



Key anniversaries occur but once a decade, and not all pupils will experience one whilst they are actually at school. Therefore, we have seized this chance to bring together the whole community after the challenges of the pandemic so that we can reaffirm the great tradition that we have inherited, to celebrate the present with current pupils, and to look towards the future.

I am delighted that we are joined tonight by three former Principals of KEHS who each left significant legacies, as well as former staff and Old Edwardians who have had a long and much appreciated association with the school, and by many key supporters of the school in the local community, including our parents.

Finally, I would like to thank my two co-creators of this event, Jo Bullock, Director of External Relations at KEHS, KES and the Foundation, and Hannah Proops, Director of Drama at KEHS, for their creativity, logistical ingenuity, and for helping us all celebrate our 140th anniversary tonight.

Kirsty von Malaisé, 10th Principal of KEHS

The Birmingham Girls' Old Edwardian Club (BGOEC) has been part of the King Edward VI High School for Girls (KEHS) community since 1889 and I am honoured to be representing all Old Edwardians as we begin the celebrations to mark the 140th anniversary of the foundation of our great school.

Miss Major, the second Headmistress, said: "The Old Girls were as much a part of the school as those passing through the forms at that moment". And so it has continued.

Over the coming year, there will be various events taking place to mark this great occasion and I hope many fellow Old Edwardians, current pupils and staff will come along to learn more about our past, celebrate our present and contribute to our future.

I look forward to meeting you, sharing memories and dreams of things to come.

Annette Duffy (née Glennon), Class of 1983, Chair of BGOEC





KEHS 140th Anniversary Appeal



KEHS aims to offer an unrivalled education to the brightest girls in Birmingham and the wider West Midlands region, irrespective of their social or economic background.

Assisted Places are means-tested bursaries that are provided to exceptional students whose parents are unable to pay full school fees - some students receive fully-funded places, while others receive discounted places. The presence of able and well-motivated girls from a wide range of family backgrounds is key for the ethos of the school and benefits the whole community.

Despite the generous support of all our benefactors (Old Edwardians, Trusts and Foundations, parents and staff), as well as the funding provided by the King Edward VI Foundation, the demand for Assisted Places far exceeds the funds that are available.

That is why this year we are launching a 140th Anniversary Appeal and we have set a target of £140,000 for this calendar year. This will allow us to fund **at least one additional** full seven-year place, allowing another girl(s) the opportunity to walk through our doors to give them the same experiences that perhaps you had or that your daughter has had.

We are delighted to share that we have secured an exciting match fund for this appeal which has been made possible by a very generous Old Edwardian. Any donations made in support of this 140th Anniversary Assisted Places Appeal will be matched pound for pound. All donations pledged and made up to 31st December 2023 will attract up to £70,000 in matched funding, doubling the value of every gift you make. Indeed, we would need around 140 people to give just £14 per month over three years to reach our target. Furthermore, if Gift Aid was applied to your gift, it would take us over our goal.

Could you help support the next generation of bright young girls? By giving collectively you can all make a huge difference.

To make a donation please scan the QR code. Thank you for your consideration.

Laura Salt, Head of Development

"From a grateful pupil from the Direct Grant days who very much appreciated my place at KEHS - knowing my family could never have afforded to pay fees. I wish to afford others this same opportunity. I hope that this match fund will encourage lots of people to give a little."

