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Dessau-Roßlau,
10 June 2020

Three new Intermezzi in the Bauhaus Museum Dessau

Three new Intermezzi open on Thursday, 18 June 2020, in the Bauhaus Museum Dessau. The temporary exhibitions within the exhibition Versuchsstätte Bauhaus. The collection are about the work of the Israeli artist Absalon, The City as Habitat, and projects on the theme of Designing Living Environments, which were created as part of the Bauhaus Agents Programme.

Be hosted:
Absalon. The Art of liberated dwelling
18 June – 18 October 2020

For the Intermezzo *Absalon. The Art of liberated dwelling*, one of the *Cellules* by the Israeli artist Absalon (1964 – 1993) comes to the Bauhaus Museum Dessau. The minimal dwellings are at the centre of his creative work. One each in Zurich, Frankfurt, Paris, New York, Tokyo and Tel Aviv, they were intended to be his only homes. Gleaming white and informed by a modernist design vocabulary, Absalon's *Cellules* are minimal dwellings comprising dining and work table, kitchenette, wet room and sleeping area, measuring less than eight square metres. Each unit embodies a response to the qualities that Absalon associated with the respective city. *Cellule No. 4*, on display in the Intermezzo and accessible to visitors, was designed for Tel Aviv. It consists of three main parts – bedroom, bathroom and office/kitchen featuring a moveable panel – and is characterised by a horizontal window slit spanning its length.

The exhibited cell has been specially reconstructed for the interlude according to original plans in the workshop of the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation.



From *Absalon, Propositions d'habitation*, 1991, Video, Farbe, Ton, 3:30 Min.
© Daimler Art Collection, Stuttgart/Berlin

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Press release

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2
of
3

On Collecting:

The City as Habitat. Critical Perspectives on the Living Conditions of Bauhaus Members

18 June – 22 November 2020

At the Bauhaus, not only urban space was the subject of planning and design projects. In their free artistic and from the mid-1920s on also increasingly photographic works, students dealt with the city in a critical way. To them, the city was interesting as a dwelling, living and working space with intact social conditions but also as a space for people living on the social fringes – and as a place for political argument.

The Bauhaus students whose work is shown in the Intermezzo stem from different social and economic backgrounds, but they were united by their interest in social conditions and their critical exploration of the modern city. Albert Hennig's 1930 photographs of workers' quarters in Leipzig take centre stage for this Intermezzo. They are supplemented by works by Irena Blühova, Reinhold Rossig, Carl Marx, Hinnerk Scheper and other Bauhauslers.



Albert Hennig, Difficult move in the Seeburgviertel Leipzig, 1932 / Bauhaus Dessau Foundation / © (Albert Hennig) – Friedeburg Liebig

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3
of
3

Experimental Space:

Designing Living Environments. seeing – hearing – making

18. June 2020 – 10 January 2021

Environment, dwelling, home: This Intermezzo showcases work produced during the Bauhaus Agents Programme on the topic of *Designing Living Environments*.

The film *Dessau – a city in Transformation* explores what teens care about in their city, what urban spaces are important to them and what role the Bauhaus and the new museum play for them. The film *Bauhaus Agents Dessau: The School Projects* shows how the participating partner schools discovered and established new topics and “places of learning”. In audio collages pupils report on their experiences with their experiments with materials, light, space and creative techniques. And visitors to the *Office for the Development of Desires* are invited to come up with plans to improve their daily lives and make the world a better place. Over the course of the exhibition, a wide spectrum of scenarios might be generated for the development of more positive living environments.



Pupils from Dessau-Roßlau filming in city park of Dessau, 19 – 22 May 2017
© Bauhaus Dessau Foundation / Photo: Thomas Meyer / OSTKREUZ

The *Intermezzi* in the Black Box of the Bauhaus Museum Dessau are temporary exhibitions in the exhibition space. They expand on the presentation of the collection in *Versuchsstätte Bauhaus* and continue to build on it. *On Collecting* presents new groups of objects in the collection of the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation as well as objects that have not been given a permanent space in the museum. *Be Hosted* invites curators and objects from international Bauhaus collections, while *Experimental Space* sets out how the Bauhaus Agents run projects with schools in Dessau-Roßlau.

In 2020, the topics of the *Intermezzi* are based on the annual theme of the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation: *Habitat*. More information: bauhaus-dessau.de