to marvel, connect and enrich yourself anew.

1. Seven centuries of art history in 650 works of art. Selected with care. To tell a story, to confront and to question. The exquisitely renovated 19th-century museum section houses the Old Masters. The inspiring new section - literally - gives room to the Modern Masters. With James Ensor as the pivot between the two.
2. Marvel. About the stories behind the artists and their works. For art is about more than looking. Choose one of the three refreshing thematic tours in the museum app. Flash back to the 17th century via virtual reality and walk through Rubens' painting studio. Be immersed in sound and projection and virtually step into a painting. Never before have you seen so many details and dived so deeply into the techniques of the masters.
3. Feel the 19th-century grandeur of the Rubens Gallery with its restored golden stuccoed mouldings. Pause for a moment in the historic entrance hall and the magnificent De Keyser gallery. Feel the vertical space in the architectural new museum section that deliberately plays with colour, shape and light. The *Stairway to Heaven* takes you to *Form* and *Colour* at the highest level.





FESTIVAMENTE! WELCOME TO THE DE KEYSER GALLERY

Goeyvaerts Strijktrio
(Fedra Coppens, Kris Matthyssens, Pieter Stas),
Oltremontano (led by Wim Becu),
Sarah Carlier,
Robin Verheyen,
Scherzi Musicali (led by Nicolas Achten)

Your visit starts in the majestic De Keyser gallery. You will be festively welcomed with short musical interludes by several Artists in Residence. Linger a while. Listen. And look. Marvel at the golden details and the magnificent cycle of paintings by Nicaise De Keyser.

This is how we welcome you to the renovated KMSKA.

Saturday 24 September / 12:00 → 8:00 pm
Sunday 25 September / 10.00 am → 8:00 pm
Museum / Ticket museum visit





RADIO BART

Bart Van Peer & Co

To look differently and see more is what you do with Radio Bart. Because Bart is curious about the works of art around him. As he is partially sighted, he invites you to look at art with him. Step into his mobile radio studio for a good chat with surprising perspectives. And from now on, look at art differently *and* more actively.

Saturday 24 September & Sunday 25 September

12:00, 2:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm

Museum / Ticket museum visit

THE 10

Christophe Coppens
in collaboration with the workshops
of La Monnaie, Brussels

Artist and opera director Christophe Coppens created ten surprising installations and sculptures, inspired by striking details from paintings. They are placed throughout the museum, simply amongst the collection. The ten works - some with sound or movement - invite you to find the corresponding detail in the painting. You go exploring, use your imagination, crawl through an installation or may even sit on it. That makes The 10 into an adventurous voyage of discovery through the museum. Unforgettable for children and their families.

Saturday 24 September / 12:00 → 10:00 pm
Sunday 25 September / 10:00 am → 10:00 pm
Museum / Ticket museum visit





ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

**Javier Barcala (concept and direction of short films),
ISM architecten (concept structure installation),
Artists in Residence**

Short films by Javier Barcala, in a design by ISM architecten, form an installation related to the Artists in Residence of the KMSKA. The artists are inspired by the museum, its collection, its building and its operation. Through the eye of Javier Barcala's camera, you get acquainted with their surprising interpretations. This steadily growing collection of testimonies makes for a dynamic story.

**Saturday 24 September / 12:00 → 10:00 pm
Sunday 25 September / 10:00 am → 10:00 pm
Museum / Ticket museum visit**





EXPO: THE MAKING OF

**KMSKA,
KAAN Architecten,
Karin Borghouts (photographs)**

Completely gutted, fully restored and with a brand-new museum section to boot: the KMSKA underwent the most spectacular renovation in its history. On 1 May 2011, the museum closed its doors.

Today, the 19th-century building shines as it did in times gone by. The museum is now also larger. A new museum volume has arisen in the former patios. KAAN Architecten drew up the master plan for this impressive makeover. Photographer Karin Borghouts has closely followed the renovation project. Her photos of ten years of demolition, construction and restoration guide you through the story of the master plan, from concept to completion.

**Saturday 24 September / 12:00 → 10:00 pm
Sunday 25 September / 10:00 am → 10:00 pm
Until 3 September 2023
Museum / Ticket museum visit**



EXPO: COSMORAMA

**Ives Maes (realisation, photographs)
in collaboration with KMSKA**

Ives Maes photographs the heritage of world expos. And records the architectural vestiges of these short events and their locations. In this way he creates a picture of the world's greatest ambitions for the future: sometimes delivered with verve, often not. Cosmorama takes you on a fascinating journey from 19th-century London to contemporary Shanghai. With a stop at the KMSKA, which accommodated the world exhibitions in 1880 and 1894. The photographs of the architectural remains show an ironic contrast between utopian visions of the future and today's urban reality.

