

Information for the press

# **NEW** **BUILDING IN** **WEIMARR: THE** **(BUHUS)** **MUSEUM OF** **THE FUTURE**

The new bauhaus museum weimar will open in 2019 to coincide with the Bauhaus centenary. Combining contemporary architecture and multimedia exhibits, it will shine new light on the world's oldest collection of Bauhaus treasures. The visually stimulating, hands-on museum will reveal what inspired Bauhaus artists and will explain the ideas behind Bauhaus – from their conception through to their lasting impact. The construction of the Bauhaus museum is also giving rise to a new cultural quarter for Weimar, which will provide further insights into the ambivalent history of modernism.

The Bauhaus Museum Weimar positions the Bauhaus Weimar school of design within the 21st century through its exhibition programme and its architectural form. Berlin-based architect Heike Hanada's creation is a minimalist five-storey cuboid set upon a concrete base. Encased by opaque glass, the building is illuminated at night by the horizontal bands of light. Visitors enter the new museum via a spacious foyer or via the inviting terrace that overlooks the park. Heike Hanada's design, conceived in partnership with Benedict Tonon, was selected from over 500 entries in an international architectural design competition. In the autumn of 2016, the foundations were laid for the new building, which is due to open in April 2019.

### Bauhaus – laying the foundations

To mark the Bauhaus centenary anniversary, the Bauhaus Museum Weimar is opening with a groundbreaking exhibition. For more than 20 years, the Bauhaus treasures, curated by the Foundation of Weimar Classics, could only be displayed in simple exhibits in a temporary Bauhaus museum on Theaterplatz square in Weimar. In 2019 they will finally find their natural home in 2,250 square metres of dedicated exhibition space. It is one of the world's most influential collections showcasing the early history, development and legacy of the Bauhaus and the oldest Bauhaus portfolio on the planet. Walter Gropius himself laid the foundation for the collection back in the 1920s.

The Bauhaus Museum Weimar puts the treasured collection back in the limelight with diverse exhibits that explore the main themes of early Bauhaus. The exhibition is a far cry from the usual chronologically arranged series of display cabinets. Featuring original artefacts and atmospheric installations, interactive exhibits and fascinating storytelling, sections such as 'Der neue Mensch', 'Experiment' and 'Neuer Alltag' capture the essence of the Bauhaus as a vibrant school of ideas and the experimental spirit of its designers. Visitors encounter such influential artists and designers as Paul Klee, Peter Keler, Lyonel Feininger, Wilhelm Wagenfeld, Marcel Breuer, László Moholy-Nagy and Marianne Brandt. The exhibition also makes it apparent that Bauhaus does not stand for one particular style, but for an idea that sparked change around the world. Displays include research studies, experiments and prototypes, some of which are today regarded as icons of modernity and well-established design classics. They will also demonstrate the techniques, thought processes and ideas of the Bauhaus artists, who not only revolutionised the phys-

### Facts and figures:

#### Facilities:

exhibition spaces, workshop rooms, visitor service, shop, lounge, café

#### Exhibition space:

2,250 m<sup>2</sup>

#### Under construction:

from 2015 until the end of 2018

#### Opening: April 2019

**Architect:** Heike Hanada, laboratory of art and architecture, Berlin

#### Exhibition design:

Holzer Kobler Architekten, Zurich/Berlin

#### Building commissioned by:

Foundation of Weimar Classics

#### Landscape design:

Vogt Landschaftsarchitekten, Zurich/Berlin/London

#### Total cost:

22.6 million euros

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ical design of buildings, furniture, everyday objects and print, but also gave new impetus to the way we learn and the way we live as a society.

### How do we want to live?

The question of how we want to live is as relevant today as it was back then, and one that forms the starting point and main focus of the new exhibition. It shows the development of Bauhaus ideas on modern lifestyle – from their conception in the early years in Weimar through to the present day. The exhibition is designed by the curating team together with acclaimed exhibition architecture and design company Holzer Kobler, and in collaboration with contemporary artists and museum education officers. Since 2016, 'Bauhaus agents' have been working with children and young people to develop an innovative educational programme for the new Bauhaus museum as part of a special learning initiative by the Federal Cultural Foundation.

### A new cultural quarter is emerging

The construction of the bauhaus museum weimar is also giving rise to a new cultural quarter which reflects developments from the late 19th century through the ambivalent history of modernity to the present day. Thanks to its ideal location, a visit to the new Bauhaus museum can easily be combined with trips to other sites of interest and remembrance in Weimar, such as the Neues Museum, with its exhibition on the early history of modernism, and the former Nazi Gauforum complex, as well as the high-rise student residence 'Langer Jakob', and other examples of East German modernist architecture. The museum is also within walking distance of Henry van de Velde's 'Haus Hohe Pappeln', UNESCO World Heritage sites such as the 'Haus Am Horn', and the Bauhaus University of Weimar for an even broader understanding of modern history in Weimar.

[bauhaus.visit-thuringia.com](http://bauhaus.visit-thuringia.com)

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