Press Invitation

Redesigning the Future

Picturing the Bauhaus: Erich Consemüller’s Photography of the World’s Most Famous Design School

April 8, 2019

In collaboration with the Klassik Stiftung Weimar, the Goethe-Institut Hong Kong, the School of Creative Media, City University of Hong Kong and the HKU Museum Society, the University Museum and Art Gallery (UMAG), The University of Hong Kong (HKU) will present Picturing the Bauhaus: Erich Consemüller’s Photography of the World’s Most Famous Design School from April 12 to July 21, 2019. Picturing the Bauhaus celebrates 100 years of the famed design school’s influence through the photographic eye of Bauhaus student and instructor Erich Consemüller.

Erich Consemüller (1902–1957) trained as a carpenter before moving to Weimar to enrol in the Bauhaus School, where he studied from 1922–1927. Apart from time spent in the workshop in Dessau, Consemüller was commissioned to photo-document the building, and to capture images of his fellow students and their design work.

This UMAG exhibition of Erich Consemüller’s photographs highlights the school building’s interior features and artistic works created by Bauhaus artists, including Consemüller’s own design for a tea table and his collaborations with Marcel Breuer on Thost House in Hamburg.

At the core of Bauhaus training was the ‘bau’ (building), within which students would spend their first year experimenting with colour, form and materials before choosing specialisations. One example of this cross-disciplinary expertise can be seen in the designs of Marianne Brandt, who established herself as a master in metal, wood and various forms of lighting.

Works shown here highlight a range of novel techniques developed from students and teachers, such as textile innovations like Eisengarn and Marcel Breuer’s furniture forms structured on bent tubular steel. These new materials and technologies merged into a utilitarian grace which established the Bauhaus as arguably the most significant modernist art movement of the 20th century.

For more images and captions of the exhibits, please click here.
Media preview
Date: April 11, 2019 (Thursday)
Media registration: Starts at 16:00
Time: 16:15 – 16:45
Meeting Point: 1/F, Fung Ping Shan Building, UMAG, HKU, 90 Bonham Road, Pokfulam
Language: English
Speaker: Florian Knothe, Director of UMAG, HKU
Media RSVP:
Elena Cheung, Tel: 2241 5512, Email: elenac@hku.hk
Chelsea Choi, Tel: 2241 5509, Email: cchelsea@hku.hk

Exhibition Opening
Date: April 11, 2019 (Thursday)
Time: 17:00 – 17:10
Venue: 1/F, Fung Ping Shan Building, UMAG, HKU, 90 Bonham Road, Pokfulam
Officiating Guest: Dieter Lamlé, Consul General of Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Hong Kong
Host: Florian Knothe, Director of UMAG, HKU

Symposium: 100 Years Bauhaus: Designing the Future
Date: April 11, 2019 (Thursday)
Time: 17:15 – 18:30
Venue: 1/F, Fung Ping Shan Building, UMAG, HKU, 90 Bonham Road, Pokfulam
Keynote speaker: Gerd Zimmermann, Director emeritus of Bauhaus Universitat Weimar
Topic: Bauhaus: The Original Vision—Reflections Today—Inspirations for the Future
Date: April 12, 2019 (Friday)
Time: 09:00 – 19:00
Venue: Lecture Theatre Room 730, Knowles Building, Faculty of Architecture, HKU

For more information, please find the detailed rundown here: http://bit.ly/2Vk7gID

Film Screening: Bauhaus Spirit: A 100 Years of Bauhaus (Vom Bauen der Zukunft – 100 Jahre Bauhaus)
Documentary film by Nils-Christian Bolbrinker and Thomas Tielsch
Date: April 11, 2019 (Thursday)
Time: 19:30 – 21:00
Venue: Lecture theatre LG1-CYPP2, Chong Yuet Ming Physics Building, HKU
Registration required: https://bit.ly/2TOtpwR
Details of the Exhibition
Period: April 12, 2019 (Friday) to July 21, 2019 (Sunday)
Opening Hours:
09:30 – 18:00 (Monday to Saturday)
13:00 – 18:00 (Sunday)
Closed on University and Public Holidays
Venue: 1/F, Fung Ping Shan Building, UMAG, HKU, 90 Bonham Road, Pokfulam
Tel/Email: (852) 2241 5500 (General Enquiry) / museum@hku.hk
Admission: Free
Website: http://www.umag.hku.hk/en/

Connect with UMAG on social media:
Facebook: http://bit.ly/umag_facebook
Instagram: @umag_hku, #UMAG, #Bauhaus, #ErichConsemüller, #Photography
Weibo: @香港大學美術博物館 UMAG

About University Museum and Art Gallery of the University of Hong Kong (UMAG)
UMAG was founded in 1953 as the Fung Ping Shan Museum. It was originally established as the Fung Ping Shan Library in 1932 in honour of its benefactor. For more information on UMAG, please click here.

Media enquiries
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