

BOOK REVIEWS



Bauhaus Imaginista: A School in the World

Author: Marion von Osten, Grant Watson
Publisher: Thames & Hudson Ltd
ISBN: 9780500021934
Language: English
Year: 2019

In the past 100 years, there have been very rare educational institutions that can produce such far-reaching, complex, and even controversial influences as the Bauhaus. Do we still need the Bauhaus nowadays? Do we still need its *zeitgeist*? Having begun in 2016, an exhibition called *Bauhaus Imaginista* will tour around eight places through four continents to answer the question of the relationship between Bauhaus production and the world. This book, also the portrait of the exhibition, focuses on the cultural exchange between the Bauhaus with different geographies at different periods. Marion von Osten and Grant Watson, authors of the book as well as curators of the exhibition, are dedicated to the openness and experimentation of modernism itself, especially the changes that global circulation brings to the idea we have of the Bauhaus. It makes this book, not a classical history writing on how periphery arts borrow lessons from Bauhaus thoughts and then transform them, but one returns to the Bauhaus school itself. Based on mapping, the whole book is divided into four chapters, including “Corresponding with”, “Learning From”, “Moving Away” and “Still Undead”. Together, they historically display how a global network produced the Bauhaus concepts, which were not only applied throughout the world but also at the same time affected by these applications.

Yunlong YU



Bauhaus goes West. Modern Art and Design in Britain and America

Author: Alan Powers
Publisher: Thames and Hudson Ltd
ISBN: 978 0 500 51992 9
Language: English
Year: 2019

Bauhaus Goes West tells the fascinating story of the journey taken by the Bauhaus – both the concept behind the school and some of the individuals who represented it – from Germany to Britain and the United States. It is, therefore, a story of cultural exchange, not only between the Bauhaus émigrés and the countries to which they moved, but also in the other direction, focusing in particular on Britain. Most significantly, perhaps, it considers in detail the presence in the UK during the 1930s of three of the school's most important figures – Walter Gropius (1883-1969), Marcel Breuer (1902-1981) and László Moholy-Nagy (1946-) – using meticulous research to tell, for the first time, the stories of their British experiences in parallel. After considering some of the lesser-known *Baubäusler* who stayed in Britain for life, the book concludes by returning to the lives of the main protagonists and their continuation of the Bauhaus ideals in America.

Taking as its starting point the cultural connection between Britain and Germany in the early part of the 20th century, *Bauhaus Goes West* offers a timely re-evaluation of the school's influence on and relationship with modern art and design, offering fresh insights and challenging assumptions along the way.

From the publisher



Bauhaus 100 Sites of Modernism

Authors: Werner Durth and Wolfgang Pehnt
Publisher: Hatje Cantz
ISBN: 978 377 5746 144
Language: English
Year: 2019

The Bauhaus is not to be found only in Berlin, Dessau, or Weimar; there are outstanding Bauhaus and modernist sites all over Germany trailblazing architecture that has left a lasting mark on our understanding of life, work, education and living.

Through more than 100 structures, most of which are open to tourists, this volume makes it possible to experience the historical and architectural vestiges of the “New Architecture.” Besides the famous buildings, *Bauhaus 100* presents insider tips for sites to visit throughout Germany, along with a wealth of visual material, essays and practical advice. This book is an invitation to rediscover 20th century architecture and track its enduring developments.

From the publisher

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Bauhaus Women: A Global Perspective

Author: Elizabeth Otto and Patrick Rössler
 Publisher: Herbert Press
 ISBN: 978 1 912217 96 0
 Language: English
 Year: 2019

This book presents forty-five women, in different ways associated with the Bauhaus between 1919 and 1932, who fought for dreams usually socially predetermined as masculine. At the same time, *Bauhaus Women: A Global Perspective* attempts to understand the importance of these women in global history. Presenting their different native lands and their places of influence, it is possible to dive straight into the art of the continents of Africa, America, Asia and Europe, and Oceania, and the important legacy that these women left in the world.

