

SALAMANDER



A TOTAL ECLIPSE

DISCOVER HALF MOON,
JAMAICA'S LANDMARK
OF WORLD-CLASS
HOSPITALITY

**JUST
DESSERTS**
ARTISTIC
CONCOCTIONS*
ALMOST TOO
BEAUTIFUL TO EAT

BAYER, BAUHAUS & ASPEN

THE ASPEN INSTITUTE'S
PRESERVATION OF HERBERT
BAYER'S LEGACY

WORLD TRAVELER

A TRIBUTE TO AWARD-
WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER
BLAINE HARRINGTON III

Aspen's Legacy

THE RESNICK CENTER FOR HERBERT BAYER STUDIES RECENTLY OPENED AT ASPEN MEADOWS RESORT, DISPLAYING AN IMPORTANT TRIBUTE TO THE ICONIC ARTIST'S CAREER.

By JILLIAN DARA

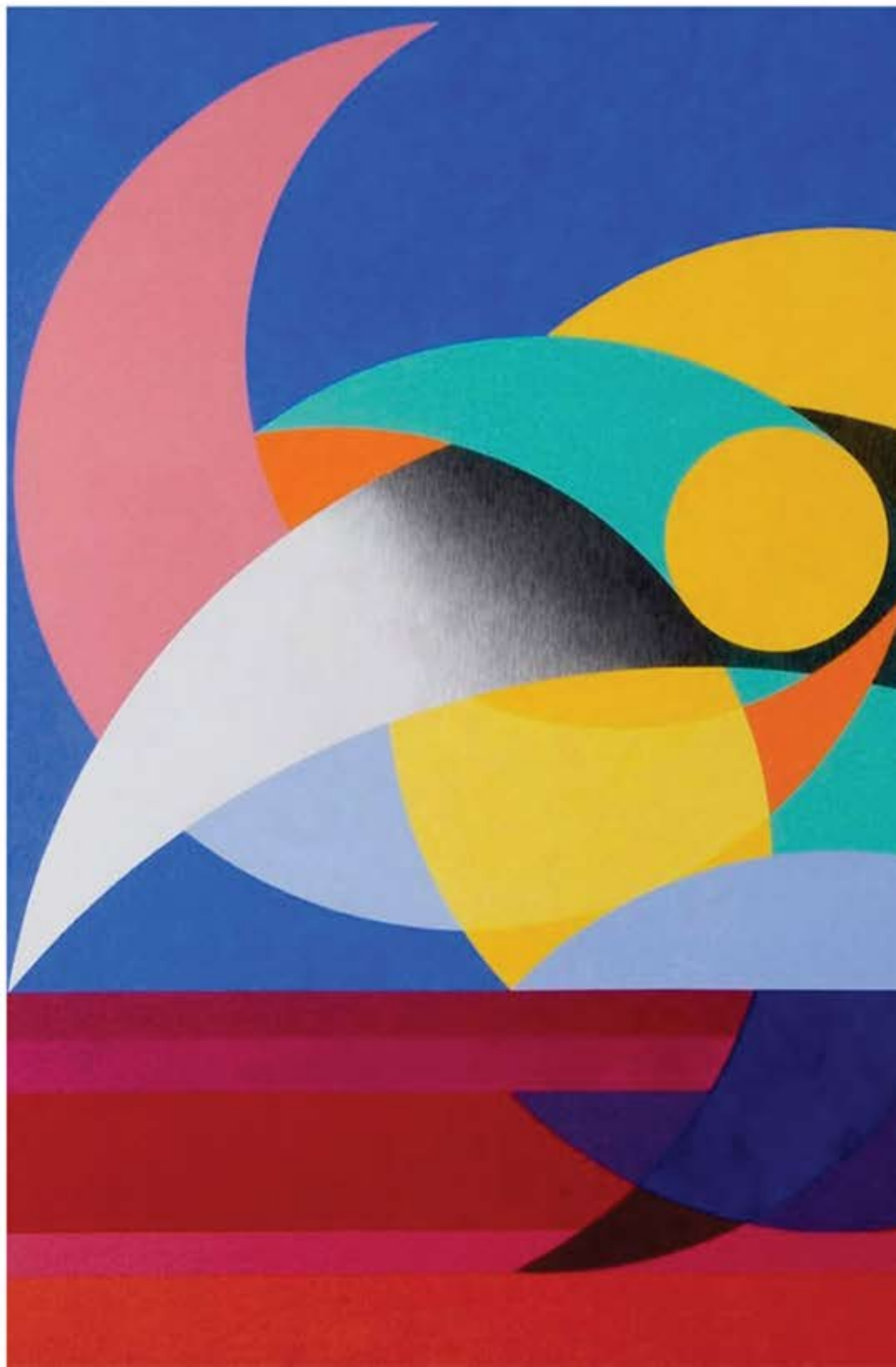


THE ASPEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY/ASPEN ILLUSTRATED NEWS COLLECTION

Herbert Bayer

Recognizing the rich legacy of Herbert Bayer, the polymathic artist who designed the 40-acre Aspen Meadows Resort campus, the Resnick Center for Herbert Bayer Studies opened in June of 2022 at the Aspen Institute with perhaps the most important tribute to Bayer to date.

"The visitor shift has been astonishing," says Lissa Ballinger, Acting Director of the Resnick Center for Herbert Bayer Studies. "People are having meaningful and profound experiences in there—not running in and running out."





