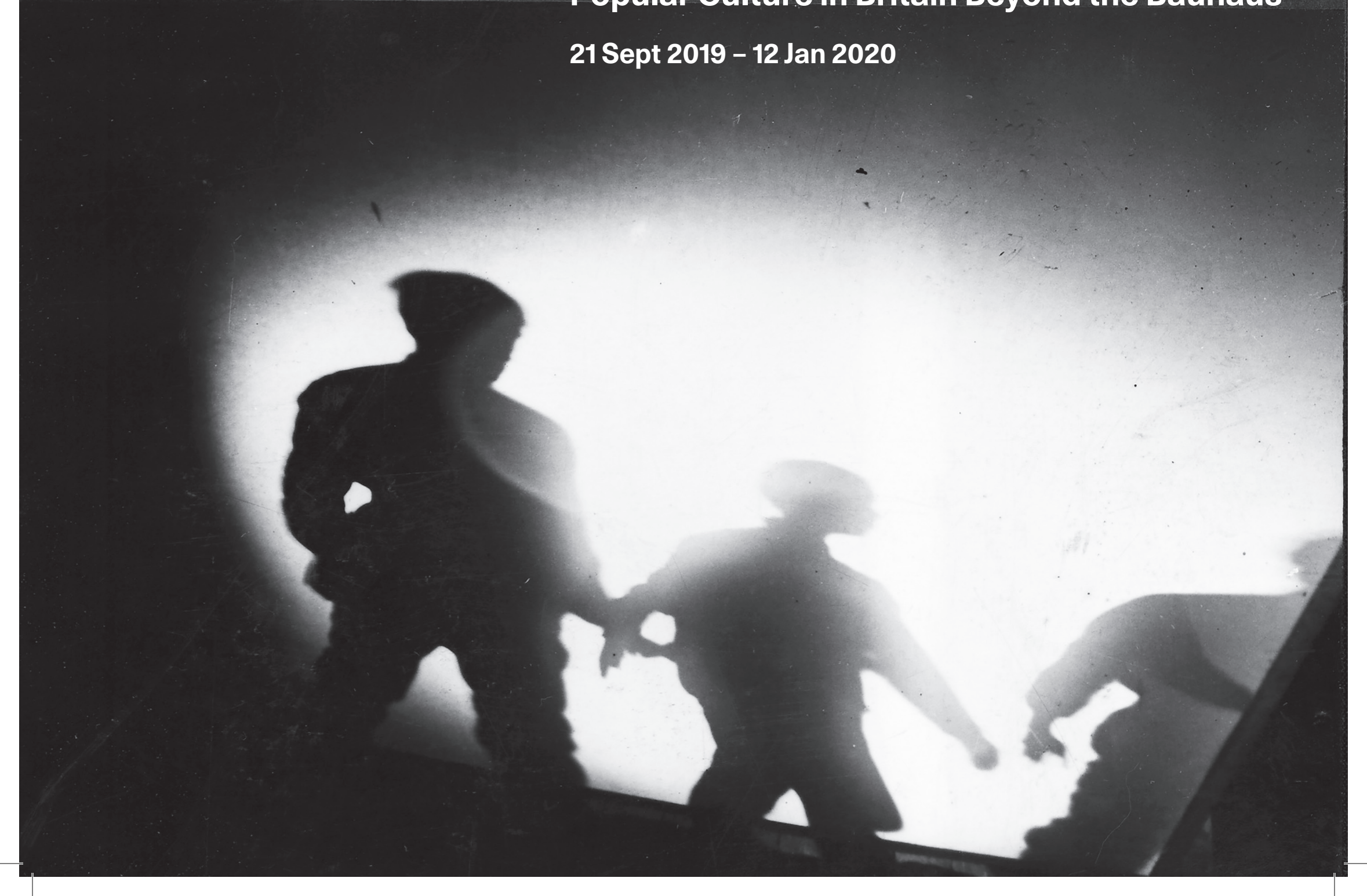




Still Undead

Popular Culture in Britain Beyond the Bauhaus

21 Sept 2019 – 12 Jan 2020



Still Undead: Popular Culture in Britain Beyond the Bauhaus

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Still Undead explores how the Bauhaus's teaching and ideas lived on in Britain, via pop culture and art schools. This exhibition coincides with the centenary of the pioneering art and design school's founding in Weimar. Spanning the 1920s to the 90s, and including works by some 50 artists, designers and musicians, *Still Undead* shows the eclectic and fragmented ways in which the Bauhaus's legacy has been transmitted and transformed.

bauhaus imaginista is a collaboration between the Bauhaus Kooperation Berlin Dessau Weimar, the Goethe-Institut and Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW), Berlin. The research project with various exhibition stations is part of the centenary of the founding of Bauhaus. *Still Undead* is a chapter of bauhaus imaginista and is produced with HKW and Nottingham Contemporary. bauhaus imaginista is curated by Marion von Osten and Grant Watson. At Nottingham Contemporary, *Still Undead* is co-curated by them and Sam Thorne. Research curators: Olivia Aherne, Gavin Butt, Cédric Fauq, Christian Hiller and Mariana Meneses.