The publication is significant and relevant in uncovering a substantial part of this school, cataloging and synthesizing each one of them in two to six pages, complemented with personal images and those of their work. With this short book, Bauhaus history is changed and the authors, Elizabeth Otto and Patrick Rössler, take us out of the shadows of a masculinized artistic society, highlighting a hidden part of the radical experiments in Bauhaus art.

First warning: This is not a book from or about women. This is a book for and about the Bauhaus school and art in the world.

Second warning: This is not a book about all the women who studied at the Bauhaus, as the book presents only ten percent of them: 462 women attended the Bauhaus (Weimar, Dessau and Berlin) between 1919 and 1932.

Silvio Alves



Bauhaus Journal 1926–1931 Facsimile edition

Author: Various authors
 Publisher: Lars Müller Publishers in collaboration with Bauhaus-Archiv/ Museum für Gestaltung, Berlin
 ISBN: 978 3 03778 588 1
 Language: English/German
 Year: 2019

One hundred years after the founding of Bauhaus, it's time to revisit the bauhaus journal as a significant written testimony of this iconic movement of modern art. In this journal, published periodically from 1926 to 1931, the most important voices of the movement are heard: masters of the Bauhaus, among others, Josef Albers, Walter Gropius, Wassily Kandinsky, Paul Klee, László Moholy-Nagy, and Oskar Schlemmer, as well as Herbert Bayer, Marcel Breuer, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Gerrit Rietveld, and many more.

They address the developments in and around the Bauhaus, the methods and focal points of their own teaching, and current projects of students and masters. At the time primarily addressed to the members of the “circle of friends of the bauhaus”, the journal published by Gropius and Moholy-Nagy makes tangible the authentic voice of this mouthpiece of the avant-garde. The facsimile reprint is intended to give new impetus to international discussion and research on the Bauhaus, its theories and designs.

The exact replica of all individual issues is accompanied by a commentary booklet including an overview of the content, an English translation of all texts, and a scholarly essay which places the journal in its historical context.

This facsimile edition is also available in German.

From the publisher



Bauhaus Architecture 1919–1933

Photographs by Hans Engels,
 Texts by Axel Tilch
 Publisher: Prestel
 ISBN: 9783791384818
 Language: English
 Year: 2018

Bauhaus Architecture 1919-1933 documents 60 extant buildings designed by former Bauhaus members through a series of photographs taken by Hans Engels in 2018.

The publication opens with “A new perspective”, a brief introduction which provides a concise overview of the founding principles of the Bauhaus and the circumstances that affected its evolution and, eventually led to its close.

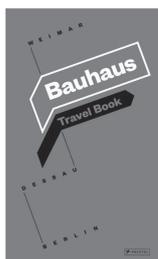
The collection of photographs follows, introducing the 60 cases, displayed in chronological order, from 1921 to 1933, covering only European examples. The selected buildings, ranging from renowned to not-so-well-known projects, vary in typology and just skim the surface of the very prolific body of work that was produced by the masters, the teachers and students, during the short time the school remained open. In the majority, the buildings are presented through exterior photographs, however, in some cases the reader gets a glimpse of the interiors and the remaining charm of the spaces.

The photographs are shown alongside brief descriptions that, in several cases, reveal thoughts and opinions from architects of the time. The writings also allow a confrontation with the current state of the properties and their uses.

This publication intends to briefly register, through a present-day lens, a small part of the built legacy left by the Bauhaus, while imprinting on the reader the need to visit and to know more about this legacy.

