Milestones of the Bauhaus Centenary 2019

Overview of projects

The main milestones of the Bauhaus Centenary 2019 include a diverse centenary programme with numerous exhibitions and projects in Germany and internationally, an innovative education programme for children and young people and three new Bauhaus museums.

Bauhaus Agents

The 'Bauhaus Agents' will begin their work in 2016. In the framework of the four-year culture and communication programme, artists, designers, architects and urban researchers working together with children and young people will try out new formats for attractive educational programmes about the Bauhaus. Schools in Berlin, Weimar and Dessau are expected to be able to apply to be partner schools from summer 2016. ‘Bauhaus Agents’ is an initiative of the German Federal Cultural Foundation in cooperation with the three Bauhaus institutions who maintain collections.

Exhibitions 2016–2019

In Sachsen-Anhalt the centenary will begin with the exhibition ‘Große Pläne!’ which will be shown in Dessau in 2016 to coincide with the 90th anniversary of the inauguration of the Bauhaus building. In 2017 the Klassik Stiftung Weimar, the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation and the Bauhaus-Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung, Berlin will present a first large-scale exhibition cycle that sheds light on the central themes of the migration history of the Bauhaus, its updating and its contemporary relevance. The exhibition of the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation is dedicated to craftsmanship at the historic Bauhaus and its current rediscovery, the Bauhaus Museum Weimar focuses on Gerhard Marcks, sculptor and artistic head of the ceramic workshop, and his international circle of friends, and an exhibition in the Bauhaus-Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung, Berlin looks at the continuation of the Bauhaus’s ideas in the New Bauhaus in Chicago, with a particular focus on the light workshop headed by László Moholy-Nagy.

The Bauhaus will be brought to life in numerous exhibitions and events, not only in Berlin, Dessau and Weimar but also elsewhere. The members of the Bauhaus...
Association 2019 are currently planning fourteen large-scale exhibition projects across Germany, which show where and how the Bauhaus influenced architecture, urban planning, design, photography, dance and much more.

Lower Saxony for example dedicates its centenary contributions to among other things the Bauhaus photographer Umbo and the legendary Bauhaus wallpaper, North Rhine-Westphalia introduces Ludwig Mies van der Rohe’s work in Krefeld and Rheinland-Palatinate focuses on typography at the Bauhaus.

Other highlights of the centenary year 2019 will include the three centenary exhibitions of the Klassik Stiftung Weimar, the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation and the Bauhaus-Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung, Berlin. The events will begin in April in Weimar as the birthplace of the Bauhaus with a ceremony and the exhibition ‘Schnittpunkte. 100 Jahre Bauhaus und Moderne’. This embeds the foundation of the Bauhaus in the overall context of modernism and in doing so also asks questions pertaining to the future collection and exhibition activities of the Bauhaus. This will be followed in June 2019 by the centenary exhibition of the Bauhaus-Archiv/ Museum für Gestaltung, Berlin, ‘bauhaus: produktion – reproduktion’. The Bauhaus Dessau Foundation will complete the exhibition cycle in autumn 2019 with the exhibition ‘Versuchsstätte Bauhaus’. This describes the history and reception of the historic school in Dessau in a succession of interrelated topoi. The Bauhaus Centenary however also presents an opportunity to search for traces of the Bauhaus around the world. The plans include an exhibition which will tour the world and return to Germany in time for the Bauhaus Centenary 2019.

Opening festival

The Bauhaus Association 2019 plans to launch the centenary year with an inaugural festival in Berlin. The experiment will be celebrated in the best tradition of the Bauhaus – with contemporary, international performances, with Bauhaus films and a wealth of contemporary positions.

New Bauhaus Museums

To mark the centenary of the Bauhaus, new museums are being built at the sites of the Bauhaus so that comprehensive exhibitions of the rich and valuable collections of the three Bauhaus institutions may be presented to an international audience for the first time. The new Bauhaus Museum Weimar is currently scheduled to open in late 2018 and the extension building for the Bauhaus-Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung will be completed by 2021. The first structural changes will already be visible in 2019.