Timetable for Monday 27th March 2023

SUBJECT	SESSION	WITH	
Prologue	From the Principal's Study	Kirsty von Malaisé, Principal Jenny Herbert as Miss Creak, Principal 1883 – 1910	
	First day memories	Thirds	
	"Choir rehearsal"		
Before school Lower School Choir	From Matilda the Musical: When I grow up Naughty My house	Conducted by Michelle Sanders, Director of Music Accompanied by Rebecca Bazlov, Upper Fifth	
	Music and lyrics by Tim Minchin		
Period 1 Maths	"Registration" KEHS in numbers	Chris Hosty, Governor, Old Edwardian (Class of 1974), Maths Teacher 1987 - 2018	
	"Body language"		
Period 2 English	Spoken word poetry: How To Speak	Written and performed by members of the Spoken Word Poetry Club, supported by Jasmine Gardosi, Old Edwardian (Class of 2010), Birmingham Poet Laureate	
	"Our Lady of Sorrow"		
Period 3 History	A history of KEHS in four objects	Annette Duffy, Old Edwardian (Class of 1983), Chair of the Birmingham Girls' Old Edwardians Club	
		Ann Clark, Principal 2013 – 2020	
		Sarah Evans, Principal 1996 – 2013	
		Ena Evans, Principal 1977 – 1996	
Recess String Ensemble	Edward Elgar (1857 – 1934), Serenade for Strings	Conducted by Michelle Sanders, Director of Music	
Period 4 Languages	The central role of languages at KEH	IS Video	
	"The changing rooms"		
Period 5	A Question of KEHS Sport	Debbie Leonard, Head of PE, 1994 – 2001 Sarah Blanks,	
arhen		Director of Sport Sally Jones, Old Edwardian (Class of 1973), journalist, broadcaster, sports reporte	
KING EDWARD VI HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS		Special video appearances from alumnae from the world of sport	

SUBJECT	SESSION	WITH	
30	"Winterbourne"		
Lunch EHS/KES Swing B	Come fly with me	Conducted by Gary Hill, Peripatetic Music Teacher	
	INTERVAL – 20 MINUT	ES	
	"Home Economics"		
Period 6	Cast and band from the recent KEHS/KES Senior Production of Little Shop of Horrors:	Director: Hannah Proops, Director of Drama	
Biology	Little Shop of Horrors Somewhere that's green Don't feed the plant yrics by Howard Ashman / music by Alan Men	Musical Director: Martin Monks, KES Music Teacher	
	"Fashion"		
Period 7 Geography	The reach of KEHS	Video	
Period 8	Dancers from the recent Dance Production, A Night at the Oscars:	Choreographed by: Shreya Machado and Deeya Vadodaria, Upper Sixth	
	Ghungroo from War Theme from Mission: Impossible King's Dead from Black Panther	Anushka Maghizh Kamel and Emily-Marie Kamel Lower Sixth	
		Dionne McKee PE Teacher	
	"Towards the Final Assembly"		
Final asser	nbly Launch of KEHS 140th Anniversary Appeal	Kirsty von Malaisé, Principal	
	Specially commissioned poem for the anniversary: A Poet Laureate	Jasmine Gardosi, Old Edwardian (Class of 2010), Birmingham Poet Laureate	
	Chamber Choir: Diamonds are a girl's best friend Lyrics by Leo Robin / music by Jule Styne / arr. Harry S		
	I'm goin' up a yonder By Walter Hawkins / arr. Martin Sirvat	Director of Music ka	
	Desiderata By Max Ehrmann	Jean Moule, Old Edwardian (Class of 1973) English Teacher (1982 – 2021) inc. Head of English 2005 - 2021	
	Final memories and the future of KEHS	Video featuring Irene Bannister, Head of Maths from 1970, Deputy Head 1979 – 2005	
		Jerusalem Pianist: Rebecca Bazlov	
		Taneesha Shetty, Year 6, The Blue Coat School	

A short history of women's education in Birmingham

The place of feminism in 19th Century Britain is, unsurprisingly, complicated. For centuries the stereotypical female role was within the home environment - running the house or caring for children. However, slowly but surely, girls gained a place in the classroom. How did this happen in the Victorian era, where access to knowledge was so greatly affected by gender and class?

Education in the UK during the 1800s included girls but at a very basic, elementary level. Middle-class girls were taught reading, writing, arithmetic, and skills like sewing by their mothers. Those who were more well off hired a female tutor or sent their daughter to a boarding school specialising in "girls' subjects" - writing, music, and needlework. For poorer families, many children attended schools set up by churches, which were founded with the aid of organisations such as the National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor. Factories and workhouses, enforced by the Factory Acts, also gave children rudimentary education.

The industrial age dramatically fuelled the progress of basic education for the poor and girls, with Parliament starting to designate money for schools in 1833. By 1840 when the Grammar Schools Act was first put in place, 60% of women were still illiterate, but by 1860, this had reduced to 40%. Schools specifically for girls began opening, such as Cheltenham Ladies' College in 1853. In many cases, such schools were founded by wealthy women who believed passionately that their fellows deserved an education.

