Kamachiku is a famous udon restaurant in Osaka, and this is their first shop in Tokyo. Nezu (along with its neighborhood, Yanaka and Sendagi), still keeps Meiji Era (1968-1912) atmosphere and landscape, spared from the air bombing during World War II. Many of the great writers and intellectuals of Meiji loved this area. The udon restaurant is in the site of a house for elderly people, also designed by KKAA. The building is a renovation of an old stone warehouse from 1913, which now accommodates two rooms for dining. One is a classical type under high ceiling and wide beams, and the other is of a modern taste with a good view of the garden.
Just beyond Kasuga-no-Mon Gate at the University of Tokyo, a waving façade of scale-like panels comes into view. The building is run as a research center for ubiquitous computing, a new field of study established in the university. Our aim was to change the conventional image of university campuses in Japan, occupied by hard materials as concrete, stone and metal. We hope that the texture of wood and mud in this building can soften the atmosphere of the university.

Japanese sweets shop
Daiwa Ubiquitous Research Building
1F, 7-3-1, Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, 113-0033
(03) 5802 5577
OPEN HOURS: 11:00-14:00

This is a café run by one of Tokyo’s most highly-rated restaurants of Japanese cuisine, also located near the university. Inside the café and in the semi-outdoor space with a famous Japanese garden at the back, guests can enjoy the view as well.

Tourist information center,
exhibition hall, café
2-18-9, Kaminarimon, Taito-ku, 111-0034
(03) 3842 5566
OPEN HOURS:
(1F, 3F, 5F, 8F) 9:00-22:00,
(8F CAFE) 9:00-20:00

Asakusa attracts as many as 20 million people a year. The new information center building was completed in 2012 in the same site where the old one had existed. Across the road, Nakamise shopping street is situated toward the precincts of Sensoji, the oldest temple in Tokyo. Nakamise preserves well the woody prospect and atmosphere of Edo period. The information center extends that townscape vertically, with eight layered roofs, under which contain different functions such as café, gallery, and an auditorium. The diagonal gaps between each floor and the roof underneath are designed as technical service spaces, to make maximized use of the limited space in the mid-scale building. The view from the top-level terrace, with Tokyo Sky Tree to the east, and looking down on Nakamise from the mezzanine are worthwhile.
As the restaurant is in the basement of Tokyo Station’s Marunouchi side, a nationally designated important property, we planned the space with themes of layering different periods. We chose a white polyester cloth as a foundation, and the cloth grows into a new expression of texture, color, and transparency. When layered, 3 kinds of moire born on the surface, combining colors and materials such as metal, glass, and wood.

Discussion on preserving old buildings led to the idea of designing this restaurant within the old post office building designed by Tetsuro Yoshida. We dyed the frame to white and exposed it to highlight the structure inside a line. The two sides facing each other are equipped with glass and a kind of louvers, which reflect part of the old building in the space.
SUSHI restaurant
Mitsubishi Shoji Building B1F,
2-3-1, Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, 100-8086
(03) 6212 8800
OPEN HOURS: MON-FRI 11:30-14:00, 17:00-22:00 (L.O. 21:30), SAT 11:30-21:00 (L.O. 20:30)
CLOSED ON SUNDAY AND HOLIDAY

This sushi shop has been long popular in the Shinbashi district. In this particular restaurant in Tokyo’s high end Marunouchi area, guests can enjoy the delicate taste of sushi in a warm and tranquil setting, with themes of light, stone and wind.

Jewelry shop
2-7-17, Ginza, Chuo-ku, 104-0061
(03) 5250 2900
OPEN HOURS: 10:30-20:00

Tiffany Ginza is the refurbishment of an old nine-story building. We took it as an architectural work, rather than a revision of the exterior. One big feature is the assembly of 292 faceted panels, all made of glass and aluminum honeycomb, inserted into the gap between the existing building and the property line. The panels are arranged in different angles so they transmit and radiate light like an intricately cut diamond, which symbolizes the jewelry of Tiffany.

