

LARS FISCHEDICK, South Africa Berlin Axis, 2011 Acrylic on wood & resin, H 48cm W 244cm

BAUHAUS REVISITED | Andrew Lamprecht

Perhaps more than anything else the Bauhaus was a space of potentiality. Set up as a school for design and art with a firm eye on the practical and industrially relevant in Germany in 1919, its legacy has extended long after its closure in 1933 and continues to inspire and show the possibilities that intelligent making, artistic thinking and socially-aware creativity can engender.

BAUHAUS REVISTED sees six South African creatives –artists, designers and an architect – come together at ECLECTICA Design and Art to curate individual spaces that draw on the extensive and varied treasures of modernist design and contemporary art that the gallery holds and, for want of a better word, play with issues that are relevant to them. Play was always central at Bauhaus and active play leads to innovation and new solutions to problems. Just as shapes, colours and forms were placed in new combinations in the Bauhaus foundation class so the creatives invited to participate in this experiment have been free to shift categories juxtapose elements from different times and places together in the spirit of finding something new.

The creatives reference themselves and their colleagues in the installations they have created, showing examples of their own and others' designs and works and shouting, sometimes whispering, messages across the gallery space to each other.

ECLECTICA Design and Art is not a classroom but it is clearly a space of learning – for those engaged on this project as much as for those of us lucky enough to behold the exhibition. Playing and learning, and through them creating... what could be more appropriate for an exhibition devoted to design and art in South Africa in 2015?