

# All-round Artist

Henry van de Velde in Thuringia and Saxony

**EXHIBITIONS & GUIDED TOURS** 



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# All-round Artist

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in Thuringia and Saxony

1863	born on 3 April in Antwerp as the son of
	a pharmacist
1880-1884	studied painting at the Academy of Art
	in Paris and Antwerp
1892 93	gave up painting to turn his attention to
	the Applied Arts
1895-1897	built Bloemenwerf House · first major
	success in Paris and Dresden
from 1897	had a growing number of clients in
	Germany · founded a limited company ·
	moved to Berlin
1901 02	appointed artistic advisor to the Grand
	Duke and moved to Weimar
1902-1906	founded the Arts and Crafts Seminar and
	the Grand Ducal School of Arts and Crafts ·
	close collaboration with Harry Graf Kessler
	and the Nietzsche Archive (remodeling
	and expansion 1902 03) · building of the
	Art School (1904 11) and the School of
	Arts and Crafts (1905   06) · both are part
	of UNESCO World Heritage since 1996
1907-1913	built his second house in Weimar "Hohe
	Pappeln" (High Poplars) (1907/08), Dürck-
	heim Villa (1912 13) and Henneberg Villa
	(1913 14) · other numerous private and
	public commissions in Germany, Riga
	and Paris
1914	resigned from his post in Weimar · recom-
	mended Walter Gropius as his successor
1917	settled in Switzerland · lent support to
	many emigrants · close friendship and col-
	laboration with Ernst Ludwig Kirchner
1920	appointed architect for Anton Kröller and
	Helene Kröller-Müller in The Hague
1925	returned to Belgium to take up a professor-
	ship in Ghent
1926	founded the "La Cambre" design school
	in Brussels
1926-1936	numerous private and public commissions
	in Belgium, Netherlands and Germany



Louis Held · Henry van de Velde and his familiy in front of the private residence "Hohe Pappeln" · 1912

ENSAY - LA CAMBRE, BRUSSELS

937-1939	following retirement, designed the Kröller-
	Müller Museum in Otterlo, which houses the
	world's largest private Van Gogh collection ·
	design of the Belgian Pavilion for the World's
	Fair in Paris (1937) and New York (1939)
1943 44	death of his wife Maria Sèthe (1867–1943) ·
	withdrew from all posts
1947	emigrated to Switzerland and wrote his
	memoirs
1957	died on 25 October in Zürich after a short illness

# All-round Artist

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in Thuringia and Saxony



Louis Held • Henry van de Velde • 1907 | 08 ENSAV - LA CAMBRE, BRUSSELS

## Henry van de Velde and his work in Thuringia and Saxony

During the years of radical change that marked the emergence of Modernism at the start of the 20th century, art aficionados in Europe were enthusiastically



Henry van de Velde · Illustration for Nietzsche's "Zarathustra" · 1908 ENSAV - LA CAMBRE, BRUSSELS

interested in a particular Belgian, whose words and deeds made him particularly capable of throwing open the door to a new era: Henry van de Velde. He regarded himself as an apostle of this aesthetic future, as a prophet of the transition from the era of historicism to that of a new style, representing Nietzsche's "New Human". Effortlessly

overcoming the limits of tradition, van de Velde ignored the boundaries between "fine art" and "arts and crafts" and his canon of work encompasses almost every area of life: the building of houses, the design of interiors, clothing, and jewellery; but also the design of everyday objects such as light fixtures, furniture and letter openers. The "all-round artist" had a lifelong conviction that the completeness of a design was inextricably linked to how exactly it enabled an object to fulfil its purpose. At the same time, he always maintained that "beautiful" objects that harmonised with their surroundings had a brightening and uplifting effect on people's spirits.