Beatriz Agostinho

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Bauhaus Travel Book

Author: Bauhaus Kooperation Berlin Dessau
Weimar gGmbH
Publisher: Prestel
ISBN: 978 3 7913 8244 9
Language: English
Year: 2017

A comprehensive travel guide dedicated to Germany's Bauhaus architecture, this book takes an in-depth look at over 100 locations that can still be visited today. Established in 1919 in Weimar, the Bauhaus college for design influenced one of the world's most important Modernist movements. Divided into three geographic sections that follow the locations of the school – Weimar (1919–25), Dessau (1925–33), and Berlin (1933) – this unique travel guide leads readers through the most important Bauhaus structures in Germany. Each section features important sites that are given historical background. These entries are illustrated with historic and contemporary photography, and are accompanied by up-to-date tourist information. Throughout the book short essays highlight significant events and figures of the Bauhaus movement. This guidebook is an indispensable reference for anyone traveling to Germany's greatest extant Bauhaus structures.

From the publisher



Detmold Conference Week 2017 RMB Conference 2017 | Facade 2017 | ConstructionLab annual report 2015–2017

Authors: M. Melenhorst, U. Pottgiesser,
C. Naumann, T. Kellner. (Eds.)
Publisher: Hochschule OWL
(University of Applied Sciences)
ISBN: 978 3 939349 27 3
Language: English
Year: 2017

This publication is the result of the cooperation between ConstructionLab and the Project Consortium of RMB (Reuse of Modernist Buildings) which offered two joint and thematically linked conferences: “RMB – Reuse of Modernist Buildings” [coincident with the 4th RMB Transnational Project Meeting] and “facade2017 – Resilience” [coincident with the 13th European Façade Network Meeting].

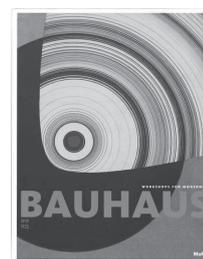
The book gathers the outcomes of two multidisciplinary groups and networks concerning how buildings can respond to climate change with resilience through reuse, as argued by the RMB research group, or through façade performance, as explored by the European Façade Network (EFN).

The “RMB – Reuse of Modernist Buildings” conference proceedings contain the discussion of new design and educational concepts for the reuse of modern postwar buildings from “resilient neighborhoods” to “resilient building skins” and the education for reuse.

At the “facade2017 – Resilience” the focus was on how the building envelope has been affected by the current demands of climate change and safety and security requirements.

Since the Detmold Conference Week in 2017, the RMB has held two more conferences – the 2nd RMB Conference, in Coimbra, Portugal (2018) and the 3rd RMB and 16th **docomomo** Germany Conference, in Berlin, Germany (2019). Similar to this publication, the proceedings of these conferences are available online at <http://www.rmb-eu.com/publications/>.

Carolina Chaves



BAUHAUS 1919–1933: Workshops for Modernity

Authors: Barry Bergdoll, Leah Dickerman
Publisher: The Museum of Modern Art
ISBN: 9780870707582
Language: English
Year: 2009

The Bauhaus started out as a school and later became a massive cultural “movement” that changed deeply the way we understand artistic education and even the way we experience the world. This catalog, published as a supplement to the homonymous exhibition organized by The Museum of Modern Art (Nov. 8, 2009 – Jan. 25, 2010), curated by Barry Bergdoll and Leah Dickerman, gathers manifestos and workpieces in a well-illustrated manner and succeeds in creating the general image of what “BAUHAUS” means. All the information presented follows a chronological thread that allows the reader to simultaneously understand the social, economic and political context that influenced the events described.

Based on a collaboration with three Bauhaus collections in Germany – the Bauhaus-Archive Berlin, the Klassik Stiftung Weimar and the Stiftung Bauhaus Dessau - the publication is completed with exemplary illustrations, allowing a better understanding of the written content. Moreover, the main characters and their personalities are also examined and depicted so as to relate them to the role each played in the Bauhaus “movement”. The final part of the book – “14 years Bauhaus: a chronicle” - resumes the main historical events and facts of the 14 years of the school's existence, arranged according to its academic calendar, re-calling issues such as the number and gender of the students and contemporary political events of the time.