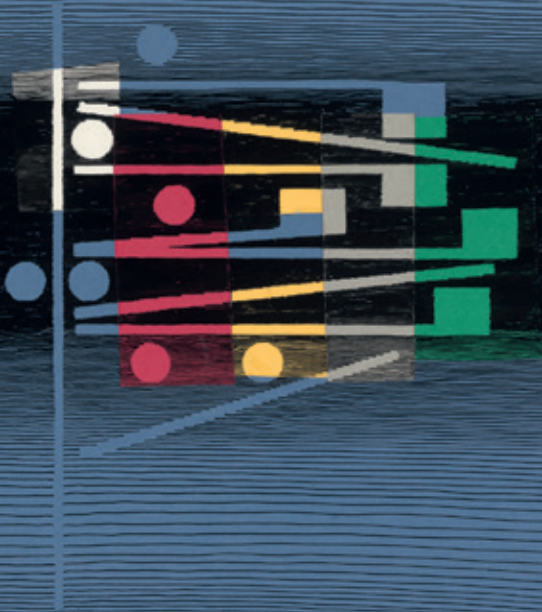
**Saturday 24 September / 12:00 → 10:00 pm
Sunday 25 September / 10:00 am → 10:00 pm
Until 3 September 2023
Museum / Ticket museum visit**

EXPO: MICHEL SEUPHOR

The KMSKA was honoured with a wonderful donation: 57 lacunary drawings with horizontal lines by the Antwerp artist Michel Seuphor. As a token of our gratitude, we are pleased to display them in the Print Room. Michel Seuphor was a poet in heart and soul - in his drawings as well. His abstract lacunary drawings with horizontal lines lead the eye to the unlimited universe of the mind.

The drawings stand out beautifully against the steel blue walls in the Print Room. The spaces between the lines and the intervening shapes and words seem to emit light. The drawings resonate. Little by little, you are mesmerized by Seuphor's interplay of lines. Experience the power of abstract art for yourself.

Saturday 24 September / 12:00 → 10:00 pm
Sunday 25 September / 10:00 am → 10:00 pm
Until 8 January 2023
Museum / Ticket museum visit



OPEN STUDIO

Are you inspired by our works of art?
Then feel free to push your creative boundaries in the Open Studio. Fun assignments lasting from 5 to 20 minutes are awaiting you there.
You or your entire family. For everyone is creative and has a story to tell. Sometimes, we will work together on colour and shape through collages. Another time, we will look at the movements in art and translate them into wire sculptures.
Would you rather let your impressions sink in quietly? Then please take some time and browse through inspiring books, or play a game.

Saturday 24 September / 12:00 → 10:00 pm
Sunday 25 September / 10:00 am → 10:00 pm
Museum / Ticket museum visit





KMSKA DRAWS!

Drawing in the museum, it is a fine and time-honoured tradition at the KMSKA. Many beginning artists have practised their skills by copying details or entire masterpieces. Keep this special tradition alive and make your way through the museum whilst drawing. Together with our artist guide. We promise that you will never have looked at art so carefully before. For drawing starts with looking.

Saturday 24 September & Sunday 25 September
12:30 - 1:30 pm, 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm, 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Museum / Ticket museum visit



VISUAL SOUND BANKS

**Andrew Claes,
Joris Caluwaerts,
STUFF.**

Andrew Claes and Joris Caluwaerts of jazz band STUFF. searched, along with the other band members, for the sounds of works of art in the museum. They were inspired by era, style, theme and composition. Sound banks to five works lead, via a custom-made sampler, to improvisations and new compositions by the band, or (in future) even by the public in an interactive installation full of images and sound. Andrew and Joris are happy to present a preview of this project in full development.

**Saturday 24 September / 12:30, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm
Sunday 25 September / 1:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm
Museum / Ticket museum visit**



ZERO AT DAWN

Goeyvaerts String Trio:
Fedra Coppens (violin),
Kris Matthyssens (viola),
Pieter Stas (cello)

During their residency, the Goeyvaerts String Trio immersed themselves in the Zero collection. They present the creative result of this in a special morning concert. The music of Wolfgang von Schweinitz (°1953) resounds to the works of Jef Verheyen, Paul van Hoeydonck and Günther Uecker, among others. In this way the trio enters into dialogue with them, under the soft glow of the rising sun. Pure tones mingle with the fragile light and the subtle colours of sun and paint. A unique experience of sound, colour and light.

