



**GARTEN DER  
IRDISCHEN  
FREUDEN  
GARDEN  
OF EARTHLY  
DELIGHTS**

STEPHANIE ROSENTHAL

Berliner Festspiele  
GROPIUS BAU

SilvanaEditoriale

# Garden of Earthly Delights

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- The garden as a metaphor for the state of the world, in an exploration of the complexities of our chaotic and increasingly precarious present
- Published to coincide with an exhibition at Gropius Bau, Berlin, running until 1 December 2019

Alongside the classical reading of the garden as a secluded and circumscribed place of yearning full of meditative, spiritual, and philosophical possibilities, it is viewed in the exhibition as a place of duality and contradiction: a threshold between reality and fantasy, utopia and dystopia, harmony and chaos, between being shut out and being included. In today's world, defined by radical climate change and migratory flows, the garden can be seen as a place of paradise and exile, reflecting within its borders themes as pressing as the anthropocene, seed politics, the legacies of colonialism and historical segregation. In addition to deliberate political positions, the *Garden of Earthly Delights* features works that also bring to life the sensual dimensions of gardens: immersive installations and video works show an intensive abundance of nature, but also the fragility of the paradise-like state. Artists: Maria Thereza Alves, Korakrit Arunanondchai, Hicham Berrada, John Cage, Tacita Dean, Nathalie Djurberg & Hans Berg, Futurefarmers, Lungiswa Gqunta, Rashid Johnson, Yayoi Kusama, Louise Lawler, Renato Leotta, Isabel Lewis and LABOUR, Libby Harward, Jumana Manna, Uriel Orlow, Heather Phillipson, Pipilotti Rist, Maaïke Schoorel, Taro Shinoda, Zheng Bo. Text in English and German.