At the end of 1901, Van de Velde was appointed adviser for industry and applied arts by the last Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach, taking up his post in Weimar on 1 April 1902. It was from here,



Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, the former Grand-Ducal Saxon School for Fine Arts

> between 1902 and 1917, that he exercised his influence across Europe, and this was where he produced many of the most important parts of his extensive oeuvre. Besides the outstanding architectural ensemble of the two art school buildings (1904|11), these days the centre of Bauhaus-Universität Weimar and since 1995 part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site, van de Velde's initial work in Weimar primarily comprised furnishing residences. His clients included Elisabeth Förster-Nietzsche and Count Harry Kessler as well as the author Max von Münchhausen, Alfred von Nostitz and Else von Guaita-Lampe.

The remodelling and extension of the Nietzsche Archive 1902|03, arranged by Kessler, was one of his most significant design projects. It enabled him to realise his idea of a "Gesamtkunstwerk", a comprehensive work of art, which has survived to the present day. His second private residence, Haus Hohe Pappeln, was finally built in 1907|08; since 2003.

the furnishings from the former residence of Max von Münchhausen are displayed here. Further examples of van de Velde's work in Weimar include spacious urban villas for Count Friedrich von Dürckheim-Montmartin (1912|13, Cranachstraße 47) and Baron Henneberg (1913|14, Gutenbergstraße 1a), the facade of the Menzel apartment building (1906, Trierer Straße 71) and the Koetschau family grave in the Historic Cemetery (1909).

Whilst living in Weimar, van de Velde was actively engaged elsewhere in Europe, but also closer to home in Thuringia. In Jena, for example, his "Tempietto" dedicated to physicist and social reformer Ernst Abbe was both an "architectural artwork" and a modern memorial. Villa Esche in Chemnitz (1902|II) and Villa Schulenburg in Gera (1913|14) also number among the few examples of the artist's "Gesamtkunstwerke" that have survived to the present.

Van de Velde's long-standing involvement with the pottery town of Bürgel helped it develop into a centre



Model for a universal museum in Erfurt

ENSAV - LA CAMBRE, BRUSSELS

of Art Nouveau ceramics. His introduction of new forms and decorations gave a lasting boost to the local pottery industry. His original designs and numerous imitations can be

viewed in the local ceramics museum. The City of Erfurt commissioned van de Velde to design a universal museum, which ultimately wasn't built due to the outbreak of the First World War.

# Attractions



Guided Tours · Exhibitions Events · Souvenirs

#### Weimar

Guided Tour through the Museum Neues Weimar – Van de Velde, Nietzsche and Modernism around 1900 WED, FRI II AM

Duration 1h Adults €3 plus entry every 2nd Fri in month tour with curators Adults €6 plus entry

99423 Weimar

Guided tour — The museum is dedicated to van de Velde's work in Weimar. Paintings, sculpture and design also shed light on his clients and the manufacturers he worked with. Films show how the later Bauhaus movement developed. Enjoy a feast for all the senses!



Museum Neues Weimar

### On the trail of van de Velde

ON REQUEST

Duration 2 h
Group price €130
max. 25 persons
Foreign language guide

Book through Tourist-

Guided city tour — The Belgian designer and architect Henry van de Velde left his mark on Weimar more than anywhere else. His impressive architectural achievements can still be seen at many locations around the city.

### Jena

### Henry van de Velde and the Bauhaus artists

ON REQUEST

Guided city tour — This guided tour covers the ground from Henry van de Velde's Art Nouveau to Bauhaus, represented by two villas built by Walter Gropius, Haus Zuckerkandl and Haus Auerbach. Van de Velde's Ernst Abbe memorial building is a work of art of European significance.

The Jena Art Association provided a means by which close links could be established in the city between Bauhaus artists, the university and local industry. Duration 2 h Group price € 120 max. 25 persons

Foreign language guide (english) plus €30 Book through



Guided City Tour

#### Gera

### Villa tour

ON REQUEST

Group price € 110 plus bus, entry Haus Schulenburg (if applicable)

Book through Gera-Information: tourismus@gera.de Guided bus tour — Discover the inspiring architecture of Henry van de Velde and his student Thilo Schoder. Having worked on 53 buildings, projects and interior designs in Gera, Schoder made an outstanding contribution to modern architecture in Thuringia. The diversity of villas designed by Schoder and others will captivate you on this tour.