TONY HERRERA



Left: *Moon Bridge*, 1974, Acrylic on canvas, Collection of the Aspen Institute, Gift of Barry A. Berkus Above: *Deposition*, 1940, Oil on canvas, The Aspen Institute, Gift of Javan and Britt Bayer

The inaugural exhibition was dedicated to the evolution of Bayer from a magazine designer to an advertiser, painter, photographer, sculptor, interior designer and architect—immersing gallery visitors into the many chapters of his career—in a center that spans 7,000-square-feet. The displays showcase Bayer’s work from his native Austria to landing in the states in New York to his first work in Aspen, depicting owls into Aspen trees and eventually, light refractions and Bauhaus motifs.

Though this particular installation is only on display until April, a new exhibit will open in June 2023. “Concept of a Visualist: Herbert Bayer’s World Geo-Graphic Atlas” examines Herbert Bayer’s 1953 World Geo-Graphic Atlas, a landmark work of visual education and modernist design. Commissioned by Walter Paepcke to mark the 25th anniversary of Container Corporation of America, the World Geo-Graphic Atlas was first presented at the 1953 International Design Conference at the Aspen Institute. In the 70 years since its

publication, the Atlas has come to occupy a key place within graphic design history. The exhibit, which can also be viewed in other Aspen Meadows campus locations, is a collaboration with art historian Benjamin Benus, Associate Professor at Loyola University New Orleans and Bayer expert Bernard Jazzar.

Born out of Walter Paepcke's vision to create a cultural utopia, Bayer supported the growth of modern Aspen, says Ballinger on the artist's work upon his arrival to Aspen in 1946. "The connection between the Bauhaus and a ski town is a unique correlation that isn't replicated anywhere else in any ski town in the world period," says Ballinger.

Though the Aspen Institute is dedicated to preserving Bayer's legacy, showcasing Bauhaus-inspired architecture and exterior sculptures, Bayer's work can be viewed all around Aspen. His work includes iconic posters and pamphlets—Bayer was commissioned by Paepcke to promote Aspen—to designing the first Sundeck on top of Aspen Mountain, and completing renovations of the Hotel Jerome and the Wheeler Opera House.

"He helped to support the growth of Aspen as we know it today—a cultural hub," says Ballinger.

ASPEN MEADOWS RESORT

Set on 40 beautiful acres surrounded by picturesque mountain views, Aspen Meadows Resort is a secluded sanctuary where nature integrates with art. The original home of the Aspen Institute and the birthplace of the Aspen Idea (a balance of mind, body, and spirit), the resort brings Aspen's past and present to life with ongoing special programs, unique art and history, and ample access to the outdoors and mountain recreation. Part of the Salamander Collection, Aspen Meadows has undergone a multi-million-dollar renovation project to upgrade all guest rooms—98 all-suite accommodations.

Aspen Meadows is rich in art, architectural and cultural significance. In the early 1950s, Walter Paepcke, the founder of the Institute, commissioned Bayer to transform farmland into a secluded destination where visitors could take a step back from their hurried lives and reflect upon a variety of important issues they faced. Describing the





DAN BAYER



TONY PERCIVAL

BRENT MOSS PHOTOGRAPHY



This page, above:
Installation view, "Herbert
Bayer: An Introduction,"
Resnick Center for Herbert
Bayer Studies, Aspen
Institute; © 2022 Artists
Rights Society (ARS),
New York /VG Bild-Kunst,
Bonn; left: Front gate
of the Resnick Center;
Opposite page: Bayer's
Anaconda is one of many
pieces of art that enhance
Aspen Meadows Resort's
40 acres

property as a "total work of art," Bayer wove outdoor walkways through his landscape architecture to remind visitors of their relationship with nature, mind and body - which became known as the Aspen Idea. The grounds are rich with Bauhaus architecture and outdoor sculptures, and there is also an extensive collection of artwork found inside every building.

Michael Suomi, president of Suomi Design Works, a hotel design studio, worked with the resort to revamp the 98 guest suites. The inspiration? Aspen's roots in Bauhaus-inspired architecture.

"Suomi Design Works approaches every project with significant time and energy spent both understanding the site, stakeholders and locale, as well as crafting a unique narrative-based concept, out of which the design grows," Suomi says.

"[In Aspen,] there exists a very rich history of Bauhaus-inspired buildings, artworks and furnishings, many by Herbert Bayer and other notable founders of the Bauhaus school, which became the basis out of which we developed our concepts for the resort's room renovation," he continues. "Our design builds upon the Aspen Institute's unique legacy and storied origins and is meant to feel as a continuation of the that history."

Suomi says the artwork is original hand embossed photographs taken and developed by noted Bauhaus photography Prof. Franz Berko while he was living in Aspen in the 1960s.

Staying true to the Bauhaus aesthetic means that the resort's room renovation incorporated the Bauhaus color palette of primary red, blue and yellow, as well as restoring special "legacy" furniture and decor, such as Saarinen tulip tables and Bertioia bird chairs.

There's also hidden stories within the walls—or in the case of Aspen Meadows, the floor. "At our guestroom entry foyers, we integrated a unique type of highly durable textile flooring into our terrazzo tile where we recreated an iconic pattern by Anni Albers, who was one of the Bauhaus' original students," Suomi reveals. "Much of Anni's original textile designs are featured at the Aspen Institute, [a world-renowned nonprofit for humanistic studies located in Aspen.]"



JASON DENEY





Clockwise from left: a view of Aspen Meadows at dusk; Plato's outdoor dining deck; one of the resort's renovated living areas; a suite's transition space from entryway to living room

JASON DEWEY



COURTESY OF HOORAY AGENCY

C2 PHOTOGRAPHY