Sunday 25 September / 7:00 am
Museum / Ticket



RUBENS CANTATE

deCHORALE, Carmina,
La Passione and Antwerps Thebaans Kwartet,
led by Paul Dinneweth

For the 300th birthday of Peter Paul Rubens, Peter Benoit composed the Rubenscantata. It glorifies Antwerp and Flanders. The piece was written for open-air performance. At the world premiere in 1877 the choice fell on the Groenplaats in the centre of Antwerp. Adjacent to the Cathedral of Our Lady, where you will also find the statue of Rubens. Almost 150 years later, the stage is located on the museum square of the KMSKA. A musical ode to the museum's splendid Rubens collection.

Saturday 24 September / 11:00 am
Museum square, podium / Free



FEAST!

Royal Ballet School Antwerp

The dancers of the Royal Ballet School of Antwerp celebrate the renovated museum. With movement and dance. Especially for the opening, they carry the museum collection outdoors through dance, based on the themes of light, colour and shape. These happen to be the names of three brand-new halls in the new section of the museum. Or how painting and dance flow into one another seamlessly.

Saturday 24 September / 12:30
Museum square, podium / Free





LONG LIVE THE KMSKA!

Tutti Fratelli

Tutti Fratelli herald the reopening of the museum with loads of love and unconditional messages. They sing the praises of art. Rooting through their repertoire, the company presents a concert, from its heart to ours. Accompanied by top musicians, artistic director Nico Sturm and vocal coach Steve Dugardin. They throw a feast for the eyes and ears. Straightforward, nothing in the hands, nothing in the sleeves.

Saturday 24 September / 2:15 pm
Museum square, podium / Free



REUNION OF THE GREATEST HIP-HOP DANCERS!

Joffrey Anane & Co

In the company of two DJs, Joffrey Anane gathers ten hip-hop dancers of the highest level for the main dance performance of the year. The stage gives way to a surprising succession of battles and showcases, all in the name of art!

Saturday 24 September / 3:45 pm
Museum square, podium / Free



BLUES, REDS AND OTHER SONGS

**Robin Verheyen,
Goeyvaerts String Trio,
Joey Baron & Robin Schulkowsky**

During his residency at the KMSKA, Robin Verheyen composed the work *Blues, Reds and Other Songs*. It was inspired by the museum's masterpiece, the *Madonna* by Fouquet. Especially for the opening weekend, Verheyen and Goeyvaerts revisit excerpts from the musical composition. In this way the *Madonna* is also given a musical place of honour outside the museum walls.

In the second part you will hear Verheyen together with the percussionist duo Joey Baron & Robin Schulkowsky.

**Saturday 24 September / 5:45 pm
Museum square, podium / Free**

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE CONCERT

**Stef Kamil Carlens and Admiral Freebee,
IKRAAAN, Jaouad Alloul**

Stef Kamil Carlens, Admiral Freebee, Ikraaan and Jaouad Alloul were variously inspired by the museum collection.

On Saturday night, they will join forces. Each with their own museal inspiration and creations. Expect a unique concert!

**Saturday 24 September / 8:00 pm
Museum square, podium / Free**





APERITIF CONCERT

Antwerp Symphony Orchestra

KMSKA is treating you to a festive aperitif concert with the city's foremost symphony orchestra. The repertoire? A broad range from different eras and from various backgrounds. A nod to the museum's extensive collection.

On the programme:

- G. Gershwin – *Strike Up the Band*;
- H. Mancini – *The Pink Panther*;
- A. Piazzolla – *María de Buenos Aires*;
- G. Rossini – *Il barbiere di Siviglia*;
- C. Gardel – *Por una Cabeza*;
- P. Mascagni – *Cavalleria rusticana*;
- L. van Beethoven – *Symphony No. 7 in A, opus 92*;
- T. Kashif – *Highlights from 'The Queen Symphony'*.

The Antwerp Symphony Orchestra is guaranteed to raise happy vibes on Sunday morning.

Sunday 25 September / 11:00 am
Museum square, podium / Free



ENSOR

Vlaams Radiokoor

Sixteen singers and the wind quintet of the *Vlaams Radiokoor* present a festive programme. Taking James Ensor and his contemporaries as its point of departure.

On the programme:

Frédéric Devreese – *James Ensor Suite*;

Paul Gilson – *La Montagne*;

Camille Saint-Saëns – *Calme des Nuits*;

Joseph Ryelandt – *Weemoed*;

Jules-Toussaint De Sutter – *Printemps*;

James Ensor – *Marche des Rotariens Ostendais*.

It is a musical reference to the important Ensor collection of the KMSKA, performed by a fixture on the international concert circuit.

