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**bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With
Transcultural exchanges – 20th century art and design pedagogy in India,
Japan and Germany**

Presentations, performances and discussions with international artists,
designers and scholars

Venue: Goethe-Institut Tokyo

Date: 5th August 2018, 9:00 – 17:30

Address for registration: info-tokyo@goethe.de

URL: www.goethe.de/tokyo

This international and interdisciplinary symposium is designed to explore ideas suggested by the exhibition *bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With*, held in the National Museum of Modern Art Kyoto. An experimental format will present a curated composition of short presentations, discussions and artistic interventions/ screenings and performances.

The aim of *bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With* exhibition seeks to develop a conversation about two parallel yet different relationships to Bauhaus pedagogy in India and Japan, namely the art school in Kala Bhavan, Santiniketan, India between 1919 and the present, and in the experimental pedagogical atelier, the *Research Institute of Life Construction*, later known as *School of New Architecture and Design* lead by architect Renshichirō Kawakita in Tokyo, Japan from 1931 to 1936.

The participants in the symposium will explore the impact of the Bauhaus in Japan and India in the trans-war era (1930s-1950s) and beyond, to the present. Participants will variously present theoretical and historical statements, reflections on their experiences and work, and further their own practice in the form of artistic interventions or performances. This Symposium is a part of *bauhaus imaginista*, a series of exhibitions and events by the Bauhaus Kooperation Berlin Dessau Weimar, the Goethe-

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Institut and Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW) in Berlin on the occasion of *100 Jahre Bauhaus*. The symposium is organized by the Goethe-Institut Tokyo.

Three contemporary artists – Luca Frei (visual art), Kyoka (sound art) and Tsuyoshi Shirai (dance) – will create original art works for the event based on their relationship to Bauhaus concepts, forms and practices.

The art historian and curator Helena Čapková and architect Taku Sakaushi will moderate this event.

***bauhaus imaginista** is a collaboration between the Bauhaus Cooperation Berlin Dessau Weimar, the Goethe-Institut and Haus der Kulturen der Welt. The research project with its different exhibitions, workshops and symposia is taking place for the centenary of the founding of the Bauhaus. It will be enhanced with international perspectives of the Goethe-Institut and tied together as part of 100 Years of Now in Berlin at Haus der Kulturen der Welt.*

***bauhaus imaginista** is made possible by funds from the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media, the German Federal Cultural Foundation and the German Foreign Office. Partners abroad are the Goethe-Institutes in China, New Delhi, Lagos, Moscow, New York, Rabat, São Paulo, and Tokyo as well as Le Cube – independent art room (Rabat) and other institutions. bauhaus imaginista is realized in collaboration with the China Design Museum / China Academy of Art (Hangzhou), the Independent Administrative Institution of National Museum of Art / The National Museum of Modern Art Kyoto, Garage Museum of Contemporary Art (Moscow) and SESC São Paulo.*

www.bauhaus-imaginista.org (please subscribe for the bi newsletter)
www.bauhaus100.de

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Programme

8.30 Doors open

9.00 - 9.45 Welcome and Introduction

Welcome greetings:

Peter Anders, Rainer Hauswirth, and Claudia Perren

Presentation of *bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With* exhibition in Kyoto:
Marion von Osten and Grant Watson / art directors and curators of *bauhaus imaginista*

9.45 - 10.45 Pan-Asian Correspondences

Artists and curators will discuss Pan-Asian contexts of Bauhaus pedagogy in India and Japan. The discussion will highlight the non-European correspondences and connections.

Participants:

Hiromitsu Umemiya, Yuko Ikeda, Jin Motohashi, Kodwo Eshun, Anjalika Sagar, Partha Mitter, Natasha Ginwala, and Anshuman Dasgupta.

10.45 - 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 - 12.30 Japan-German Correspondences in the early 20th century

Experts on pre-war Bauhaus history in Japan will present short 5 minutes presentations to provide the audience with a background context. The presentations will be followed by discussion about the Bauhaus ideas and their impact on the field of design in the pre- and post-WWII Japan, focusing on careers of four designers: Iwao and Michiko Yamawaki, Renshichiro Kawakita and Takehiko Mizutani.

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Speakers:

Hiromitsu Umemiya, Yoshimasa Kaneko, Mariko Takagi, Teruhi Yamano, and Kenji Okuyama

[Artistic Intervention: Luca Frei]

Artist Luca Frei will present an artistic intervention that reflects on the Bauhaus and the work that he has created for the exhibition, *bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With*.

