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netherlands ⇌ bauhaus - pioneers of a new world

9 February – 26 May 2019

This spring, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen is presenting the last major exhibition before the building's thorough renovation: 'netherlands ⇌ bauhaus - pioneers of a new world'. In 2019 it is a hundred years since the founding of the Bauhaus, a revolutionary art and design school in Germany that operated from 1919 to 1933. In Germany the Bauhaus centenary in 2019 is being celebrated on a grand scale, but there is also sufficient reason to mark this anniversary in the Netherlands. The innovative principles of the educational approach, which had considerable influence around the world, resonated in architecture, design and design education here as well. This exhibition reveals the influence of the Bauhaus in the Netherlands and, vice versa, how Dutch artists, architects and designers contributed to the development of this German training course. In the years between the two world wars, Rotterdam was the city where modernism was expressed most prominently in architecture and design. Works of art, furniture, ceramics, textiles, utensils, photographs, typography and architecture serve to elucidate the inspiring relationship between the Netherlands and the Bauhaus.

the netherlands ⇌ bauhaus

The Bauhaus philosophy was disseminated via a network of people, exhibitions, journals, conferences, education and workshops, and not in Germany alone but in the Netherlands as well, especially after the closure of the Bauhaus in 1933. Dutch protagonists were active in this network from the very start. Before the school was founded, H.P. Berlage, Mathieu Lauweriks and Johan Thorn Prikker had already joined the *Deutscher Werkbund* that was established in 1907. This association's progressive ideas about cooperation between artists, architects and industry were an important fountainhead for the Bauhaus. The *De Stijl* journal was avidly read by teachers and students at the Bauhaus, and members of the *De Stijl* movement, namely Theo van Doesburg and J.J.P. Oud, each contributed in their own way to the shaping of the specific character of the Bauhaus. Later on, after the school's 1933 closure that was in part due to the Nazis, several students and teachers moved to the Netherlands. Here they became active in art and design education, established workshops, and designed for Dutch industry.

800 objects

The exhibition is being presented in the Bodon Gallery at Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen. Of the 800 or so artefacts on show, about 200 are from the museum's own collection. These are complemented by over 600 objects from more than sixty lenders within the Netherlands and beyond. The loans are being provided by, among others, the Fondation Beyeler in Basel, the Von der Heydt Museum in Wuppertal, the Klassikstiftung in Weimar, the Josef and Anni Albers Foundation in the USA, the TextielMuseum in Tilburg, the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam and the Gemeentemuseum in The Hague, as well as a number of private collectors.

the exhibition's curator

Mienke Simon Thomas, Senior Curator of Applied Art and Design at Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen.

publication

The exhibition is accompanied by a substantial book edited by Mienke Simon Thomas and Yvonne Brentjens, with contributions of 21 authors from Germany and the Netherlands. Published in Dutch- and English, the book is available from 9 February at the Museum Shop or online for €34.95.



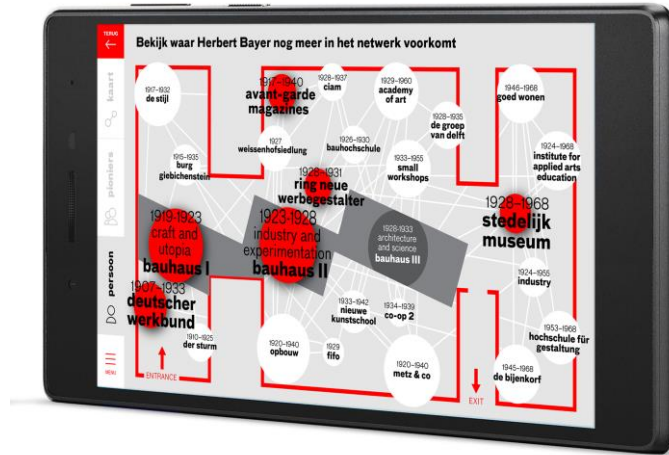
Editors' Note

For images, interviews and/ or further information please contact:
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interactive map

The museum's Education Department developed a Bauhaus app to make the Netherlands Bauhaus network more apparent. Visitors can take a tablet with this app on their tour of the exhibition. At a glance it clarifies how the artists, architects and designers conveyed the concepts and actual examples among themselves. The app allows visitors to follow some of the leading characters at key junctures and thus around the exhibition. It reveals where they met each other and how they influenced one another, enriching the visit with background information and photos. This supplementary layer of information provides depth and breadth, in addition to making the visit interactive.



bauhaus in rotterdam

In the 1920s, Rotterdam was the most important city for the 'Nieuwe Bouwen' style (the Dutch take on the International Style), and the city where modernism featured most prominently in architecture and design. Social housing projects by Rotterdam's Municipal Housing Architect, J.J.P. Oud, caught the attention of many German architects, including Walter Gropius. The director of the Van Nelle Factory, Cees van der Leeuw, also became friends with the founder of the Bauhaus. In 1957, the former Bauhaus tutor Marcel Breuer designed the Rotterdam branch of De Bijenkorf department store in 1957, a building that is emblematic of the city's post-war reconstruction.