Sunday 25 September / 1:15 pm

Museum square, podium / Free



APORIA

**Iris Bouche (choreography)
and Kunsthumaniora Dans**

In *Aporia*, choreographer and Artist in Residence Iris Bouche poses a particularly relevant question for our times. How can individuals and groups keep moving forward in a seemingly hopeless situation? And really reinvent themselves? An inspiring dance session that builds on art as an inexhaustible source.

**Sunday 25 September / 2:45 pm
Museum square, podium / Free**



EVERYBODY SINGS!

**Children from the neighbourhood schools
De Kleine Wereld, Afrit Zuid, Studio Dynamo
and Hoedjes van Papier (Deurne),
led by Tom Johnson,
a project of Zuidgeluid**

Children from Antwerp schools jointly perform songs from all over the world. They do so on the museum square. And with great gusto. To celebrate the opening.

Everybody Sings! is a grand participative project that, just like the KMSKA, connects people.

**Sunday 25 September / 4:00 pm
Museum square, podium / Free**



DANCE WORKSHOP

Joffrey Anane & Co

On Saturday, Joffrey Anane provides a grand dance performance. On Sunday, he will gladly share the dance floor with all lovers of hip-hop, young and old. Continue the vibes to the beat of the DJ, take your chance and create your own battle or showcase. Because dancing is an art too.

Sunday 25 September / 5:45 pm
Museum square, podium / Free



MEESTERS

Het Zesde Metaal

Six masterpieces of the KMSKA spurred *Het Zesde Metaal* on to new songs. They compiled them on their EP & CD *Meesters*. Key works by Van Eyck (Saint Barbara), Massijs (Saint Magdalen), Fouquet (Madonna), Van Dyck (Le coup de lance), Peeters (Still life) and Wouters (Rik with black eye patch), do not only shine in the museum galleries. But also on the stage of the museum square. This concert, with the six masterpieces in the leading musical role, concludes the dazzling festive weekend!

Sunday 25 September / 8:00 pm
Museum square, podium / Free

MUSEUM PASS MUSÉES

LIMITED EDITION

The museum pass allows you access to the KMSKA and over 220 other Belgian museums free of charge. For a full year.

Don't yet have a ticket for the KMSKA during the opening weekend? ?

Go to the museum pass stand and buy the *Limited Edition museum pass* with the iconic Madonna by Fouquet. With this exclusive pass you can access the museum on the same day. For only € 59 you not only acquire a time slot for the KMSKA, but also the key to more than 220 other museums.

Do you already have a ticket and did you enjoy your visit?

If you buy a museum pass at the opening festival, you will get your ticket for the KMSKA refunded.

More information? Please visit the stand.

Saturday 24 September / 11:00 am → 9:00 pm
Sunday 25 September / 10:00 am → 9:00 pm
Stand museumPASSmusées: entrance museum





THE FINEST TREAT ON THE HOUSE

Don't miss it! Creative acts bring a personalised museum cupcake to you. That too is The Finest Feeling. Enjoy!

Sunday 25 September / 4:00 pm
Museum square / Free

MUSEUMCIRCUS

Graceful acrobatic acts make their way through the audience. Admire a balanced display of poise, strength and skill. In a fine outfit of creative costumes, make-up and choreography.

Saturday 24 September & Sunday 25 September
12:00 → 8:00 pm / Museum square / Free

CAMERA OBSCURA

Take your perfect portrait shot with the majestic museum building in the background. Or next to one of the masterpieces of the KMSKA collection.

Saturday 24 September & Sunday 25 September
12:00 → 8:00 pm / Museum square / Free



IN DIALOGUE WITH THE DOCKHAND

Gedachtegang:
Jakobe Geens & Margot Jansens,
music: Aram Abgaryan

Gedachtegang (train of thought) is about sensitive circus. It tackles challenging themes in a conscious and polyphonic way. It questions expectations, habits and patterns in our society. Especially for the reopening of the museum, Jakobe Geens and Margot Jansens adapted a part of their latest production *Bloot*, in preview to a unique creation in dialogue with *The Dockhand* by Constantin Meunier. A special moment of humour and reflection in the open-air space of the museum.

Saturday 24 September
1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm
Garden / Free

**G**

PAINT PARTY A PAINT PARTY FOR EVERYBODY!

Jelle Michiels

Pop into the garden studio and venture out to paint like never before! Everyone, creative or not, young or old, can let off steam with brushes and paint to create a great work together. Be inspired by the themes of the collection and listen to the simple instructions of the artist. You will soon find out that you too can paint. Come by yourself, with your friends, with your family. Be brave, challenge yourself and enjoy!