This social shift in education privileges even caught the attention of Birmingham Town Council, which in 1864 discussed the idea of opening a High School for Girls, progressing girls' education from elementary to secondary. For context, at this point in 1864 a mere 12 public secondary schools for girls existed in the whole of England and Wales, and for Birmingham to be even considering this "radical" idea was certainly unusual. However, while it was agreed by town councillors and King Edward's governors alike that this was something that should be done, it took another 19 years to come to fruition!

The fight for education equality continued with the creation of organisations such as the National Union for Improving the Education of Women being formed in 1871 and the Headmistresses Association in 1874, which started with 13 members.



Birmingham's school board and city council alike were dominated by a liberal elite in which Quakers and Unitarians played a prominent role. Female members of these families such as Elizabeth Cadbury and Clara Martineau often played prominent roles on committees, later becoming elected councillors. It was their influence which kept girls and women at the fore of education because social conventions meant that women were more likely to champion issues such as the education of girls and children's health and welfare. This niche kept women involved and experts in their field for "social concerns" such as education and healthcare, and they were often involved in local government and politics, campaigning for these issues.

Finally, after much discussion about cost, where to place the girls and what to teach them, the King Edward's High School for Girls opened on 18th September 1883.

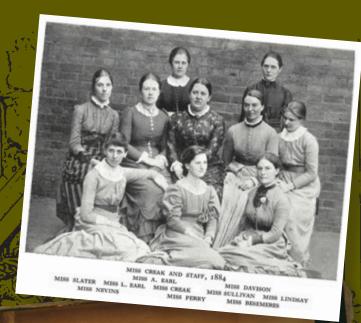
It was a significant year for the King Edward VI Foundation in Birmingham on other fronts too, with five other Foundation schools dating from 1883 – Aston, Camp Hill Boys, Camp Hill Girls, Five Ways and Handsworth Girls. Each school had its own building but some concessions had to be made because of cost - Aston Boys' and Girls' schools for example were on the same site, but separated by a wall. Budget constraints meant that the girls of the new High School were educated on the site of the boys' school in New Street, which was altered to accommodate the girls with a series of building works and sometimes even curtains to separate the classrooms!

And so, with a determined headmistress, six mistresses and 150 girls, the first Autumn Term at King Edward VI High School for Girls began.

Charlotte Gallant, Foundation Archivist

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Photographs clockwise from left: Miss Creak, the first Head, pictured later in her KEHS career; Miss Creak and her staff in 1884 (she would have been in her late-20s in this photograph); the 1887 cast of Pygmalion and Galatea; the school's New Street exterior; the New Street entrance; the 1919 school photograph - the earliest held in the archive.











MARIAMIE

Family line: the story of three generations of KEHS girls,

1883 to 1953

Upon receiving her invitation to the 140th anniversary celebration at Town Hall, Ruth Williams (Old Edwardian 1953) contacted the Development Office to share her family's story. She spoke to Debbie Macleod, Alumnae Relations Officer.

I was the first-ever grandchild to attend KEHS, and I was delighted to be invited to shake hands with Miss Major, in recognition of this feat. Miss Major was a former Head and had started at KEHS in my mother's final year (1912). This particular visit was her final one to the school.

My grandmother, Beatrice Whitehouse (née Raine), started at the new King Edward's High School for Girls in the second term in 1883. The eldest of ten siblings, Beatrice was the first to attend KEHS, followed by three of her sisters, Edith, Amy and Constance.

Beatrice celebrated her 90th birthday on 28th May 1959, and the school sent flowers to mark the occasion, with the event being reported in that year's *Phoenix* magazine.

Beatrice's daughter, and my mother, Linda Williams (née Whitehouse) attended KEHS from July 1906 to July 1912. Some of her many achievements included being Honorary Secretary of the Musical Society, Netball Captain of Bordeaux House in 1912, and being awarded the Class Prize in her final year. In 1912, she went to Leipzig, Germany, to study music but this was curtailed by the First World War. As an "Old Ed", she was part of the KEHS Red Cross Society in 1916.

Linda achieved a GCE 'O' Level, Grade 1, in German in 1966, at 72 years of age. She and her husband, Dr Clifford



Ruth is pictured top row, second from left

Williams, my father, had taken up the study of German as a hobby following his retirement. Keeping up the family tradition, this was reported in the 1967 *Phoenix* magazine.