Halpert residence

#### Chemnitz

### An introduction to Chemnitz

**SAT IO.30 AM** 

Adults €15 | red. €13.50 Meeting point: Red Tower (Roter Turm) Book through Chemnitz

Book through Chemnitz Tourist-Information (bookings are binding): TEL +49 (0) 371 | 690-680 info@chemnitztourismus.de Guided bus tour — This tour is the perfect introduction to the city and includes fascinating anecdotes from past and present. The route takes in all the main sights: the new city centre, Theaterplatz square, the prestigious Kassberg district and Villa Esche with its beautiful living spaces.

### Bürgel

### Henry van de Velde and Bürgel Art Nouveau pottery

TUE-SUN II AM-5 PM (MAR-OCT) WED-SUN II AM-4 PM (NOV-FEB)

Henry van de Velde visited the pottery town of Bürgel many times between 1902 and 1908. His designs gave an important boost to local ceramic production. The ceramics museum was founded there in 1880 and is now the home of a permanent exhibition encompassing traditional stoneware production and typical ceramic tableware with slip decoration. It also shows original van de Velde ceramics and examples of how his ideas were creatively adopted by local pottery workshops.

Keramik-Museum Bürgel Kirchplatz 2 07616 Bürgel

TEL +49 (0) 366 92 373-33

www.keramik-museumbuergel.de post@keramik-museumbuergel.de

Guided tours — Join us for a guided tour of the Ceramics Museum which will take you through the 450-year history of ceramics in Bürgel. We would be more than happy to show you around our current special exhibition as well.

Duration 45 min−1h Adults € 4, reduced €2 Guided tour package € 50

Room hire — Would you like to hire the Henry van de Velde Room for a school, social, cultural or private event (max. 45 chairs incl. tables)? We're happy to arrange this for you – including a tour of the museum and/or a light meal or some cake upon request.

www.keramik-museumbuergel.de/buchbareangebote

Coffee, Cake, Ceramics — Join us for an introduction to Bürgel ceramic tableware and afterwards enjoy a piece of Thuringian cake and a relaxing cup of coffee or tea.



Teapot

### Dornburg

### **Bauhaus Workshop Museum**

THU-TUE IO AM-5 PM (APR-OCT)

Adults € 6, reduced € 4 Guided tour package € 80

Bauhaus-Werkstatt-Museum Dornburg Max-Krehan-Straße I 07774 Dornburg-Camburg OT Dornburg

TEL +49 (0) 364 27 | 219-511 +49 (0) 366 92 | 373-33

www.bauhaus-keramik.de post@keramik-museumbuergel.de The Bauhaus Workshop Museum in nearby Dornburg is also very much worth a visit. From 1920 to 1925, the former stables of the beautiful castle complex were home to the Weimar Bauhaus pottery workshop.

The original workshop atmosphere can still be felt today, and the permanent exhibition, which includes a number of exceptional pieces, provides a wealth of information on the history of the site. Embark on a journey through living pottery history, closely linked to Bauhaus, Otto Lindig and the Körting family, and enjoy a fascinating visit for all ages.



Plaster workshop. The former Bauhaus pottery workshop in Dornburg

### Wicker furniture designed by

Henry van de Velde

In 1904, Henry van de Velde met the master basket-maker Ernst Schmiede-knecht from Tannroda. Based on van de Velde's designs, Schmiedeknecht prepared drawings and plans for the production of wicker furniture.

This was then manufactured by basket-makers in Tannroda and sold by the Weimar company Bosse through the Wertheim chain of department stores in Germany and beyond.

Schmiedeknecht's company produced van de Velde's wicker furniture into the 1920s. He also designed several hundred pieces of popular wicker furniture inspired by van de Velde's ideas. On these grounds, van de

Tannroda

Thüringer Korbmachermuseum Tannroda Lindenberg 9 99438 Bad Berka OT Tannroda www.thüringerkorbmachermuseum.de

The museum is run by volunteers from the Heimatverein Tannroda e. V. The museum is open from April to October on weekends and public holidays from 2 to 4 pm and by prior arrangement.