Saturday 24 September & Sunday 25 September
11:00 am, 12:00, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 5:00 pm
Garden / Free



PAINTERS AND THE MUSES

Live painting to music. The beauty of the landscape captured on the spot by means of a brush, painting to the rhythm of music.

Saturday 24 September & Sunday 25 September
12:00 → 8:00 pm / Garden / Free

MASQUERADE

Treat yourself to the finest mask. The make-up team transforms your face into a creative mask, inspired by a masterpiece.

Saturday 24 September & Sunday 25 September
12:00 → 8:00 pm / Garden / Free

ENCHANTING!

Magical creatures on stilts wander through the museum gardens and enchant young and old. Can you see which painting they have stepped out of?

Saturday 24 September & Sunday 25 September
12:00 → 8:00 pm / Garden / Free

THE MUSEUM BUILDING AND ITS SCULPTURE GARDEN

Museum guides

The story of the KMSKA starts outdoors. For the sculpture garden is the first museum space. The museum guides offer you a new view of the majestic façade and garden. They are happy to tell you the big story of the KMSKA from the outside. From its origins and location on the Zuid to the latest restoration and infill with a brand-new museum section.

Saturday 24 September & Sunday 25 September

11:00 am → 8:00 pm

Site, departure K'do: Schildersstraat 41

Free





ENSOR PARADE

Theater Stap

Theater Stap delved into the intriguing world of James Ensor. The result? A colourful parade that animates the party site during the opening weekend. You too can't resist these grotesque and mysterious figures? Be inspired by Ensor and feel free to join the parade.

Saturday 24 September & Sunday 25 September
12:00 → 8:00 pm / Site / Free



S

FANFARE WITH POMPONS

't Akkoord & Majoretski

Like no other, the quirky and colourful city brass band 't Akkoord will provide an exuberant note around the museum. In festive company of the majorette corps *Majoretski*. From frivolous to powerfully explosive pompom swinging, to the tones of exuberant brass players.

Sunday 25 September / 12:00 → 8:00 pm
Site / Free

FESTIVE SNACK IN THE VOLKSTRAAT

Saturday 24 September & Sunday 25 September
11:00 am → 11:00 pm / Volkstraat

LAMBERMONTMARTRE MUSEE

An artistic boulevard that leads to the heart of the KMSKA. That is the congenial painters' market *Lambermontmartre*. It is inspired by the old and modern masters from the museum collection. Draughts(wo)men and artists, creatives and risk-takers, old hands and newcomers ... *Lambermontmartre* gives room to everyone looking for their inner artist.

Sunday 25 September / 12:00 → 5:00 pm
Leopold de Waelstraat / lambermontmartre.be



MUSEUMS ON HET ZUID JOIN IN THE CELEBRATIONS!

FOMU

Waalsekaai 47
2000 Antwerpen
www.fomu.be

Recapturing Congo

Discover the chronicle of the long and turbulent history of photography in colonial Congo - from the formal establishment of the colony in 1885 to its independence in 1960. The exhibition is the result of over ten years of international research by curator Sandrine Colard.

Algaia Konrad – *Umbau*

Artist Aglaia Konrad (Salzburg; lives in Brussels) has a fascination for architecture. At the invitation of the FOMU she developed *Umbau*, a spatial installation with the *Boekentoren* in Ghent as its central motif. The title refers to the recent renovation of this iconic building and also to Konrad's creative process: from construction to deconstruction and vice versa

Free admission and open until 10:00 pm.

MUSEUMS ON HET ZUID JOIN IN THE CELEBRATIONS!

M HKA

Leuvenstraat 32
2000 Antwerpen
www.muhka.be

Museum in Motion

The M HKA is getting a brand-new building for contemporary art. This autumn, the exhibition Museum in Motion offers a preview of what the future holds. It shows the work of 24 international key artistic figures who reflect the ambitions of the museum in the longer term.

The selected artists are both established names in the current collection and up-and-coming talents whose works the M HKA wants to include in the collection or whose presence it wants to strengthen. A concise selection that sets the tone for the new presentation of the collection, and simultaneously the start of a dialogue between art and a museum undergoing reconstruction.

Free admission and open until 10:00 pm.

KMSKA THANKS ITS FINEST PARTNERS

The Finest Opening Festival is made possible thanks to the support of EventFlanders, the city of Antwerp and DCA.



Our project partners:



Our media partners:



Our structural partners:

DELEN

PRIVATE BANK



And all individual members of our Club Fouquet.





KMSKA



Vlaanderen
verbeelding werkt

