

# LET THE DUST SETTLE ...

## FURTHER INFORMATION

[www.bergbaumuseum.de/gras-drueber](http://www.bergbaumuseum.de/gras-drueber)

## ADDRESS & DIRECTIONS

Am Bergbaumuseum 28 | 44791 Bochum  
Visitors' entrance: Europaplatz 1  
[www.bergbaumuseum.de/besuch](http://www.bergbaumuseum.de/besuch)

## VISITOR SERVICES

+49 234 5877-126 or [service@bergbaumuseum.de](mailto:service@bergbaumuseum.de)  
(Tue. – Sun. during public opening times)

## BOOKINGS

Tue. – Fri. between 9.00 am and 3.00 pm:  
+49-234 5877-220 or [service@bergbaumuseum.de](mailto:service@bergbaumuseum.de)

## OPENING TIMES

Tue. – Sun.: 9.30 am 5.30 pm  
every first Thur.: 9.30 am 8.30 pm  
closed: Mondays, and on 1 Jan., 1 May, 24 – 26 Dec. & 31 Dec.  
last mine tour: 4.00 pm | last tower tour: 5.00 pm  
Ticket office closing time: 5.00 pm

## ENTRY

Adults € 10  
concessions € 5  
Special exhibition € 3

## PHOTO & VIDEO NOTICE

Photos and videos are permitted for private use.  
Please turn off your flash.

## IMPRINT

Publisher: Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum,  
[www.bergbaumuseum.de](http://www.bergbaumuseum.de) | [info@bergbaumuseum.de](mailto:info@bergbaumuseum.de)  
Editorial & Design: Communication & Marketing department, Martina Schutzeichel –  
Kommunikationsdesign  
Translation: TE KAAT . COM  
Photo rights: montan.dok 030005947001 (c) Willi Sitte, VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2022 |  
montan.dok 037000681001 | Neuseenland-Sammlung im Soziokulturellen Zentrum  
KuHstall e.V., Grospönsa | Deutsches Museum, München | montan.dok 027700298001 |  
Emschergenossenschaft/Lippeverband | montan.dok 037000500001 | LMBV mbH/Peter  
Radke | Jessica Hornung | Pro-Lausitzer-Braunkohle e.V. | Neuseenland-Sammlung im  
Soziokulturellen Zentrum KuHstall e.V., Grospönsa

This product has been printed using a climate-neutral process.  
updated: 05|2022

The special exhibition is part of a project funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research for the strengthening of research on the GDR. "Let the dust settle ..." is arranged across two levels of the DBM+ annex building and is conceived and realised by GfG/ Gruppe für Gestaltung, Bremen, in collaboration with the Montanhistorisches Dokumentationszentrum (montan.dok).

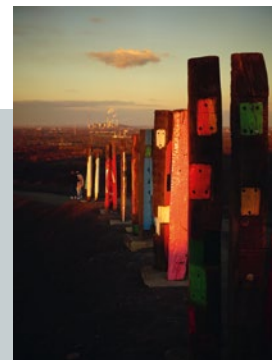
The exhibition can be viewed from 11 June 2022 to 15 January 2023 in the DBM+ annex building. The entrance fee is 3 euros.

## EXHIBITION COMPANION VOLUME

The catalogue for this special exhibition is published by Verlag De Gruyter | Oldenbourg. The publication is designed as a companion volume: With one section encompassing the content and conceptual design of the special exhibition, another contains essays by external researchers on environmental policy, post-mining landscapes, gender studies and nature conservation, and the history of technology with a focus on health-related themes, cultural studies and the theory of knowledge mediation.

## "GRAS DRÜBER ..." AUDIO SERVICE

A German language multi-media guide is available for the exhibition. You can find it under "Gras drüber ... Bergbau und Umwelt im deutsch-deutschen Vergleich" in the Cult-wayApp. You can download the app free of charge from the AppStore or Google Play Store. You can use this audio guide service while in the exhibition, and before and after your visit to the museum.