12.30 - 12.45 Artistic Intervention: Kyoka

Sound Installation “Score x Bauhaus” presented by Kyoka
House Design and Manufacturing: Taku Sakaushi(Architect) and Tamon Kozu

12.45 - 14.00 Lunch break

14.00 - 15.30 Bauhaus in Japan - post-war prospects

An afternoon roundtable will develop the discussion started before lunch, bringing the Bauhaus in Japan into the postwar era where it met a significantly transformed political scene and society. Participants will share their first-hand experiences of the Bauhaus teaching principles and encounters with some of the designers who are the focus of this event, such as Mizutani and Yōko Kuwasawa.

Speakers:

Teruhi Yamano, Kenji Okuyama, and Yukimasa Okumura

Commentators:

Hiromitsu Umemiya, Yoshimasa Kaneko, Katsuhiko Yashiro, Makoto Aoyama, and Claudia

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[Artistic Intervention: Tsuyoshi Shirai 14.45 - 15.00]

Performance “Listen to a Spoon: Inverted Ergonomics”

Dancer Tsuyoshi Shirai will perform his piece *Listen to a Spoon: Inverted Ergonomics* commissioned specifically for the symposium.

15.45 - 17.00 Queer Transgressions

The last panel will discuss the development of the Bauhaus ideas in Japan in the recent years and consider the transformations and inspirations that designers and teachers find relevant today. The discussion will attempt to track different references coming from the early Bauhaus, including ideas that were diverse, spiritual, radical and queer, in comparison to the American post-war Bauhaus style that promoted functionality and simplicity. Discussion among the speakers and participants will be followed by an open discussion with the audience and the panel will end with a final performance by Kyoka and Tsuyoshi Shirai.

Speakers:

Makoto Aoyama and Yukimasa Okumura

Commenters:

Kenji Okuyama, Katsuhiko Yashiro, and Natasha Ginwala

17.00 Open Discussion and Final Performance

Open Discussion with the audiences

Final Performance – improvisation by Shirai and Kyoka

17.30 END

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Participants (Alphabetic Order)

- Anders, Peter - Director, Goethe-Institut Tokyo
- Aoyama, Makoto - Vice-President, Kuwasawa Design School
- Čapková, Helena - Art Historian, Lecturer, Waseda University, “bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With” Curatorial Researcher
- Dasgupta, Anshuman - Curator, Art Historian, Assistant Professor, Kala Bhavan, Santiniketan (Visva Bharati University), “bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With” Curatorial Researcher
- Frei, Luca - Visual Artist, Associate Professor, Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Denmark, “bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With” Commissioned Artist
- Ginwala, Natasha - Curator, Writer
- Hauswirth, Rainer - Head of Visual Arts Division, Goethe-Institut Head Office Munich
- Ikeda, Yuko - Senior Curator, The National Museum of Western Art, Tokyo, “bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With” Curator
- Kaneko, Nobumasa - Professor, Kochi University
- Eshun, Kodwo - Writer, Theorist, Filmmaker (The Otolith Group) “bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With” Commissioned Artist
- Kyoka - Musician, Composer
- Mitter, Partha - Emeritus Professor in Art History, University of Sussex, “bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With” Curatorial Advisor
- Motohashi, Jin - Assistant Curator, The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto, “bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With” Curator
- Okumura, Yukimasa - Art Director, Graphic Designer, Painter
- Okuyama, Kenji - Urban Designer, Architect, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor in Nagoya City University
- Perren, Claudia - Director, Bauhaus Dessau Foundation
- Sagar, Anjalika - Filmmaker (The Otolith Group) “bauhaus imaginista:

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Corresponding "With" Commissioned Artist

- Sakaushi, Taku - Architect, Professor of Tokyo University of Science
- Shirai, Tsuyoshi - Choreographer, Director, Dancer
- Takagi, Mariko - Typographer, Book Designer, Author and Designer of books, educator
- Umemiya, Hiromitsu - Professor, Graduate School of Human Development and Environment, Kobe University, "bauhaus imaginista: Corresponding With" Curatorial Advisor
- Von Osten, Marion - Artist, Author, Curator, "bauhaus imaginista" Artistic Director / Curator
- Watson, Grant - Researcher, Curator, "bauhaus imaginista" Artistic Director / Curator
- Yamano, Teruhi - Professor, Kyoto Women's University
- Yashiro, Katsuhiko - Professor, Monotsukuri Institute of Technologists

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