On a series of Sundays in March and April, six exceptional architectural sites throughout the city will serve to illustrate the relationship between Rotterdam and the Bauhaus. In collaboration with UrbanGuides, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen is organizing a short lecture and guided tour at each location, each discussing a key figure from the Netherlands Bauhaus network.

provisional program:

- 10 March, 10:00 - 12:00 **Parklaanflat, key figure: Piet Zwart**
Lecturer: Marly Weemen – owner of Timeless Rotterdam and professional cityguide specialized in the Rotterdam interbellum.
- 17 March, 14:00 - 16:00 **Huis Sonneveld, key figure: Willem Gispen**
Lecturer: Hetty Berens – curator at The New Institute and co-author of the book *Gispen in Rotterdam*.
- 24 March, 14:00 - 16:00 **De Kiefhoek, key figure: J.J.P. Oud**
Lecturer: Dolf Broekhuizen – historian of architecture, promoted on the designs of J.J.P. Oud in the wider context of the rebuilding.

The first three Sundays of this six-part series are set. Information about the other locations will follow. More information at boijmans.nl/bauhaus.

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1. Paul Schuitema, 'Selef Portrait', 1929-1931, gelatin silver print, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen.
2. Gerda Marx, jewellery (sorsage) for the Metallisches Fest, 1929, metal, plastic, glass. Private collection.
3. Mart Stam, chair for the Instituut voor Kunstnijverheidsonderwijs, 1939-1940, executed by the brothers Thonet GmbH, Frankenberg, Collectie Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam.

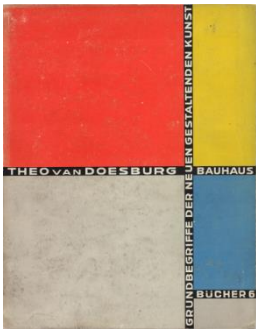


shuttle bus to Van Nelle factory

Every Saturday and Sunday at 1, 2, and 3 PM, guided tours will take place in the Van Nelle factory. For these tours, a special shuttle bus will drive between the factory and the Museum park, leaving on weekends at 12.30, 1.30 and 2.30 PM.

education and activities

The exhibition is accompanied by a broad selection of educational activities, tailored to primary and secondary schools, vocational colleges or academies. There are also diverse activities for youngsters, adults and families, with a programme that encompasses cross-over events, workshops and family days.



symposium

From 1 to 5 PM on Thursday, 11 April, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen is organising a Bauhaus symposium at the Arminius conference and debating centre, where Dutch experts will discuss background contexts as well as newly discovered facts about the 'netherlands ⇌ bauhaus' network.

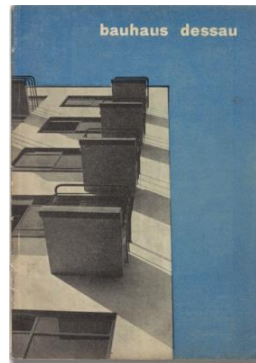
bauhaus pop-up installation with KABK

The curriculum of the KABK (Royal Academy of Art) in The Hague continues to draw inspiration from the Bauhaus approach. Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen therefore invited fourth-year students of the B.A. in Interior Architecture and Furniture Design to devise a contemporary pop-up installation and parade that allows the public to learn something about the design principles of the Bauhaus. The parade and pop-up installation can be admired at various times and venues in Rotterdam. The research for this project is also being presented as part of the 'netherlands ⇌ bauhaus – pioneers of a new world' exhibition in the museum.



cross-over programme

Over the exhibition period there are various moments when the theatrical side of the Bauhaus will become palpable for the public. In association with various partners, such as the Codarts conservatoire, Scapino Ballet, Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra and Theater Rotterdam, a fringe programme inspired by the historical Bauhaus has been devised: mini lectures in the midst of the exhibition, Bauhaus music and theatre, performances and workshops. This programme will be evident at festive moments, such as the opening, the open day, family days and Museumnacht010, when the museum is hosting a veritable 'Bauhaus Fest'.



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practical information

opening hours

Tuesday – Sunday, 11:00 – 17:00
The museum is closed on Mondays.

By exception we are open on Mondays 25 February, 22 April (Easter Monday), and 29 April 2019.

Closed on Saturday, 27 April (King's Day)

admission

Adults:	€17.50 (full price)
Young people (≤ 18 years old):	free
Holders of a Museumkaart, Rotterdampas, Ooievaarspas or BankGiro Loterij VIP card:	free
CJP / EYCA pass:	€8.75
Students:	€8.75

online ticket sales

Tickets can be purchased at the museum as well as online. In the webshop you can choose the desired day of your visit using the calendar, and it is also possible to reserve tablets with the 'Bauhaus app' (the interactive floor plan that has been specially created for the exhibition), from 11:00 to 14:00 or from 14:00 to 17:00.

open day

On Saturday, 9 February 2019, access to all the exhibitions is free.

how to find us

The museum is a 15-minute walk from Rotterdam's Central Station. It can also be easily reached using public transport: Tram 7 stops at the Museumpark in front of the museum, or take the metro to Eendrachtsplein station. There is plenty of parking in the Museumpark carpark adjacent to the museum: <http://www.rotterdamparkeren.nl/parkeergarage-museumpark>.

The museum is wheelchair accessible.

The exhibition has been made possible by gifts from the legacy of Cor de Wit and Sjoukje de Wit-Jelsma and by the generous support of the BankGiro Lottery, the Blockbuster Fund, Mondriaan Fund, the Prince Bernhard Culture Fund (thanks in part to the Breeman Talle Fund), the Goethe-Institut, the Gifted Art Foundation, the Boijmans Business Club, Boijmans Corporate Members, the Van Eyck Circle, Rotterdam. Make it Happen. and the City of Rotterdam.

Museumpark 18-20, Rotterdam
www.boijmans.nl



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