Mining and the environment

A German-German comparison

LET THE DUST SETTLE ...

11.06.2022  
until  
15.01.2023

[bergbaumuseum.de/gras-drueber](http://bergbaumuseum.de/gras-drueber)



SPONSORED BY THE



DEUTSCHES  
BERGBAU-MUSEUM  
BOCHUM

# LET THE DUST SETTLE ...

## MINING AND THE ENVIRONMENT: A GERMAN-GERMAN COMPARISON

Mining activities have impacted the environment immensely over the last 200 years. The landscape, together with the flora and fauna have been radically transformed by mining. It has also made its mark on living and working in the mining districts, an imprint that does not simply vanish when mining ceases and the dust, quite literally, began to settle. The special exhibition "Let the dust settle ... Mining and the environment: a German-German comparison" (Gras drüber ... Bergbau und Umwelt im deutsch-deutschen Vergleich) organised in the Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum takes a look beneath the grass-covered surface. It explores three natural resources and two countries: hard coal mining in the FRG, and opencast lignite mining in Lusatia, as well as uranium ore extraction in the Wismut districts of the GDR.



The exhibition begins with "Here and now", greeting visitors with a photo and sound installation from the three renaturalised landscapes, alongside a juxtaposition of two artworks from the East and West German context. This is followed by a film and photo documentation, offering a glimpse into the former

# HERE AND NOW

mining districts. The exhibition continues with a section entitled "Boundless prospecting", which conveys a retrospective view of the environmental impacts and everyday life in mining in the three districts. Visitors continue their tour with a journey through the district in the post-mining era, and the question of whether and how the post-mining landscapes can "Return to nature". At this point the exhibition reveals some intriguing insights into the previously little known research projects run by the FRG and the GDR, showing how environmental conservation in Germany is not some new 21st century concept. This is made palpably clear in the "Let's form an environmental union" section of the exhibition, which lays bare not only the political decision-making processes in both states, but also the movements that emerged from among the population and played a critical role in triggering a rethink among policymakers in the 1980s. "And now?" is the question posted in the final section of the exhibition with themes



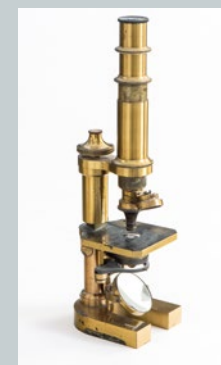
such as current environmental policies, protests and mining in modern times conveyed through objects with a strong contemporary reference.



# NO RETURN TO NATURE

The extraction of hard coal, lignite and uranium ore has marked the landscapes of Germany, allowed its economy to blossom, accelerated technical progress, fomented research, spawned traditions, altered the environment, claimed the lives of numerous people, thrown up contradictions, and highlighted borders as well as surmounting them. Mining is part of the "German-German" history.

But what about those factors that remain invisible to the naked eye? What about events and incidents that have become forgotten, the stereotypes that refuse to be corrected, the people whose accomplishments were



# LET'S FORM AN ENVIRONMENTAL UNION

never documented, the transformation with its indeterminate stages? It is here that people and institutions that focus on salvaging things, are called upon to investigate how it was before the grass covered everything over, before the dust settled.

The "Let the dust settle ..." exhibition is the result of this salvage work. For the first time in the history of the Leibniz Research Museum for Geo-resources, it places the spotlight on the "German-German" past, focussing on mining and environmental policy.

The exhibition offers the opportunity to understand our common history. It is also an occasion to ask: What solutions were found in the past for the changes in the environment, economy and society? What do we want to take with us today for the future?

The educational aspect of this continuously bi-lingual exhibition is enhanced with multi-media stations and persona dialogues delivering stimuli and contact points from various positions. About 800 objects from the montan.dok as well as from about 140 lending institutions will be on display. A multi-media guide in German language is available for the exhibition.

# BOUNDLESS PROSPECTING

# AND NOW?