And so to me. I was fortunate to be a KEHS pupil from September 1945 to July 1953. Like my mother, I played netball, although my main sport was tennis. I joined the school tennis team in 1948, younger than most, and won the Muriel Davies Singles Championship in 1949, coming first out of 40 entries! I was delighted to spot myself on the front cover of the most recent edition of *KEynotes*, appearing in the group photo on the bottom right of the page, holding a tennis racquet! During my final two years at school, I served as a Prefect, and the Tennis Captain.

After leaving KEHS, I read Geography at Newnham College, Cambridge, and I actually turned down a scholarship from Oxford. My subsequent career was in Personnel Management.

As I approached retirement, I took up learning the piano, and continued my lessons by phone during lockdown, a development I shared with my fellow Old Eds through the pages of *KEynotes* 2021. I am pleased to report that I still practise most days. As a result of lockdown, I also learned to use Zoom, and I continue to find it very useful for evening meetings, particularly in the winter. I now order my weekly food shop online, along with my neighbour's too!

I am sorry that I cannot be at Town Hall to join everyone in what I know will be a wonderful celebration of KEHS. I truly cannot over-estimate the effect that my years at KEHS have had on my life. And the same would be true for my grandmother and mother too. Thank you KEHS, from a family of Old Edwardians.

Birmingham Town Hall: why we are here this evening

The choice of Birmingham
Town Hall as the location
for our 140th anniversary
celebration was quite deliberate
on our part.

This iconic venue sits less than half a mile from where King Edward VI High School for Girls began — on New Street, in a building designed by Charles Barry, the architect of the Houses of Parliament, and shared with King Edward's School.

That part of the city is now largely unrecognisable from the splendour of the 1800s, but a blue plaque close to the Odeon Cinema provides a clue as to what once was: it bears testament to the location of the Gild of the Holy Cross, which established King Edward's School in 1552, and on whose site the school, and then schools, remained until the move to Edgbaston in the 1930s.

Birmingham's rapid population growth in the early 19th Century meant that its reputation was not built upon long-established traditions and shared notions of the past. Instead, a social diversity, brought about through the multifariousness of trade, religion, and the place of origin of its inhabitants, became the hallmark of Birmingham.

Within this context, Birmingham Town Hall opened in 1834 and immediately became the venue for the city's Triennial Festival, an event which began in the 1780s but had outgrown its previous settings. The move to the Town Hall was seen as cementing Birmingham's cultural ascent. Indeed, the city's cultural aspirations were confirmed by the appointment from 1837 of one of the most eminent and well-known musicians of his time, Felix Mendelssohn, to conduct and perform at the Festival.

The Triennial
Festival became
a focal point for
musical pilgrims
from all parts of
the world. Copious
numbers of oratorios
premiered here at Town
Hall, against the backdrop
of the impressive organ and
full chorus seating – a layout
that reflected secular entertainment,

a monument to bourgeois industry and achievement. The height of Birmingham's cultural prestige thus far was reached in August 1846, when Mendelssohn's *Elijah* premiered at the Town Hall.

More than 50 years later, Elgar's masterpiece *The Dream of Gerontius* premiered here (somewhat disastrously!) in October 1900. We are delighted that tonight's programme includes an earlier work by Elgar, his *Serenade for Strings* from 1892, which seems fitting for both the era in which our school was founded, and for the venue that we are celebrating in this evening.

In true homage to the breadth of experience that time spent at KEHS offers to our pupils, our eclectic programme tonight also mirrors the diversity of performance that Birmingham Town Hall's stage has witnessed throughout its history, becoming particularly known for jazz and rock & roll in the 1950s. While we can't promise a return to Town Hall's legendary all-night jazz sessions tonight, unless Swing Band can be persuaded, we can assure you of an evening well spent in a very special place.

Birmingham Town Hall would have been a familiar sight to girls attending KEHS in the early years, as it has played host to a number of our school's performances. We are therefore delighted to come back this evening, as close as possible to where it all began.

