

Research trip to Walter Gropius's writing desk as an exhibition installation.

On 4 August this year's Bauhaus Lab will present its research findings on the exile history of the desk of Walter Gropius. The opening of the installation will be accompanied by recitals, discussions, films and travelogues about the migrations of the famous piece of furniture from House Gropius.

Final presentation „Talks around the desk“

Bauhaus Lab is an international research program addressed to young architects, designers, artists and curators and researching into prospects of the globalised present, worldwide migration movements and Bauhaus exchange processes.

This year's eight international participants retraced the transatlantic exile journey of Walter Gropius's writing desk. From Berlin to London, from London to Lincoln, Massachusetts: The postgraduate three-month Bauhaus Lab resembled an international search for traces in archives and libraries, in dwellings and museums. The original desk, designed in 1923 as part of a Gesamtkunstwerk for the first public appearance of the Bauhaus in Weimar, is still standing in Lincoln, in the children's room of the American domicile of the Gropius family.

The Lab participants combine the outcomes of their research trip into an installation to make the exile journey of this desk experienceable as it shares many aspects with the present time marked by migration and fleeing. The installation will be on display until the 90th anniversary of the Bauhaus Buildings on 4 December 2016 in the outer office of the director's office in the Dessau Bauhaus building where a replica of the desk has been shown for several years.

Discussion partners of the „talks around the desk“ will be: Marion von Osten (curator, Berlin), Judith Winter (art historian and curator Manchester/Dundee), Regina Göckede (art historian, Berlin) and Magnus Englund (Isokon Gallery, London).

Bauhaus Lab „Desk in Exile“

Thursday, 4 August 2016

3:00 pm Final presentation in the Bauhaus Building, Gropiusallee 38

4:00 pm „Talks around the desk“ in House Gropius, Ebertallee 58

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