

Bauhaus Transfer to the New World

Hin Bredendieck—From Aurich to Atlanta

Abstract

This article addresses the life, work, and significance of Hin Bredendieck (1904–1995), on the occasion of the Landesmuseum Oldenburg's acquisition of his archive in April 2019. Hin Bredendieck, who received his Bauhaus diploma in 1930 and emigrated from Germany in 1937, was an outstanding industrial designer who spent most of his life in America. Under László Moholy-Nagy, he first taught at the New Bauhaus Chicago, and its successor school, the School of Design, before becoming the founding director of the Institute of Design and Professor of Industrial Design at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta. His career paradigmatically shows the radiance of Bauhaus ideas in the 'New World.' He has, however, received only scant attention, because very few of his works and documents have ever been shown in public collections. Furthermore, his life and achievements were scattered across Germany, Switzerland and the United States. His story reflects the legacy and resonances of the innovative artistic, architectural, design, and teaching practices developed at the Bauhaus.

Keywords

Hin Bredendieck, Bauhaus-Pädagogik, Industriedesign, Emigration, Design History