

Herbert Bayer (Austrian, 1900 – 1985) Bauhaus Master

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Peyton Wright Gallery is pleased to announce "**Herbert Bayer: Bauhaus Master**" an exhibition of paintings, works on paper and sculpture. Peyton Wright Gallery is a representative of the Herbert Bayer estate. The exhibition will commence with an **Opening Reception on Friday October 5, 2007 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., and the exhibition continues through October 29, 2007** in our main floor galleries.

Herbert Bayer was born in 1900, the son of a government tax collector, in the small Austrian village of Haag am Hausruck. Bayer's interest in painting was encouraged early in life by his mother, who gave him his first box of watercolors. Bayer received no formal art education, as his father's early death made it financially impossible for him to enroll in a fine arts academy in Vienna, as his family had hoped. Instead, Bayer entered into an apprenticeship under the architect and designer, Georg Smidhammer, with whom Bayer learned drawing, painting, and architectural drafting, inspired by nature and without formal knowledge of art history. In 1920, Bayer discovered the theoretical writings of the artist Vassily Kandinsky, as well as Walter Gropius' 1919 Bauhaus manifesto, in which Gropius declared the necessity for a return to crafts, in which were found true creativity and inspiration. Bayer traveled to Weimar to meet Gropius in October of 1921 and was immediately accepted into the Bauhaus. There, he was deeply influenced by the instruction of Kandinsky, Johannes Itten and Paul Klee.

Bayer moved with the Bauhaus from Weimar to Dessau in 1924. After leaving the Bauhaus in 1928, Bayer lived in Berlin for a time before immigrating to the United States in 1938. In 1946, he moved with his wife, Joella, to Aspen, Colorado. In 1974, he moved to Montecito, California, where he lived until his death in 1985.

Throughout his career, Bayer turned his creativity and skill to both the applied and fine arts, approaching each project with the unique ability to combine the needs of industry with the sensibility of the avant-garde, the structure of Bauhaus architectural style with the expressiveness of his life-long fascination with nature. He directed the well-known Bauhaus typography workshop, and served as a design and advertising consultant for several American industries while experimenting with photomontage, installation, earthworks and environmental art. Bayer's paintings are perhaps the least well-known of all his works. However, for Bayer, painting was "the continuous link connecting the various facets of my work".

This exhibition will feature Bayer's paintings and works on paper. The exhibition will also feature a number of limited edition sculptures, including several newly sited outdoor sculptures and interior table-top sculptures. These sculptures are produced posthumously by Peyton Wright Gallery and the Bayer family, based on Bayer's original maquettes.

For more information, please contact:

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