Wicker furniture

Velde's work can be regarded as having provided the initial impetus for Tannroda's basket-makers to begin producing and selling to meet a national demand.

The Basket-Making Museum has a substantial number of these objects on display, including armchairs, flower stands and pieces of smaller furniture.

All of the wicker furniture produced according to van de Velde's designs was produced in Tannroda and can be seen nowadays throughout Europe.

### Bürgel

### Bürgel pottery market

THIRD WEEKEND IN JUNE

Information at www.buergelertoepfermarkt.de Every year in June, Bürgel plays host to one of the oldest pottery markets in Germany. It includes the stalls of numerous (inter) national ceramicists and an exhibition of entries for the Walter Gebauer Ceramics Prize alongside demonstrations and no-kiln firing. Culinary delights and entertainment are also provided.

At the antique ceramics market, collectors might find pieces of Bürgel Art Nouveau pottery – ceramics produced in Bürgel following the example of Henry van de Velde's work.

Bürgel and the surrounding villages are still home to a unique density of artisan pottery workshops. The size and character of the individual workshops varies. However, they still produce the traditionally popular blue and white pottery, complemented by a wide and colourful variety of new decorative patterns and designs.

www.keramik-museumbuergel.de/toepfereien



Impressions of the Bürgel pottery market



### Henry van de Velde – jubilee replica

Limited edition Burgau porcelain: Henry van de Velde designed this service in 1906 for Ferdinand Selle, the founder and owner of the porcelain factory in Burgau. But following Selle's death and with the outbreak of the First World War, it was only produced in small quantities from 1913.

The set comprises a cup, saucer and dessert plate. Other items, such as a coffee pot, sugar bowl, etc., are available on request.

The original service, owned by the Esche family, is on display at the Villa Esche in Chemnitz.

The various pieces of the replica edition (with gold or green decoration) are available for purchase in the villa shop.

# Van de Velde buildings



# Art School and School of Arts and Crafts

### The van de Velde ensemble

Today, the art school building, designed and built by Henry van de Velde between 1904 and 1911, serves as the main building of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar. Besides van de Velde's impressive, highly detailed architecture, a wide



OPEN
MON – SAT 8 AM – 8 PM
Bauhaus-Universität
Weimar | GeschwisterScholl-Straße 8
TEL +49 (0) 36 43 | 58-30 00
www.uni-weimar.de

variety of other features bear witness to the history of the building. For example, three sculptures in the fover: on the left, a bust of Henry van de Velde himself; on the right, a bust of Walter Gropius; and in the middle, under the free-standing Art Nouveau stairs, Auguste Rodin's "Eva". The School of Arts and Crafts, located opposite, was founded and built by van de Velde in 1908. In 1919, the two schools were combined by Walter Gropius to

form the new Bauhaus School. Today, the School of Arts and Crafts building is home to the Bauhaus-Universität Faculty of Art and Design. Planned as an L-shaped building with a uniform architectural structure, it originally housed ceramics, metalworking and textiles workshops, a bookbindery and a sculpture studio. Examples of Bauhaus work can be seen in the foyer of the building and, in the stairwell, a mural and figure reliefs by Oskar Schlemmer.

## Haus Hohe Pappeln

# Henry van de Velde's private residence

2I MARCH-I NOVEMBER WED-MON IO AM-6 PM

Belvederer Allee 58 TEL +49 (0) 36 43 | 545-400 www.klassik-stiftung.de

Adults € 5 | reduced € 4 Students (16-20 years) € 2 In the summer of 1906, Henry van de Velde bought a piece of land, surrounded by tall poplar trees, on Belvederer Allee – the site of his second private residence, the so-called Haus "Hohe Pappeln" (High Poplars), which he designed himself. This was a "Gesamtkunstwerk", a comprehensive work of art, a harmonious combination of architecture, interior furnishing and fine art. The house, surrounded by a carefully tended garden, was where his five children grew up "free from conventional pressures" (van de Velde). Until the emigration of the family during the First



World War, many fellow artists – including Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Richard Dehmel, Pierre Bonnard and Edvard Munch – were frequent visitors

The Klassik Stiftung Weimar has carefully restored the culturally and historically significant house. The furniture on display here was designed by van de Velde for the von Münchhausen family in 1904. Visitors can also

view craft objects and biographical information. The tour encompasses the garden and the representative living area on the first floor, including drawing room, dining room, study and living room/hall.