All in all, the publication covers all the great accomplishments and the basic information that one should know about the Bauhaus, outlining the Modern Movement and the struggle the school faced regarding the political context of that time.

Minodora Toma

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BAUHAUS Reviewed 1919–1933

Authors: Curated by James Nice, Mastered by Pierre Vale, Layout by Julien Potter
 Label: LTM Recordings
 ISBN: 978 0 9554335 4 2
 Language: English
 Year: 2007

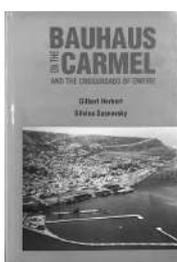
The relevance of the Bauhaus on design and architecture and its vast legacy resulted in an extensive collection of works documenting the intricacies of the school's philosophy and production, but few have taken the immersive approach this record dared to take.

By interpolating recordings of the actual members of the school, such as Walter Gropius, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Josef Albers, with roughly contemporary pieces by composers somehow linked to the school, such as Josef Matthias Hauer, Stefan Wolpe, George Antheil, Hans Heinz Stuckenschmidt and Arnold Schoenberg, this CD successfully paints a vivid picture of the spirit of the times in which modernism developed greatly both in design and in music.

While the Bauhaus never formalized a music department, in its ambition to unite all the arts, music permeated the premises and collaborations between composers and teachers of the school weren't unheard of. For example, Josef Matthias Hauer, the composer of the opening piece of this recording, met with Johannes Itten with whom he worked on synesthetic theories in which the correspondence between colors and musical notes was studied. The inclusion of music in a work about the Bauhaus is perfectly justified and hasn't been widely explored apart from a 1976 essay, "Music at the Bauhaus", by Hans Heinz Stuckenschmidt, featured in this compilation with his "Marsch Alexander des Grossen".

By associating seminal speeches by some of the most important members of the Bauhaus, with the music that figuratively and literally echoed throughout the halls of the school, this CD presents us with a tour de force of easy-listening learning experience about one of the most influential moments of the 20th century.

Leandro Arez



Bauhaus on the Carmel and the crossroads of Empire Architecture and Planning in Haifa during the British Mandate

Author: Gilbert Herbert and Silvina Sosnovsky
 Publisher: Yad Izak Ben-Zvii
 ISBN: 9652171034
 Language: English
 Year: 1993

Between the two World Wars, during the British Mandate period in Palestine, Haifa became an international focal point. The planning of Haifa and the making of the city, its infrastructure and architecture, received a degree of attention remarkable for its quality and scope. Haifa became a unique exemplar of the most advanced architectural and planning theory practice of the 1920s and 1930s. It is this phenomenon, of the transmission of the avant-garde (from Britain in planning, from Central Europe in architecture) and its implantation on the ancient littoral of the eastern Mediterranean, that makes the story of Haifa of more than local interest.

From the publisher



Bauhaus 1919–1928 Author: Herbert Bayer, Ise Gropius and Walter Gropius

Publisher: Secker & Warburg
 ISBN: 436 03685 1
 Language: English
 Year: 1984

This historic publication, rightfully or not, ended up influencing the world's opinion and general knowledge on the Bauhaus - what it was and what it aspired to achieve.

Bauhaus 1919-1928 is a Museum of Modern Art's monograph devoted to the influence of the Weimar and Dessau Bauhaus under the directorship of Walter Gropius. This publication came out as a supplement to the 1938's MoMA exhibition "Bauhaus: 1919-1928" (December 1938 - January 1939). From the book, this "(...) is a point-for-point record of actual programs and projects at the Bauhaus, prepared by Herbert Bayer under the general editorship of Walter Gropius and with the collaboration of a dozen other Bauhaus teachers—including Kandinsky, Klee, Feininger, Schlemmer, Itten, Moholy-Nagy, Albers, and Breuer. Rather than a retrospective history, here is a collection of photographs, articles, and notes prepared on the field of action".

Sandra Vaz Costa