"A Space for Making" curated with Learning Programme Team and Associate Artists: Gillian Brent, Katy Culbard, Lisa Jacques, Chris Lewis-Jones, Natelle Morgan-Brown, Wingshan Smith, Amanda Spruyt, Sian Watson Taylor and Charlotte Tupper. *Still Undead* public events are curated by Sofia Lemos, Carolina Rito and Merce Santos Mir.

Exhibition design: Alison Crawshaw. Exhibition graphic design: Bernardo Rodrigues.

1. Bauhaus Experiments in Light and Sound: 1920s–30s

The Bauhaus opened in Weimar in 1919, aiming for a unity between the art forms. A number of students created works known as "reflecting colour-light plays", which combined sound, sculpture, performance and film. These were used for backdrops at parties, festivals, and as stage sets for ballets.

2. Bauhaus Emigrés in Britain: 1930s–40s

In 1933, the Bauhaus closed due to Nazi pressure. A number of Bauhaus masters and students came to Britain and found work in surprising places: from making sci-fi special effects, furnishing fabrics, shop-window displays, to documenting British society.

3. Basic Design: 1950s–60s

After World War II, British art schools began taking inspiration from the Bauhaus teaching methods, valuing intuition over imitation, and creativity over skill. This new approach, known as Basic Design, was taught at influential art schools around Britain, inspiring a new generation of artists and musicians.

4. Mod and Pop Culture: 1960s

In the 1960s, a young generation of designers – including Mary Quant, Vidal Sassoon and Terence Conran – reimagined the aims of the Bauhaus for a new consumer era. In 1968, the Royal Academy's Bauhaus exhibition introduced many people to the Bauhaus for the first time, and became a reference point for artists and commercial designers.