Kabuki is one of the most popular performing arts of Japan, and its history dates back more than 300 years, to the era of Edo. Kabuki’s first purpose-built theater was erected in 1890, when people in Meiji period were busy catching up with culture from the West. Having gone through a couple of reconstructions since then, the new Ginza Kabukiza opened in the spring of 2013 as its fifth theater. K.KAA’s design maintains the atmosphere of the fourth iteration, which held long-felt familiarity, and used parts and materials from the previous building as much as possible. While the high-rise building connected to the back of the theatre financially sustains the running of kabuki, several new spaces and facilities were also added to this fifth theatre. The plaza in front of the building, restaurants and shops in the basement, and arcade to the shopping street at the side of the theater all revive an atmosphere of shibai-machi – theater-lovers’ gathering point in Edo period. The building is also fully equipped as an evacuation center in disasters.

Japanese green tea shop, café
Kabukiza tower 5F, 4-12-15, Ginza,
Chuo-ku, 104-0061
(03) 6278 7626
OPEN HOURS: 10:00-19:00

Jugetsudo is run by an old nori shop who sell wholesale to a high-class sushi restaurant in Tokyo. They also sell Japanese teas and cakes, and opened a café in Paris several years before this one. Jugetsudo Ginza is located at Kabukiza facing the roof-top garden, and the space of 120m² in area is covered with up to 3,000 bamboo pieces. The room is quietly divided by bamboo screens (their spacing is all different), and the ceiling is folded to be connected naturally to the eave thrusting to the garden.
The building is located in the neighborhood of Kabukiza, which accommodates restaurants, offices and residences. Stepping into the building, visitors are ushered into a long flight of stairs stretching to 30m. It was designed with the idea of tiered seating, which functions not only for ascending and descending, but also as an open space for the public.

This is a new type of housing for renting, developed by Urban Renaissance. Human-scaled roji (short and narrow passages) were created to enhance communications among the residents, and the house units cater to a SOHO-type flexible life style, which in fact was the feature of the traditional Japanese house.

The hotel was built initially in 1963, one year before the year of Tokyo Olympics, and had attracted celebrities such as the Beatles, Michael Jackson, Luciano Pavarotti, and others. The old building was taken down in 2006, and the new building opened in 2010 as the Capitol Hotel Tokyo. The name "capitol" came from the parliament building located in the same area. Though it is situated in a high-rise tower, the lattice on the exterior and the stacked truss on the interior create a light feeling of traditional Japanese wooden architecture.

This wing of Tokyo Mid Town accommodates a number of restaurants. To highlight their differences, the curves on the exterior vary according to the restaurant.
SUN TORY MUSEUM

9-7-4, Akasaka, Minato-ku, 107-8643
(03) 3479 8600

TOKYO MIDTOWN garden side
OPEN HOURS: SUN-THR 10:00-18:00,
FRI AND SAT 10:00-20:00.
CLOSED ON THURSDAY

“A living room in the big city” is the concept of this museum. Why a living room? Cities have been increasingly “interiorized” nowadays, with the advanced technology in communications and transport. Distances between things have disappeared, directing the entire city towards inner rooms in a big house. In that house, there are lots of corridors and dining rooms, but not much of space where people can relax. In the Suntory Museum, time passes slowly, and visitors take their time with the exhibited artwork. Materials here are all human-friendly, and lighting is designed carefully to be as soft as possible.

LUCIEN PELLAT-FINET - TOKYO MIDTOWN SHOP

Boutique
9-7-4, Akasaka, Minato-ku, 107-8643
(03) 5647 8333

TOKYO MIDTOWN galleria 2F
OPEN HOURS: 11:00-21:00

Lucien Pellat-Finet is known as the “king of cashmere,” and what he wanted from our collaborative project was a feeling of Japanese space using natural materials, accelerated also by the softness of cashmere. It progressed like weaving one piece of cloth. In order to represent the softness of the fabric, we adopted plywood for structure, often used for the foundation of a building. This common material was carefully cut as if it could draw curves, then they were laid out evenly from the end of the space to express an organized Japanese room.