You can read more about Birmingham Town Hall's history at www.bmusic.co.uk/what-we-do/who-we-are/history-1

Kirsty von Malaisé, Principal





Cast and Crew

Amy Agadagba Hannah Crowther Core actors Sophie Gautam Simran Hear Storm Henshaw Ava Houston Libby Ingram Sonhia Islam-Choudhury Ler-Ming Wang Aaliyah Mir Eleanor Ng Rosie Price Alexandra Williams

Thirds receiving offers Della Forbes

Evelyn Greenwood Safiya Mughal

Lower School Choir

Conductor: Michelle Sanders Accompanist: Rebecca Bazlov Staff: Elizabeth Brown, Lucy Hill

Simran Ahluwalia Alveena Ahmed Gursimar Baidwan Mansimar Baidwan Zara Baig Harmani Basi Poppy Brigham Amrit Chandan Aditi Channamallikarjuna

Mya Chawla Olivia Chen Bella Cole Hannah Coton Naomi Cuthbert Tayesha David Trisha Deshpande Anuva Doger Xiaojun Dong Summer Elsharkawy

Evangeline Ernest Nadia Fallouh Ffion Fearne Renia Ganguly

Thushanika Genkatharan

Emma He Tove Hetherington Howell Erin Hickebottom Sarika Hulait Matilda Jensen Aarna Jeve Mandy Jin Arwa Kaderhhai Ashrita Kalia Aaseen Kaur Yashvi Kiran Maggie Liang Sayeni Lingathas Annie Liu Hannah Mohammed Anika Mundinamani Tanishka Naveen Siyao Ou

Siyuan Ou Anushka Purewal Hajrah Rafiq Noorah Rahman Ruqayyah Rajput Jaya Rupal Aarushi Sachdeva Beatrice Salvi Setumee Samaratunga Lineisha Senthilvasan Jaya Sharma Patel Mia Sunnar Ria Sunnar Aayushi Talwar Ria Upadhyay Tabitha Vlok Emilia von Wedel Caroline Xu

Spoken Word Poetry Club

String Ensemble

Languages video

Avnie Mae Chauhan Mya Chawla Della Forbes Ashrita Kalia Iha Kishore Gurkiran Randhawa Aneesha Sandhu Ria Upadhyay

Priyamvada Agarwal

Conducted by: Michelle Sanders Staff: Emma Barron, Mark Walkem Arooj Ahmed

Ritisha Baidyaray Indira Basu Rebecca Broome Helen Cao Aparna Chaganti Mya Chawla Lazara Do Lulu Frisson James Gooding Jovie Hiew Amber Hilton Emmy Jin Bryneet Kaur Sharon Li Alicia Liu Jenni Liu Angela Luo Karen Mao Siyuan Ou Esmee Raghavan Sri Srilakshmi Rosabella Sung Hira Varma Saranya Vigneswara

Staff: Marcia Atkins, Sheila Blain, Yina He, Helen Kavanagh, Aurore Marquette

Classes: French - 3K, German - L4B/ Ge1, Latin - 3S, Mandarin - L4B/Mn1, Spanish - L4B/Sp1

Amy Agadagba Priyamvada Agarwal Ishreet Aulakh Indira Basu Rebecca Bazlov Poppy Brigham Mya Chawla Maria Edwards Olivia Edwards Rowan Edwards Lara Jeetley Ruqayyah Rajput Alice Rampton Trinity Roberton Charlie Serban Mia Sunnar

Dhaksha Vivekanandan Ler-Ming Wang

Swing Band Conducted by: Gary Hill Staff: Andy Dutch, Andrew Gough,

Colin Howard Noah Bassett Rehecca Bazlov Emily Cresswell Theo Cuthbert James Gooding Idden Hiew Elliot Holland

Eve Horner Zach King Kai Mewa Toby Painter Jae Park Melissa Rainford Sean Russell Owen Swanborough Gwilym Thorp Edward Whitehead

Little Shop of Horrors

Director: Hannah Proops Musical Director: Martin Monks Staff: Andrew Gough, Gary Hill Zeena Abdalla

Keerthana Arivagalan George Ashley Mufazzal Baig Noah Bassett Rebecca Bazlov Zara Bhatti Ben Bown Lucy Bown Lazara Do Olivia Edwards Euan Elliot Tariq El-Lahawi Charles Frank Lotti Gabriel James Gooding Malachy Gordon Rachel Hopkins James Horn Charles Hubbard Aamanee Kamran Noor Lambert Amy Lusk Mukhtar Mukhlis Rosanna Nabavi Anna-Rose Pearce Abigail Peet Rufus Powell Tom Roberts Sean Russell Rishi Sharma Aidan Smyth Shreya Srinivas Lilv Stanford Guy Swann Abigail Tan Liam Wang Rachael Westwood