5. Leeds Polytechnic: 1970s–80s

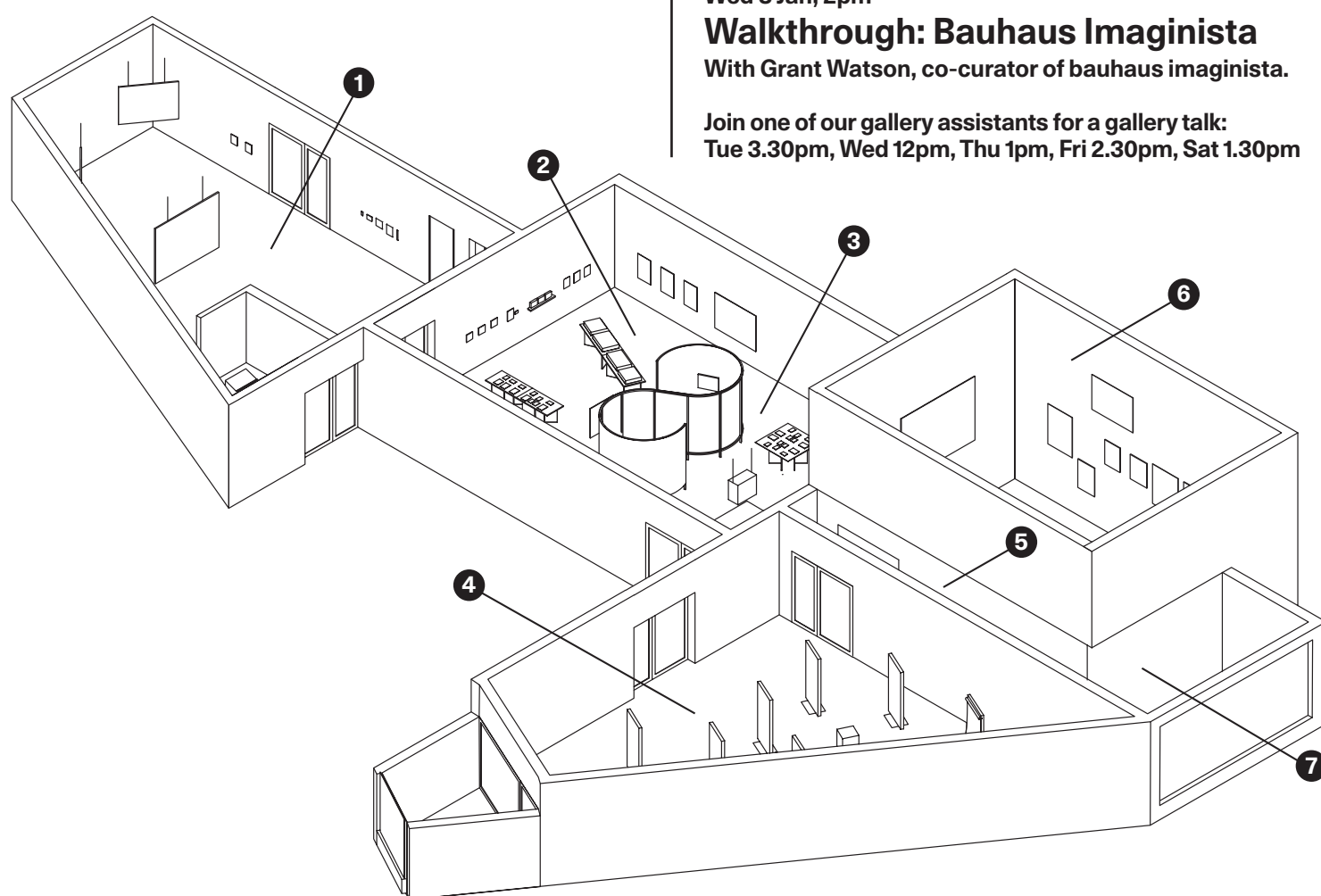
In the early 1970s, Leeds Polytechnic – which incorporated elements of Bauhaus teaching – was one of the most influential art schools in Europe. The city became a home for experiments in sound and performance. However, with an economic downturn, the decaying fabric of modernist council housing, along with punk cries of "no future", the Bauhaus's utopian visions gave way to a dystopian reality.

6. Club Culture, Performance, Graphic Design: 1970s–80s

In the late 1970s, youth cultures turned to the avant-gardes of the early 20th century for inspiration. Graphic designers, stylists, fashion photographers, musicians and performers borrowed from the Bauhaus as well as from Weimar cabaret, Constructivism and Dada. This collage-like gallery invokes the spirit of Bauhaus parties and performances.

7. A Space for Making

We invite you to conduct your own experiments in materials and colour. Each week responds to a different set of original Basic Design exercises. These have been sourced from the National Arts Education Archives at Yorkshire Sculpture Park.



Events

Wed 25 Sept, 2pm

Walkthrough: Curators' Welcome

With British Sign Language.

Study Sessions: Sonic Bauhaus

Tue 1 Oct, 6.30-8.30pm

Gavin Butt

Being in a Band – When the Leeds Art Experiment Went Pop

Tue 29 Oct, 6.30-8.30pm

Simon Strange

(Ch)Art Schools – from Itten to Eno

Tue 26 Nov, 6.30-8.30pm

Alex Jovčić-Sas

Sonic Bauhaus – Compositional practices of Gertrud Grunow and Daphne Oram as early pioneers of electronic music

Sat 5 Oct, 5–7pm

Keynote: Ines Weizman

This talk discusses *Dust & Data: Traces of the Bauhaus across 100 Years*.

Wed 16 Oct, 6pm

Walkthrough: Bauhaus for Non-Humans

Filipa Ramos discusses *The New Architecture and the London Zoo* (1936) by László Moholy-Nagy.

Thu 7 – Sat 9 Nov

Conference and Workshops: Architectures of Education

How is architecture informing new modes of education? Through talks, workshops and screenings, this three-day programme explores cultures and architectures of education today.

Wed 13 Nov, 6pm

Bauhaus in Popular Culture

Mariana Meneses delves into British popular youth culture.

Wed 11 Dec, 6pm

Walkthrough: Bauhaus: A-Z

Mark Rawlinson explores the Bauhaus in relation to art history.

Wed 8 Jan, 2pm

Walkthrough: Bauhaus Imaginista

With Grant Watson, co-curator of bauhaus imaginista.

Join one of our gallery assistants for a gallery talk:

Tue 3.30pm, Wed 12pm, Thu 1pm, Fri 2.30pm, Sat 1.30pm