

**New exhibition at the
Bauhaus Museum in Dessau
Gong | Bang | Whistle.
Astrup & Bordorff**

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New exhibition at the Bauhaus Museum in Dessau Gong | Bang | Whistle. Astrup & Bordorff

*The Bauhaus Dessau Foundation presents Astrup & Bordorff's
first solo exhibition in Germany*

*On 5 September 2026, from 3.30 pm, the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation will open Gong | Bang | Whistle at the Bauhaus Museum Dessau – the first solo exhibition in Germany by the Danish artist duo Astrup & Bordorff. The exhibition centres on the new film *Drainpipe Dreams*, which the artists produced between 2022 and 2026 on commission from the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation.*

The exhibition opening at the Bauhaus Museum Dessau forms part of the Bauhaus Festival weekend (4–5 September 2026). The Bauhaus Festival itself will take place at the historic Bauhaus building, featuring a varied programme of events.

The starting point for *Drainpipe Dreams* is a collection of historic drainpipes discovered in 2007 during archaeological investigations at the former Gropius and Moholy-Nagy Masters' Houses. The pipes are now part of the Construction Research Archive of the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation. Some of the artefacts recovered at the time cannot be definitively attributed to any specific house. Astrup & Bordorff draw on this archival uncertainty to develop the story of a possible fifth, forgotten Master House and its inhabitants.

In the film, a small team of female scientists finds itself swept up in a research project driven as much by evidence as by queer desire, professional ambition and a shared fascination. The search for traces of a fifth Master House develops into a reflection on the writing of history: *Drainpipe Dreams* does not view history as a fixed structure of facts, but as something that is constantly being reshaped through interpretation, imagination and desire. The film thus offers a queer-feminist perspective on the history of the Bauhaus and its legacy.

At the Bauhaus Museum Dessau, *Drainpipe Dreams* is set within a specially designed, stage-like scenography that draws on the shapes and colours of the Dessau Masters' Houses. In the 'Spatial Stage', the *Pipe Dreamer* installation extends the film's narrative into the exhibition space. The monumental replica of a drainpipe oscillates between an architectural element, an archaeological artefact and a physical form, thus becoming a portal between the past and the present.

Astrup & Bordorff – Kirsten Astrup and Maria Bordorff – have been working together since 2018. Their artistic practice combines cinematic visual languages, theatrical staging, specially composed music and performance. With *Drainpipe Dreams*, they are developing their work for the first time as a narrative chamber play. During three research



residencies, the artists lived with their three children at the Schlemmer Masters' House. The tension between a house visited as a historic monument and everyday life within it became a key inspiration for the film. Filming took place in January 2026 in Dessau, including on the historic Bauhaus stage and using architectural models from the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation's collection, as well as in April 2026 at a film studio in Copenhagen.

Please apply for accreditation for the opening on 5 September 2026 at 3.30 pm. Please direct interview requests and accreditation applications to presse@bauhaus-dessau.de

Astrup & Bordorff will be available for interviews in Dessau:
Mon 10 Aug – Sat 15 Aug 2026
Thu 3 Sept – Sat 5 Sept 2026

Programme

Fri 4 Sept 2026, 8 pm

Artist Talk

> Designshop Lounge in the Bauhaus building

As part of the Bauhaus Festival 2026, Astrup & Bordorff will be talking to Leoni Fischer of the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation about their work. The Berlin-based cellist and vocalist Mathilde Vendramin will be performing music from *Drainpipe Dreams* that evening.

Sat 5 September 2026, 11 am

Guided tour by the artists (free of charge)

> Bauhaus Museum Dessau

Guided tour with Astrup & Bordorff through the exhibition at the Bauhaus Museum Dessau.

Sat 5 Sept 2026, 3.30 pm

Opening

Gong | Beat | Whistle. Astrup & Bordorff

> Bauhaus Museum Dessau

Accompanying the exhibition, the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation is offering a new special guided tour on the theme of the Queer Bauhaus. It also includes the 'Versuchsstätte' section of the collection and will remain part of the programme beyond the exhibition's run.

Further public curatorial guided tours:

Sat, 19 Sept 2026, in German

Wed, 14 Oct 2026, in German

Fri, 23 Oct 2026, in English

Sat, 27 March 2027, in German

Further information and dates:

<https://bauhaus-dessau.de/en/events/gong-bang-whistle-astrup-bordorff-dt/>

Press release
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