Dance: Ghungroo from War

Choreographers: Shreya Machado & Deeya Vadodaria Jessie Bachra Karishma Dar Aanike Gupte Emily-Marie Kamel Anya Machado Anushka Maghizh Ishani Shetty Aayushi Talwar Emma Vuong

Eve Yarker

Cast and Crew

Mission: Impossible & Emily-Marie Kamel

Dance: Theme from Choreographers: Anushka Maghizh

Gursimar Baidwan Charlotte Cole Lvdia Davies Shreya Djearaman Della Forbes Evelyn Greenwood Erin Hickebottom Lexi Hong Sophie Kamel Eleni Kantidaki Freya Maheshwari Safiya Mughal Camilla Newton Ede Michelle Obaniyi Riya Pattni Isha Reddi Ria Sunnar Ria Upadhyay Dora Wood

Dance: King's Dead from Black Panther

Choreographer: Dionne McKee

Ishreet Aulak Samara Faveve Aanike Gupte Shreya Machado Anushka Maghizh Nia Mehta Gayane Mesropyan Eleanor Ng Rosie Price Bella Rowbotham Sumayyah Shode Deeya Vadodaria Emma Vuong

Chamber Choir

Conductor: Ruth Roberts Accompanist: Michelle Sanders

Priyamvada Agarwal Avanna Anderson Keerthana Arivalagan Isabelle Clarkson Chloe Graham-Major Mihika Handa Kimran Kaur Noor Lambert Eleanor Ng Amelie Leffler Amy Lusk Melanie Page Abigail Peet Nayana Pillay Ishani Shetty Sanjana Siva Radhika Sohal Lily Wood-Keeling

Enya Yu

Stage managers Amy Bishop, Tom Edwards, Sophie Plant, Hannah Proops, Krishan Thakur

Hannah Curtis, Annabell Lamba Stage management, The staff of Town Hall, a B:Music venue

sound and lighting

Video production Hannah Curtis, Annabell Lamba, Dominic Tranter

Video appearances Irene Bannister, Karthi Gnanasegaram, Georgina Lee, Susie Rodgers MBE Sketchbook artists

Priyamvada Agarwal, Zara Baig, Yandy Chen, Hannah Coton, Freya Cullen, Manya Dasari, Nadia Fallouh, Poppy Griffin, Erin Hiles, Iha Kishore, Simran Mandir, Disha Ramesh, Setumee Samaratunga, Radhika Sohal, Lyra Wakelam, Enya Yu

Old Edwardians' liaison Adelaide Bailey, Jessica Brindley, Debbie Macleod, Laura Salt

Guest welcome Hannah Curtis, Annabell Lamba, Catherine Oakes

Programme design Moss Design

Photographer Hall Image Photography Coaches Aston Manor Coaches

Runners

Promotion Jo Bullock, Annabell Lamba, Dominic Tranter

Cover image Kirsty von Malaisé

In addition to those listed elsewhere in the programme, many thanks also to the members of staff who have supported this event by performing a wide range of behind-the-scenes roles at Town Hall during the afternoon rehearsal and this evening's performance: Jenny Butterworth, Andy Duncombe, Oliver Friend, Gemma Hargraves, Martin Lea, Julie Kent, Amelia Quirk, Zoe Robinson, Kam Sangha, Sarah Shore-Nye, Chris Soderman, Jo Whitehead and Jayne Williams. Also, to the Sixth Formers who have supported with "front of house" duties this evening -Rabab Al-Haji, Sarah Mageed, Josephine Potter, Rosabella Sung and Maneek Sura.



Miss Creak: 1883 - 1910



Miss Major: 1911 - 1925



Miss Barrie: 1925 - 1941



Dr Smith: 1941 - 1952



Miss Lloyd-Williams: 1953 - 1964



Miss Wilks: 1964 - 1977

Please refrain from taking photographs or recording video of this event. Professional photographs will be shared in due course.



Miss E Evans: 1977 - 1996



Miss S Evans: 1996 - 2013



Mrs Clark: 2013 - 2020



Mrs Kirsty von Malaisé: 2020 -