## Nietzsche Archive Henry van de Velde as an interior designer

2I MARCH-I NOVEMBER WED-MON IO AM-6 PM

Humboldtstraße 36 TEL +49 (0) 36 43 | 545-400 www.klassik-stiftung.de

Adults € 5 | reduced € 4 Students (16–20 years) € 2 The Nietzsche Archive was founded in Naumburg in early 1894 by Elisabeth Förster-Nietzsche, the philosopher's sister, and relocated to Weimar in September 1896. In 1897, she and her ailing brother moved into the Villa "Silberblick". Friedrich Nietzsche died in the house in 1900. In 1902, she commissioned Henry van de Velde to renovate and refurbish the ground floor, which was opened in 1903.

The interior architecture and furnishing of the Nietzsche Archive are regarded as some of van de Velde's most impressive work. It comprises in the entry way, the vestibule, the central



library and meeting room as well as a small study and a dining room. This room ensemble is a "Gesamtkunstwerk" which is almost completely preserved in its original condition. Max Klinger's marble herm of Nietzsche can be found in the library. An exhibition in the former dining room documents the ambivalent history of the building. On the north veranda. visitors are presented

each year with a new theme relating to Nietzsche and the Archive.

### Villa Dürckheim

# Private residence of the Dürckheim family

In 1912, Count Friedrich von Dürckheim-Montmartin (1858–1939), a relative of Count Harry Kessler's friend Eberhard von Bodenhausen, commis-



sioned Henry van de Velde to build an opulent villa on the last substantial plot of land still available on Cranachstraße, and by spring 1913 it was ready for the occupants to move in. The driving force behind the project was his wealthy wife, Countess Char-

lotte von Dürckheim-Montmartin (1869–1959), who also raised more than 170,000 marks to keep artists in Weimar during the war years.

At the time, van de Velde was overburdened with commissions, so he took existing plans for a villa in Fontaine-bleau, ultimately never built, which he had drawn up for his client Victor von Golubeff and adapted them to meet the needs of a larger household. In both cases, the villa opens on to the garden with two broad avant-corps while presenting a closed frontage towards the street. The lavish furnishings of the reception rooms on the first floor were also designed down to the smallest detail by van de Velde but in the meantime have largely been lost.

### Ernst Abbe Memorial An artwork of European significance

Henry van de Velde designed this memorial pavilion, built in 1911, in honour of the physicist, entrepreneur and social



CAN BE VIEWED FROM OUTSIDE MON-FRI 8 AM-3 PM

Carl-Zeiss-Platz TEL +49 (0) 36 41 | 49-80 50 www.visit-jena.de

Guided group viewing Book through Jena Tourist-Information

reformer Ernst Abbe. The pavilion houses bronze reliefs by Constantin Emile Meunier and a marble herm by Max Klinger with the portrait bust of Abbe, the co-founder of the Zeiss works. The eight-sided temple-like central building has a monumental effect. Built from limestone, with four portals and bronze folding doors, an inlaid floor and a skylight in a reinforced concrete structure, the memorial dominates the square named after Abbe's colleague, Carl Zeiss. The costs for the construction and artistic furnishing of the memorial hall were primarily covered by donations from the people of Jena.

# Haus Schulenburg The European Heritage Award 2024

Straße des Friedens 120 TEL +49 (0) 365 | 826 41-0 www.haus-schulenburggera.de

Haus Schulenburg is an extraordinary Gesamtkunstwerk that offers visitors the opportunity to experience Henry van de Velde's revolutionary design ideas first hand. Van de Velde designed this architectural ensemble for the Gera textile manufacturer orchid breeder and art collector Paul Schulenburg in 1913|14. In 2018, owners Rita and Volker Kielstein received the German Heritage Award for their efforts to save Haus Schulenburg. In 2007, the gardens, with their over-100-years-old yew hedges and lime trees, terraces and rose-covered pergola, were part of the Bundesgartenschau, a national horticultural show, when it was held in Gera.