KURAYAMIZAKA MIYASHITA

Japanese restaurant
2-24-8 BY-CUBE 1F, Minamiaoyama,
Minato-ku, 107-0062
(03) 5785 2431
OPEN HOURS: 12:00-15:00 18:00-23:00,
CLOSED ON SUNDAY AND HOLIDAY

BAISO IN TEMPLE

Temple
2-26-38, Minamiaoyama, Minato-ku,
107-0062
(03) 3404 8447
OPEN HOURS: 8:00-19:30

Baiso-in was established in 1643 to commemorate the death of Aoyama Yoshinari, a vassal of Tokugawa Family who reigned throughout the Edo Period. The address Minami (south) Aoyama, also comes from Aoyama’s mansion previously existing in this place. The temple was once a community center for the local people, and Baiso-in was designed to revive that function, equipped with a ceremony hall, educational facilities, and an apartment house. It is a model of an urban temple of our time. The architectural feature is the roof, with metal-plates arranged like fins to create a shadowed landscape in its vicinity.
This is a renovation of NTT’s Aoyama Building. Since the site is approachable both from the national road 246 and the street to the Jingu-mae stadium, we made a wide passage for walkers, with a roof made of FRP (fiber reinforced plastic) grating. Light is subtly changed toward green, like the shadow of leaves reflected on the ground in a forest, and on the floor, wood pieces are inserted in the gaps of the grating for smooth footing.

The history of the museum dates back to 1914, when Nezu Kaichiro, a great industrialist (founder of a railway company) and politician of Meiji established the building in an extensive site of his own residence. They take pride in one of the richest collections of Japanese and Eastern arts in Asia, as well as their Japanese garden abundant in green, with a couple of tea houses erected here and there. The current building opened in 2009 as the new house to exhibit their works, along with renovation of some part of the old museum. Given the location—now one of the busiest shopping streets in Japan—we designed a gradual change from the bustling street to the quiet forest in the museum. The building is loosely open up to outside, instead of being surrounded by blind walls, by an approach through a bamboo thicket. Visitors are ushered into the museum under the bamboo and deeply overhanging roof, changing directions as they do in the roji of a teahouse.

The café is located in the garden of Nezu Museum. Visitors can enjoy the view of the woods through the glazing and enjoy subtle light from the top as well, as if sitting among the trees. Tyvek is applied as the material for the wall and the ceiling.

The space reflects the characteristics of Miele, such as accuracy, functionality, flexibility, and tenderness. To create the atmosphere of advanced functionality, and to make visitors feel comfortable, special attention is paid to the choice of materials: stainless steel, glass, and wood are harmoniously arranged in anticipation of the new living spaces of the 21st century and beyond.
Japanese restaurant
5-1-5, Minamiazabu, Minato-ku, 106-0047
(03) 5789 3838
OPEN HOURS: 17:00～23:00 (L.O. 21:00)
CLOSED ON SUNDAY
One of the top-class restaurants in Tokyo, known also among gourmets around the world, and fully booked most of the time. Since the site faces the busy Gaien-Nishi (west) road, we set up a "filter" between the road and the house to secure peace and calmness inside. The material is a sectioned, ready-made cement slab called Aslock. The inner hole is solely to lighten the weight, but it shows a unique face like a planned decoration.

Station
1-1, Dogenzaka, Shibuya-ku, 150-0043
(03) 3461 0587
Shibuya is the fifth busiest station in Japan. For the façade of JR’s station, we removed the old opaque exterior and applied glass to make a sequence from the platform to Hachiko Plaza in front of the exit. Images of a cloud, shot digitally from the same place, are copied to the glass by ceramic printing. It is made deliberately ambiguous whether it is a reflection of the real cloud or the printed one. Now, a huge redevelopment is taking place in Shibuya that is expected to last for another decade.

Pineapple cake shop
3-10-20, Minamiaoyama, Minato-ku, 107-0062
(03) 3408 7778
OPEN HOURS: 11:00～19:00
Pineapple cake is the original Taiwanese sweet, and Sunny Hills is one the most popular manufacturers to open a shop in Japan. Boxes of cakes using organically-grown pineapples are sold in the shop. Sunny Hills wanted a place like a living room in this residential area, so our idea was to put up a forest in the town. We developed jōkoku gumi (traditional wood framing of Japanese architecture) into a three-dimensional structure, and the whole building is made like a basket. Visitors can try a piece of the cake in a café-like setting on the second floor.

Office, Fashion building
3-5-29, Kita-aoyama, Minato-ku, 107-0061
OPEN HOURS: (shop) 11:00-20:00
The building stands at the intersection of Omotesando (main road to the shrine) and the national road 246 (nicknamed Aoyama-dori). It is an office for Louis Vuitton Japan. Its entire exterior is covered with louvers of glue-laminated larch wood (45cm deep, spaced at 60cm), to play in harmony with Keyaki Boulevard.

