

Press release

Federal Government provides funds to extend Bauhaus-Archiv in Berlin

€ 28.1 million support for new museum building and full renovation of existing building

Berlin, 2.12.2014 The Bauhaus-Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung in Berlin is being extended to celebrate the Bauhaus centenary in 2019. At a meeting on 13 November, the Bundestag's budget committee announced the Federal Government's financial support for the building measures in Berlin. Half of the total cost of renovating the existing building by Walter Gropius and for constructing the new museum building, amounting to € 56.3 million, is to be borne by the state of Berlin and the other half by the federal government. Following provision in the previous budget of additional planning funds amounting to € 500,000 for the Bauhaus-Archiv by Germany's parliament, the Bundestag has now allocated a further € 27.6 million in the federal budget. The state of Berlin had already included the building project in its budget in December 2013.

The Bauhaus Dessau Foundation is also to receive a proportional federal grant of €12.5 million on the occasion of the Bauhaus centenary, in order to construct a new museum building in Dessau's municipal park. The other half of the costs there are to be borne by the state of Saxony-Anhalt.

Rüdiger Kruse, MdB (CDU), the budget committee's principal spokesman for culture and media, said: 'The Bauhaus stands for a design language that has had a formative influence all over the world – made in Germany. With the centenary and the two new buildings in Berlin and Dessau, we can make a major contribution to culture and can also strengthen Germany's presence as an international brand name.'

Johannes Kahrs, MdB (SPD), budget spokesman for the SPD's parliamentary party and spokesman for culture and media, added: 'The financial support for the Bauhaus projects is an unquestionable and passionately supported priority. There have been magnificent achievements at the Bauhaus in the past and the two new buildings will continue this into the future.'

Tim Renner, permanent secretary for cultural matters for the state of Berlin, said: 'Berlin's attractiveness is crucially shaped by the city's culture. The Bauhaus plays an outstanding role here – particularly on the international scene. The centenary in 2019 will be a milestone for us. Thanks to support from the Bundestag's budget, work can now be started on the urgently needed extension building at the Bauhaus-Archiv.'

Dr. Annemarie Jaeggi, Director of the Bauhaus-Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung, commented: 'We are very pleased and extremely grateful that the Federal Government is giving such clear support to preparations for the Bauhaus centenary by providing funds for the planned museum buildings in Berlin and Dessau. For us at the Bauhaus-Archiv in Berlin, the new museum building and the renovation of the existing listed building mean that we will finally be able to present the world's largest collection of materials on the Bauhaus in a way that matches its importance.'

The Bauhaus-Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung

The Bauhaus-Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung in Berlin conducts research on and presents the history and influence of the Bauhaus (1919–1933), the twentieth century’s most important school of architecture, design and art. Housed in the building designed by Walter Gropius in the centre of Berlin, the world’s most extensive collection of materials on the college’s history and every aspect of its work is open to all who are interested. In addition to historical topics associated with the Bauhaus, the Bauhaus-Archiv is also increasingly addressing issues in contemporary architecture and current developments in the field of design.

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