A globally significant collection of furniture, book designs and sketches by Henry van de Velde as well as works by artists from his intellectual circle can be seen in the Henry van de Velde museum. Items of twentieth century and contemporary art are displayed in temporary exhibitions. The house is

also home to a small stage, rooms for seminars and private events, and a café. There is a large car park with an an electric charging station right next door.

### Villa Esche A design for life

Kunstsammlungen Chemnitz – Henry van de Velde Museum Thu – Sun 10 am – 6 pm

Parkstraße 58 TEL +49 (0) 37I | 488 4424 www.kunstsammlungenchemnitz.de The design and building of the Villa Esche in Chemnitz was van de Velde's first commissioned work in Germany. The straight-lined and functional layout reflects his rational conception of Art Nouveau. Van de Velde's designs for the stocking manufacturer Herbert Esche encompassed all aspects of the family



living environment: from the house facade and room arrangement, with its wall designs, wall coverings, doors, windows, lamps and carpets, to its furnishings, porcelain, silver and items for practical use. The Belgian artist made sure that the extensive gardens also fit functionally and creatively into his overall design for the house.

The Villa Esche is home to the Henry van de

Velde Museum, one of the most varied collections of exhibits relating to the work of this pioneering designer and creator, as well as two almost completely preserved examples of rooms originally furnished by van de Velde.

Tours through the Villa Esche (visiting the museum and the exhibitions about the Esche family and company and the restoration): www.c3-chemnitz.de/ unsere-haeuser/villa-esche

Tel.: +49 (0) 371 | 450 8510 villaesche@ c3-chemnitz.de

Car park: Richard-Wagner-Str. 55

### Villa Koerner

# A "complete work of art" in every detail

The Villa Koerner on Beyerstraße has been restored to its former glory. The one-time residence of the ink factory owner Theodor Koerner was designed and built by Henry van de Velde around



Viewing on request
Beyerstraße 25
TEL +49 (0) 371 | 43 10 00

ten years after the Villa Esche (1913|14). By arrangement with the current owners, visitors to this culturally significant house in Chemnitz and its attached gardens can experience its Art Nouveau flair as well as more

modern architecture.

The ten-year gap between these two houses, the Villa Esche and the Villa Koerner, also reflects ten years in the development of the artist as architect. The characteristics of a personal design language which originally expressed themselves in a more or less decorative manner came to be realised in the architecture as a whole.

### Villa Quisisana A hidden gem

Besichtigung auf Anfrage Beyerstraße 28 TEL +49 (0) 371 | 334 93 10 jahn@notar-schwerd.de In the Schloßchemnitz district, at the junction of Luisenstraße and Beyerstraße, the Villa Quisisana, the Villa Koerner and the former Beyer ink factory together make up a historic architectural ensemble. The Villa Quisisana was built in 1881 and was initially the residence of the ink manufacturer Eduard Beyer.



The villa was later owned by Heinrich Theodor Koerner, who succeeded Beyer as owner of the ink factory and was also the father-in-law of Herbert Esche. It was he who, in 1907/08, commissioned Henry van de Velde to refurbish the vestibule in accordance with the Art Nouveau aesthetic. This little-known example of interior décor by van de Velde was restored to its original state during the course of the renovation work which was finished in 1996.

Between 1950 and 1990, the villa had served many purposes, including being home to a kindergarten and a planning office. Since 2018, a notary's office is located here.

Around 1910, during the course of the refurbishment of the Villa Quisisana by Henry van de Velde,



work was also done on land-scaping the grounds. The centrepiece was a simple fountain designed by van de Velde which has hitherto been overlooked by researchers. These days, only its

foundations remain. The photograph dates from around 1912 to 1914.

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### Photographs

AG »Marketing Van de Velde 2013«, Photograph Jens Hauspurg Cover, Page 8, 10, 18–21

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I believe that, from now on, we will be in possession of a modern style.

HENRY VAN DE VELDE The New Style, 1906