Shibuya is the fifth busiest station in Japan. For the façade of JR’s station, we removed the old opaque exterior and applied glass to make a sequence from the platform to Hachiko Plaza in front of the exit. Images of a cloud, shot digitally from the same place, are copied to the glass by ceramic printing. It is made deliberately ambiguous whether it is a reflection of the real cloud or the printed one. Now, a huge redevelopment is taking place in Shibuya that is expected to last for another decade.
Music school
Curation, 2-2-4, Shibuya
Shibuya-ku 15-1-7,
03-3903-071

Red Bull Music Academy
Music school

IN PROGRESS
Shibuya Station Area
22-1, Shibuya-ku, 150-0002

2nd Architecture, Shopping Center
The design theme for this museum in the center of Tokyo consisted of adopting a unique roof design to blend the interior space with the garden. The interior display space was made integral with the garden by providing large glass openings in an attempt to merge the garden, building and artwork. Surrounded by a verdant garden and featuring a bamboo lined approach, the focus was to create spiritual art space that provides a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city.

The building was designed as an ironic comment on the noise of the Bubble Economy of the 1980s. Though a simply glazed office at a glance, there are motifs that evoke Ionian columns and ruins of ancient Rome. It is presently used as an assembly hall to hold funerals.
**TAMAGAWA TAKASHIMAYA**

**S.C. MAIN BUILDING PILOTI**

Shopping center
3-17-1, Tamagawa, Setagaya-ku, 158-870
(03) 3709 2222

OPEN HOURS: 10:00-21:00

department store 10:00-20:00
(specialty store) 10:00-21:00

As a renewal event of Tamagawa Takashimaya Department Store, which celebrated its 40th anniversary, we designed cloud-like organic eaves. It is a medium to connect the building and the green. The pilotis extends as long as 140m, and there we inserted 168 sheets of aluminum all in different shapes. Each panel is holed in 40mm diameter, and spaced at 80mm, to balance lightness and strength.

**TAMAGAWA TAKASHIMAYA**

**MARRONIER COURT**

Shopping center
2-27-5, Tamagawa, Setagaya-ku, 158-8701
(03) 3709 2222

OPEN HOURS: 10:00-21:00

The green here grows between the shopping center and the urban environment, but we wanted to make it light and abstract. We got rid of the conventional structure of bone and skin and designed the skin to stand on its own, by improving a structure of stainless mesh, so that this green eave can be felt clearly and transparently.

**MURAI MASANARI ART MUSEUM**

Museum
1-6-12, Nakamachi, Setagaya-ku, 158-0091
(03) 3704 9588 (ONLY SUNDAY)

OPEN HOURS: by appointment only (Please mail a name, address, a phone number, and a visit hope day with a double postal card by two weeks)

FRI and SUN on MAR-NOV
11:00-13:00, 14:00-16:00

Artist Masanari Murai (1905-1999) is a pioneer of the modernist painting in Japan, and the museum displays many of his important works and own atelier. To commemorate his birth, the museum opened in 2004 as the conversion of his residence that he built in 1940s. Our idea was to design it like stacked boxes, called oju in Japanese, as a lunch box (small box inside a big one). It is a lunch box realized as a space. The room used by Murai was kept as it was, and timbers from his old house reappear as louvers on the exterior of the building. Using these louvers, the spaces in between express gaps between his time and the present.
The school (attached to Teikyo University) is located in Tama district, one of the major suburbs of Tokyo, abundant in green and rich natural environment. The city’s large-scale apartment complex from the 1960s, known as Tama New Town, drew attention from the world as a symbol of Japan’s high economic growth. We created a wooden school building in modern style, which could best match this surrounding. Wood is emphasized throughout the whole structure, in the big roof, exterior and interior. The roof changes its length and height according to the activity taking place underneath, and is merged well with nature.

Takaosan (Mount Takao) is Tokyo’s spiritual spot in the west. The station building is now under construction for renovation. It is known as a sacred ground of mountain worship, so we wanted to treat the station not just as the node of transport, but also as the boundary between the sacred and people’s daily activities. The big wooden roof is the way to realize it. Parts and materials from old houses in the area are recycled and applied to the interior of the station as a reminder of the passage of time.