

Bauhaus Dessau

Pictures at an Exhibition – Jazz Version with Dancing Hands as live stream

Press release

*The Bauhaus Dessau Foundation presents a jazz version of Modest Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition on Saturday, 27 June 2020, 8 pm in a live stream from the Open Stage of the Bauhaus Museum Dessau. In this concert the Leipzig pianist Stephan König and students from the Anhalt University of Applied Sciences Dessau will make the piano cycle from the year 1874 audible and visible in a new way.*

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While König reinterprets Mussorgsky's compositions in virtuosic and richly faceted ways using jazz techniques, he will be accompanied by videos of dancing hands: an international group of students from the Anhalt University of Applied Sciences Dessau developed these movement students in the Open Stage Studio of the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation. Leaning on Oskar Schlemmer's exercises on the historical Bauhaus stage, they explore their own hands as architectural elements. With their fingers they form rhythmic, moving spatial structures that they then turn abstract to the point of unrecognizability in shadow plays. In sixteen videos, Mussorgsky's musical interpretations of paintings are translated back into new visual compositions.

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As a special scenographic and musical performance, this live concert at the Open Stage on the ground floor of the Bauhaus Museum Dessau is a reminiscence of a legendary production in Dessau of Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition from 1928. A staged performance of the piano cycle on 4 April 1928 at the Friedrich-Theater Dessau was accompanied by a mobile Constructivist stage composition by Wassily Kandinsky. For the Bauhaus master Kandinsky, this was his first and only theatrical work realised during his lifetime.

Dessau-Roßlau,  
23 June 2020

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The concert will be broadcasted on 27 June 2020, 8 pm on:

> Website of the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation: [bauhaus-dessau.de](http://bauhaus-dessau.de)

> Vimeo: [vimeo.com/425526896](https://vimeo.com/425526896)

> Facebook: [facebook.com/bauhausdessau/posts/10158445146813209](https://facebook.com/bauhausdessau/posts/10158445146813209)

> Youtube: [youtu.be/pKwGSEI7uE4](https://youtu.be/pKwGSEI7uE4)

The concert was planned as part of the *Bauhaus Jazz-Exploration*. Due to the Covid-19, the conference was postponed until 2021.



Video sequence from *Pictures at an Exhibition. Jazz Version with Dancing Hands*, 2020. © Bauhaus Dessau Foundation