

## **With Pic du Canigou as an opera décor.**

**The thunder rumbles across the mountains, lightning flares up behind Pic du Canigou. The heat remains in the old stones on the courtyard. The scene is illuminated and The Barber of Seville is on its way. The annual opera performance in the medieval village of Mosset in eastern Pyrenees fills the courtyard ten evenings in July and August. The music flows through the old alleys, c'est magnifique!**

A crazy idea, professionalism, dedication, ability to entertain people, contacts at all levels and a professional attitude, it's "only" what is needed to implement an opera project says Anneke Foks, project manager for Opéra Mosset, with a portion of cheerful irony.

If you happen to pass the Pyrenees this summer, do not miss Opéra Mosset, tickets can be purchased at the tourist office in Mosset or Prades.

### **Opéra Mosset**

Albert Heijdens, Dutch multi-artist in theatre, music and painting, lives since 24 years in Mosset. In 2002 he presented his idea to Mosset's mayor to set up an opera in the old courtyard. "If you can take round a flyer with all necessary information to all 295 inhabitants of Mosset, I will give the necessary lessons." A week later he had a run of 35 people who wanted to sing opera. With his contacts in Holland, he had soon a 20 piece orchestra. The project grew like rings on the water and became more and more international, by 2010, besides the Dutch; there were opera singers and musicians from France, Belgium, Germany, Spain, Syria, Venezuela and Norway involved.

### **The Barber of Seville**

Summer 2015 will see Rossini's Barber of Seville; the whole village will be involved. Wouter Foks, the local carpenter, will do the stage design, costumes will be sewn by those of Mosset who can handle needle and thread and another will deliver the necessary donkeys, ..... The project is led by Anneke Foks, nurse and choir singer. In addition there will be professional musicians and singers from all over the world. During the two and a half weeks in July and August there will be 10 performances, which will draw over 5000 visitors, with all the implications of parking, ticket management, portable loos, .....

Opera Mosset will make people grow, workmanship is allowed to blossom in new contexts. Culture is the glue that brings people together. The way, the process, towards our goal is often more interesting than the execution, says Anneke.

Tickets go on sale in mid June 2015.

<http://www.operamosset.eu/>



Anneke Foks , project manager for Opera Mosset in 2015, here at the venue .



Costumes magnificent performance in Opera Mosset - Romeo and Juliet, sewn Mosset - live.



Mosset



Pic du **Canigou**, 2700 m