Goetheanum Studium

Goetheanum Visual Arts Section

## Art Study Year at the Goetheanum 2026/27

**Architecture Trimester:** January 11 – March 26, 2027

| Week / Lecturer | Theme |
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| **Week 1:**<br>Jan. 11–15, 2027<br><br>**Lecturer:**<br>Pieter van der Ree | **Introduction to Architecture**<br>The meaning of architecture for us as human beings; architecture as a mediator between the human being and the world.<br>Basic elements of architecture: building materials, construction, space, and design.<br>Exploring what architecture means for ourselves through our own experiences of architecture and small design exercises. |
| **Week 2:**<br>Jan. 18–22, 2027<br><br>**Lecturer:**<br>Pieter van der Ree<br>Tomas Bittger | **History of Architecture**<br>The history of architecture as a mirror of the evolution of culture and of human consciousness.<br>The changing relationship to nature, to our fellow human beings, and to the spiritual world.<br>The emergence of anthroposophical-organic architecture at the beginning of the twentieth century<br>and its further development.<br>Drawing exercises relating to art history and to the development of architectural forms. |
| **Week 3:**<br>Jan. 25–29, 2027<br><br>**Lecturer:**<br>Tomas Bittger | **Drawing**<br>Through drawing exercises outdoors in nature and through drawing objects from observation, we will apprehend and shape both the visible and the experienceable part of reality. |
| **Week 4:**<br>Feb. 1–5, 2027<br><br>**Lecturer:**<br>Tomas Bittger | **Study of Sculptural Form**<br>The circle of forms is a further development of the color circle into space.<br>It leads us from simple shapes to highly complex forms. Here, both the clay as the starting material and the space surrounding the form are drawn into the creative process of creation.<br>We develop our approaches to the circle of forms through<br>exercises with geometric solids and space, through drawing, and through modeling. |
| **Week 5:**<br>Feb. 8–12, 2027<br><br>**Lecturer:**<br>Markus Fischer | **Building Impulse I: The First Goetheanum**<br>Formative forces are at work in living nature. These forces are themselves invisible, but they can be recognized in the forms of nature.<br>Through the First Goetheanum, the natural principle of metamorphosis is introduced into the arts.<br>The First Goetheanum as a double-domed building. |

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| | Deepening this principle through observation and modeling. |
| **Week 6:**<br>Feb. 15–19, 2027<br><br>**Lecturer:**<br>Markus Fischer | **Building Impulse II: From the First to the Second Goetheanum**<br>The building motif and its metamorphosis in the building's exterior and in the design of the interior.<br>Columns with pedestals, capitals, and architrave.<br>The inversion (turning inside out) of the First Goetheanum into the Second. |
| **Week 7:**<br>Feb. 22–26, 2027<br><br>**Lecturer:**<br>Markus Fischer | **Building Impulse III: Subsidiary Buildings**<br>With the architecture placed around the Goetheanum—the subsidiary buildings—Rudolf Steiner gives examples of residential and functional buildings and illustrates aspects of urban planning and the design of building ensembles.<br>Observations, site visits, and working through the forms in modeling and drawing. |
| **Week 8:**<br>March 1–5, 2027<br><br>**Lecturer:**<br>Hansjörg Palm | **Building Impulse IV: Landscape Design**<br>Along with the Goetheanum buildings, the grounds were also designed: the layout of the paths, the shaping of the terrain, a lookout point, a circular landscape feature, an avenue of trees, benches, and plantings.<br>Specific designs based on metamorphosis arose from the building motif, above all in the southwest of the grounds.<br>Walks, careful observation, drawing, and conversations sharpen our perception and give rise to process-oriented experiences, possibly also through shared maintenance work on one of the existing designs, such as the path markers, the Felsli, or the ground contours. |
| **Week 9:**<br>March 8–12, 2027<br><br>Lecturer:<br>Hansjörg Palm | **Installation and Land Art**<br>Working together with found objects at various outdoor sites on the Goetheanum grounds, we focus on process rather than finished product: impermanent installations. The works appear, then disappear.<br>Individual projects: creating a site-specific land art that reveals the character of a place.<br>(Possible excursion to Joseph Beuys's spatial installation The Hearth [Feuerstätte] (in Basel.) |
| **Week 10-11:**<br>March 15–19, 2027<br>March 22–26, 2027<br><br>**Lecturer:**<br>Pieter van der Ree<br>Tomas Bittger | **Design Project**<br>Finding a motif and creating a small design project on the Goetheanum grounds or in the immediate surroundings, in which the elements covered earlier (function, relationship to the surroundings, materiality and construction, as well as the conceptual relationship to the Goetheanum) are to be brought together into an independent synthesis.<br>Phenomenological observation of the site, drawing, clay modeling, and model making.<br>Presentation of the trimester's work and a review of individual experiences and steps in development. |