

1463. Valse Parisienne

Backgrounds Of S. Radic

The Kermismusikanten (Dutch: De Kermisklanten) were a musical duo consisting of Henny van Voskuylen and Coby van Voskuylen-Mol. In the field of folk music they became known as accordion players.

Hendrik Frederik Evert (Henny) van Voskuylen (* 23 May 1941 † 12 January 2010) and **Coby van Voskuylen-Mol** (* 22 July 1944) were already very musical in their childhood. After school Henny worked as musical accompanist for a cabaret group and Coby was already active as accordion soloist. On the occasion of a performance of Coby the two got to know each other. Afterwards they started to work together with their accordion playing as the duo "Las Estrellas". With this duo they toured the country until a record company became aware of them and produced their first record with them. The duo changed its name to "The Fairground Musicians"; the Dutch name of the duo "De Kermisklanten" means "The Fairground Visitors". They also got married.

The duo produced numerous hits. Their characteristic accordion sound soon made them famous beyond the borders of the Netherlands. They were frequent guests at various television events in the Netherlands, Germany and France and won a gold record in Germany and other prizes with their instruments.

The repertoire included folk songs, folk music, evergreens and melodies, but also newer compositions. In the course of their career they recorded over 1000 titles. Until 2000, the duo could still be heard and seen occasionally at folk music shows, then Henny fell ill, so that a joint appearance was no longer possible.



In 2000, they suddenly disappeared from the scene: Coby and Henny, better known as the "fairground musicians". The Dutch accordion duo, who had not spent a day apart for 30 years, announced that they wanted to "cut back". TV presenter Carolin Reiber, a friend of the two for many years, found out the reason: Henny, the inventor of the famous sound, suffers from multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease and will never be able to play the accordion again.

In the "Jahrhundert-Wunschkonzert" on ZDF on Sunday, 14 May 2000, 8.15 pm, presented by Carolin Reiber, Coby and Henny say goodbye to their audience. The list of their records is almost endless, here the most famous ones:



