

KKAA

ARCHITECTURE GUIDE

TOKYO

2017

KUMAP I  
CENTRAL TOKYO



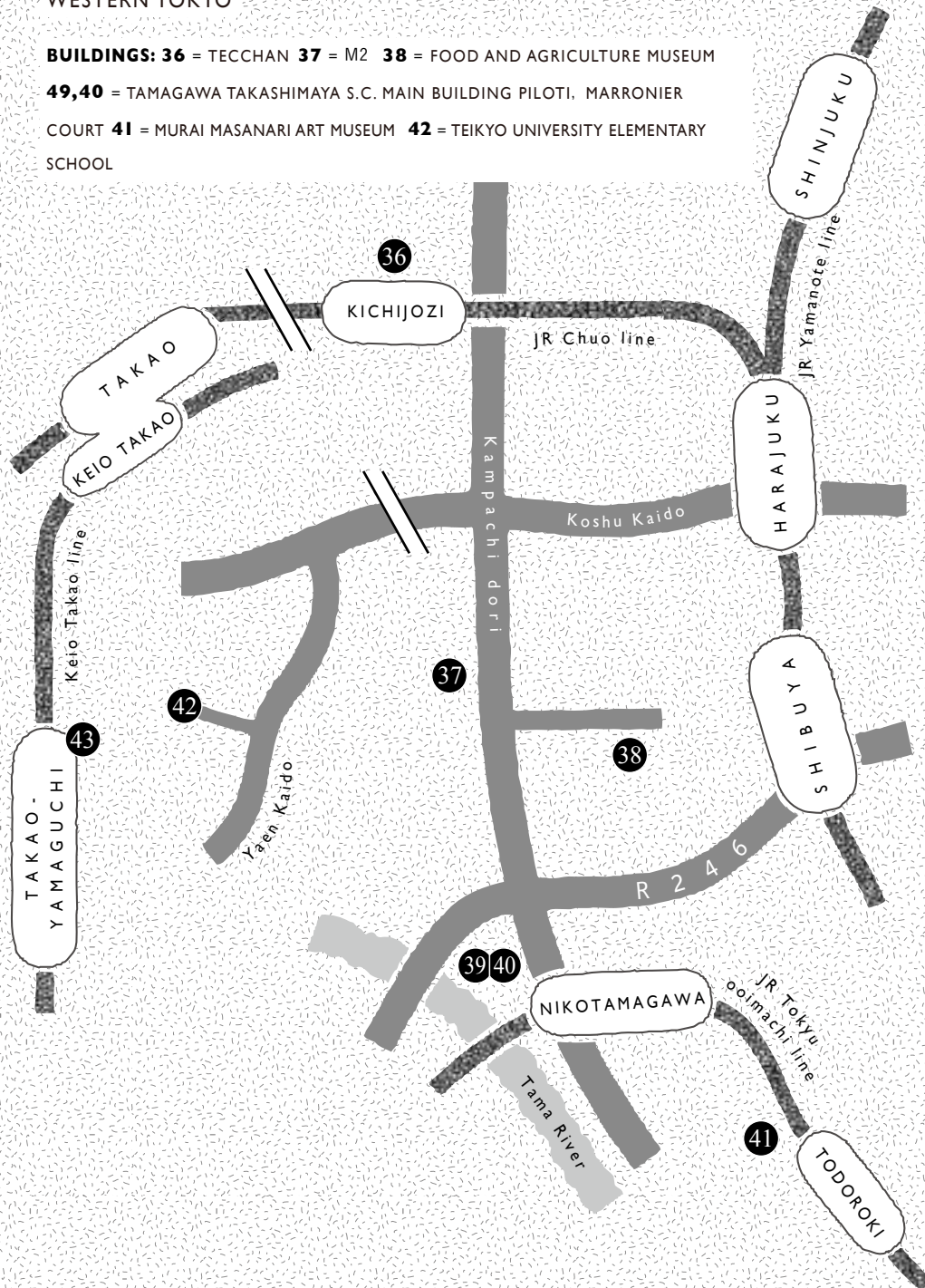
- BUILDINGS:** 1 = NEZU KAMACHIKU 2 = WITHUS NEZU  
 3 = DAIWA UBIQUITOUS COMPUTING RESEARCH BUILDING  
 4 = KUROGI 5 = ASAKUSA TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER  
 6 = HULIC ASAKUSABASHI BUILDING 7 = KAYANOYA  
 8 = TONETS BUILDING 9 = KITTE 10 = SHICHIJUNIKOU  
 11 = SUSHIDOKORO JUN 12 = TIFFANY GINZA  
 13 = GINZA KABUKIZA 14 = JUGETSUDO KABUKIZA

**BUILDINGS:**

- 15 = GINZA SHOCHIKU SQUARE  
 16 = SHINONOME CANAL COURT CODAN  
 17 = THE CAPITOL HOTEL TOKYU  
 18 = TOKYO MIDTOWN D-NORTH WING  
 19 = SUNTORY MUSEUM  
 20 = LUCIEN PELLAT-FINET  
 TOKYO MIDTOWN SHOP  
 21 = KURAYAMIZAKA MIYASHITA  
 22 = BAISO IN TEMPLE  
 23 = ESCORTER AOYAMA  
 24 = NEZU INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS  
 25 = NEZUCAFÉ  
 26 = MIELE CENTER OMOTESANDO  
 27 = SUNNYHILLS JAPAN  
 28 = ONE OMOTESANDO  
 29 = WAKETOKUYAMA  
 30 = JR SHIBUYA STATION FAÇADE  
 31 = SHIBUYA STATION AREA  
 REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT  
 32 = RED BULL MUSIC ACADEMY  
 33 = AKAGI JINJA SHRINE  
 34 = LA KAGU  
 35 = TOSHIMA CITY HALL

KUMAP 2  
WESTERN TOKYO

**BUILDINGS:** 36 = TECCHAN 37 = M2 38 = FOOD AND AGRICULTURE MUSEUM  
49,40 = TAMAGAWA TAKASHIMAYA S.C. MAIN BUILDING PILOTI, MARRONIER  
COURT 41 = MURAI MASANARI ART MUSEUM 42 = TEIKYO UNIVERSITY ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL



① NEZU KAMACHIKU



UDON restrant  
2-14-18, Nezu, Bunkyo-ku, 113-0031  
+81 3 5815 4675  
OPEN HOURS: 11:00-14:00 17:30-21:00  
(L.O.20:30) , SUN 11:30-14:00,  
CLOSED ON MONDAY

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.

② WITHUS NEZU



Care health facilities  
2-14-18, Nezu, Bunkyo-ku,113-0031  
+81 3 5815 4665

③ DAIWA UBIQUITOUS  
COMPUTING RESEARCH BUILDING



University  
7-3-1, Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, 113-0033  
+81 3 5841 5902 (Interfac-  
ulty Initiative in Information Studies)

The building was constructed for the university's new field of research on ubiquitous computing. Our aim was to break away from conventional image of campuses that consist of hard materials such as concrete, metal or stone, and to instead design a soft building made with wood and earth. Here, scalelike panels of natural materials (wood and earth) gently undulate to form a smooth and organic façade. At the center of the building comes an organ-like aperture covered with soft membrane. It joins the lane in the front and the Japanese garden (part of the university president's guest house) at the back. The opening also generates a gentle and organic flow of light and wind in the campus, which is otherwise dominated by the strict grid arrangement.

④ KUROGI



Japanese sweets shop  
Daiwa Ubiquitous Research Building 1F,  
7-3-1, Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, 113-0033  
+81 3 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.

⑤ ASAKUSA TOURIST  
INFORMATION CENTER



Tourist information center,  
exhibition hall, cafe  
2-18-9, Kaminarimon, Taito-ku, 111-0034  
+81 3 3842 5566

OPEN HOURS:  
[B1-3F,6F,7F] 9:00-20:00,  
[4F,5F,8F] 9:00-22:00,  
[8F CAFE] 9:00-20:00

In the corner premise of just 326㎡ across Kaminari-mon Gate, the building was required to accommodate plural programs such as tourist information center, conference room, multi-purpose hall and an exhibition space.

⑥ HULIC ASAKUSABASHI BUILDING



Office building, gathering spots  
1-22-16, Asausabashi, Taito-ku, 111-0053  
+81 3 5822 5971

The building is located in a busy wholesale district in Tokyo. The site was formerly a local junior high school, and its vicinity still keeps some bustling atmosphere of the downtown. We planned to create an urban environment where the past and the present, offices and shops are naturally combined. Technically, we drew ideas from traditional elements such as wooden lattice or roofed mud wall, which on their own work as a façade for the streets. For the new building, we applied horizontal ribbon windows, louvers and ribbed precast concrete panels to express a nuanced façade. An office building, which tends to be a massive chunk of concrete, can be dissolved into a human scale structure like this. We are nostalgic about so-called downtowns, but new attempts are needed to revive the life there.

⑦ KAYANOYA



Grocery  
COREDO Muromachi3 1F, 1-5-5, Muromachi, Nihonbashi, Chuo-ku, 103-0022  
+81 3 6262 3170  
OPEN HOURS: 10:00-21:00

Kayanoya originates in Kuhara Shoyu, Kyushu, a soy sauce manufacturer whose history dates back more than 120 years. The Kayanoya Shop in Nihonbashi is a reproduction of their traditional warehouse which we visited in Kyushu. Shoyu wooden barrels float to the top. Barrels used for traditional shoyu-making are big and strong. To display the products, Koji Buta (koji is malt rice used as a medium to make fermented food or seasoning as shoyu, miso and sake) is used as furniture. Koji Buta is a special wooden tray when making Koji for shoyu, and its design is highly functional and sophisticated. We wanted to bring in an impact that these powerful utensils suddenly emerge in the town of Nihonbashi, Tokyo.

⑧ TONETS BUILDING



Office building  
2-5-12, Kyobashi, Chuo-ku, 104-0031  
+81 3 5250 4112

We worked on the façade of this building. It features tenderness and smoothness of nature. The aluminum louvers can be multi-angled and decided by computer calculation, in order to control the amount of solar energy coming in so it would reduce the load on ventilation. The entrance hall is a subtly nuanced space with reinterpretation of traditional elements such as a lattice grid and washi.

⑨ KITTE



Shopping center  
2-7-2, Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, 100-7001  
+81 3 3216 2811  
OPEN HOURS:  
MON-SAT[shop] 11:00-21:00,  
[restaurant] 11:00-23:00,  
SUN AND HOLIDAY[shop] 11:00-20:00,  
[restaurant] 11:00-22:00

Discussion on preserving old buildings tends to end up in keeping all or nothing. With KITTE we aimed at a cohabitation of the old and new. The east side of the atrium retains the frame from the old post office building designed by Tetsuro Yoshida. We dyed the frame to white, and exposed it to highlight the structure in a line. The two sides facing each other are equipped with glass handrails, on which mirrors in 10mm width are printed, so that they could reflect part of the old building in the space.

⑩ SHICHIJUNIKOU



Japanese restaurant  
Tokyo station hotel B1F, 1-9-1, Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, 100-0005  
+81 3 6269 9401  
OPEN HOURS:WEEKDAYS 11:00-15:30 (L.O.14: 30) 17:00-23:00(L.O.21: 30),  
SAT, SUN AND HOLIDAY 11:00-16:30 (L.O.15: 30) 17:00-23:00(L.O.21: 30)

As the restaurant is in the basement of Tokyo Station's Marunouchi side, a nationally designated important property asset, we planned the space with themes of layering different periods. We chose a white polyester cloth as to express this layering, since it holds a feeling of texture and semi-transparency. When layered, a kind of moire is born and the cloth grows into a new ambiguous texture, creating "foggy air" in the space. It also presents a solid feel by being combined with hard materials as metal, glass and wood.

⑪ SUSHIDOKORO JUN



SUSHI restaurant  
Mitsubishi Shoji Building B1F, 2-3-1,  
Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, 100-8086  
+81 3 6212 8800

OPEN HOURS: MON-FRI 11:30-14:00  
(L.O. 13:30) 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.

⑫ TIFFANY GINZA



jewelry shop  
2-7-17, Ginza, Chuo-ku, 104-0061  
+81 3 5250 2900  
OPEN HOURS: 10:30-20:00

I wanted to reflect in our design Tiffany's well-known technique—the way face of jewelry is cut – the stone is slightly lifted up and the light can come in from the back of the stone. I was always interested in the relation between jewelry and light, as jewelry shines because of light. The attraction of Tiffany jewelry is exactly this, and I wanted to express their delicate transparency in this architecture. It is also important that this shop is located in Ginza. Ginza is the most sophisticated, chic district in Tokyo. Although Ginza streets are nowadays covered with new noisy buildings, the design of Tiffany responds positively to the identity of Ginza. In every respect, light was the key to this project. First, we focused on the 80cm-gap between the existing building and the site boundary. Into the gap we fitted a set of 292 special panels (facet panels) made with glass and aluminum honeycomb. Each panel is arranged in varied angles in order to penetrate and diffuse the light like a carefully-cut diamond, which would enhance the elegant atmosphere in Ginza.

⑬ GINZA KABUKIZA



Theater, Office  
4-12-15, Ginza, Chuo-ku, 104-0061  
+81 3 3545 6800  
OPEN HOURS: different by a performance

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. KKAA'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.

⑭ JUGETSUDO KABUKIZA



Japanese green tea shop, cafe  
Kabukiza tower 5F, 4-12-15,  
Ginza, Chuo-ku, 104-0061  
+81 3 6278 7626  
OPEN HOURS: 10:00-19:00

Jugetsudo Kabukiza is a café that serves Japanese green tea which faces the rooftop garden of Kabukiza. Pieces of bamboo with a varying amount of space between them were used to softly partition the space, and the ceiling was "bent" with pieces of bamboo that stick out under the roof eaves into the Japanese garden to create space that resembles Origami in which the garden is connected with the inside. Multiple overlapping layers of bamboo with differing densities created space like a bamboo groove that softly connects Kabukiza and the garden.

⑮ GINZA SHOCHIKU SQUARE



Office building  
1-13-11, Tsukiji, Chuo-ku, 104-0045

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.

⑯ SHINONOME CANAL COURT  
CODAN



Apartment house, shop  
1-9-17, Shinonome, Koto-ku, 135-0062  
+81 3 5547 0180 (service center)

This project represents a new concept in public housing. It is located on reclaimed land in Tokyo, and combines dwellings, offices (SOHO – Small Offices, Home Offices), commercial facilities and public facilities. Multi-family housing in the 20th century has tended to only contain space for dwellings, eliminating other functions from the structure. This concept has been particularly dominant in Japanese public housing. The result has been a loss in the completeness of functions necessary for a high quality of life. This multi-family housing project mixes functions to the greatest extent possible, restoring a well-rounded quality and functionality to life here.

⑰ THE CAPITOL HOTEL TOKYU



Hotel  
2-10-3, Nagata-cho,  
Chiyoda-ku, 100-0014  
+81 3 3503 0109

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 Tokyu. 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.

⑱ TOKYO MIDTOWN D-NORTH WING



Shopping center  
9-7-1, Akasaka, Minato-ku, 107-0052  
+81 3 3475 3100  
OPEN HOURS: [shop] 11:00-21:00, [restaurant] 11:00-24:00(different by restaurant)

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.

①9 SUNTORY MUSEUM



Museum  
TOKYO MIDTOWN garden side  
9-7-4, Akasaka, Minato-ku, 107-8643  
+81 3 3479 8600  
OPEN HOURS: SUN-THU 10:00-18:00,  
FRI AND SAT 10:00-20:00,  
CLOSED ON TUESDAY

“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.

②0 LUCIEN PELLAT-FINET - TOKYO MIDTOWN SHOP



Boutique  
TOKYO MIDTOWN galleria 2F  
9-7-4, Akasaka, Minato-ku, 107-8643  
+81 3 5647 8333  
OPEN HOURS: 11:00-21:00

This boutique at Tokyo Midtown was created for Lucien Pellat-Finet, who is called the “King of Cashmere”. Each piece of structural plywood was cut with a laser cutter to have a differing curved shape, and regularly arranged at a pitch of 10cm to create space that feels like a soft cave. Using a rough inexpensive material like structural plywood in Tokyo Midtown with its many luxurious boutiques may appear foreign. We expressed the philosophy of Lucien who wishes to have cashmere become a material that people wear when walking on streets in their neighborhoods by using structural plywood.

②1 KURAYAMIZAKA MIYASHITA



Japanese restaurant  
2-24-8 BY-CUBE 1F, Minamiaoyama, Minato-ku, 107-0062  
+81 3 5785 2431  
OPEN HOURS: 12:00-15:00(L.O.14:00) 18:00-23:00(L.O.21:30),  
CLOSED ON SUNDAY AND HOLIDAY

②2 BAIISO IN TEMPLE



Temple  
2-26-38, Minamiaoyama, Minato-ku, 107-0062  
+81 3 3404 8447  
OPEN HOURS: 8:00-19:30

Built 360 years ago, Baisoin Buddhist Temple is one of the oldest temples in Tokyo. In the old days temples and churches acted as community centers and as foci for all kinds of cultural activities in the city. The goal of this project was to give back temples their lost status as focal points and as institutions open to citizens.



②③ ESCORTER AOYAMA



Office, Shop  
2-7-15, Kitaaooyama, Minato-ku, 107-0061

The NTT Aoyama renovation project involves the conversion of the bottom floors. The reduction in the size of the equipment at telephone exchanges has made more space available, and the space that was previously occupied by “black boxes” is being opened up to the city. Finding effective ways of bringing the city into the building is a very relevant issue to contemporary society.

②④ NEZU MUSEUM



Museum  
6-5-1, Minamiaoyama,  
Minato-ku, 107-0062  
+81 3 3400 2536  
OPEN HOURS: 10: 00-17: 00  
CLOSED ON MONDAY

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.

②⑤ NEZUCAFÉ



Cafe  
6-5-1, Minamiaoyama, Minato-ku, 107-0062  
+81 3 3400 2536  
OPEN HOURS: 10: 00-17: 00(L.O. 16:15)  
CLOSED ON MONDAY

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.

②⑥ MIELE CENTER OMOTESANDO



Showroom ( household electric appliance and apparatus for business use )  
4-23-8, Minamiaoyama, Minato-ku, 107-0062  
0120 310 724  
OPEN HOURS: 11:00-18:00  
CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY

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.

27 SUNNYHILLS JAPAN



Pineapple cake shop  
3-10-20, Minamiaoyama,  
Minato-ku, 107-0062  
+81 3 3408 7778  
OPEN HOURS: 11:00-19:00

We used a traditional joint system in wood structure construction in Japan called “Jigoku Gumi” to create soft warm human space that feels like a forest or cloud. The adoption of a 3D structure system enabled the cross section of one member to be reduced to as thin as 60mm x 60mm. This same type of wood members that are as thin as branches which were used to build this space are used to taste the pineapple cake made from carefully selected ingredients.

28 ONE OMOTESANDO



Office, Fashion building  
3-5-29, Kitaaooyama, Minato-ku, 107-0061  
OPEN HOURS: [shop] 11:00-20:00

The project is the head office building of a fashion group that stands at the entrance to Omotesando, often called the most beautiful avenue in Tokyo. Omotesando is a picturesque boulevard lined on both sides with huge zelkova trees that leads to Meiji Shrine, the largest Shinto shrine in Tokyo. My aim was to make these trees resonate and not conflict with the building. We created a mullion; 45 cm deep with laminated wood made of larch supporting the curtain wall. The stems would resonate with the lumber and the vertical lines of mullions would resonate with vertical lines of the trees. The wooden mullion also resonates with Meiji Shrine’s wooden architecture.

29 WAKETOKUYAMA



Japanese restaurant  
5-1-5, Minamiazabu, Minato-ku, 106-0047  
+81 3 5789 3838  
OPEN HOURS: 17:00~23:00(L.O. 21: 00)  
CLOSED ON SUNDAY

This is one of the best Japanese restaurants in Tokyo, reflected by its Michelin ranking. The road and building are separated by screens that were made by slicing 100mm thick existing cement panels into pieces measuring 200mm to create serene space in the center of the city. This project consisted of a challenge to make the leap of creating luxurious space for a high-class Japanese restaurant by simply slicing an inexpensive industrial product. It also represents a criticism of the use of bamboo, Japanese paper and clay walls in Japanese restaurants which has become a cliché.

30 JR SHIBUYA STATION FAÇADE



Station  
1-1, Dogenzaka, Shibuya-ku, 150-0043  
+81 3 3461 0587

Shibuya is the district in Tokyo most popular with the younger generation. Here, one finds junior and high school students with colored hair and strange outfits roaming around, squatting on the street and even sleeping at all times of the day and night. This is a town of chaos and boisterous energy: the streets are filled with images and signboards, and the classical segmentation of architecture and advertisements has lost its meaning. Boundaries separating architecture from visual images, materials from non-materials, and reality from virtual reality have all but disappeared. Everything is mutually dissolved in liquid form.

31 SHIBUYA STATION AREA  
REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT



Station, Shopping center  
2-24-1, Shibuya, Shibuya-ku, 150-0002

32 RED BULL MUSIC ACADEMY



Music school  
1-3-3, Shibuya, Shibuya-ku, 150-0002

Red Bull runs a “mobile” Music Academy that travels around the world. We designed the interior for their Tokyo version of the project. The idea is contrasting to that of a conventional school in a fixed location. We expressed the students’ liberal atmosphere by using old material, fabric (jute), pallet for forklift, which all feel friendly and street-wise. For spacing also, we removed the old static division of corridor and room, and brought in the idea of Roji (side street) and Engawa (semi outdoor veranda), more animated spaces, to realize a relaxed connection between rooms. Furniture was also down-to-earth, modeled on a feel from Zabuton (floor cushion) or tatami (straw mat). By translating sense of using them into the modern context, we did away with the strict image of old schools.

33 AKAGI JINJA SHRINE



Shrine, Apartment house  
1-10, Akagimotomachi,  
Shinjuku-ku, 162-0817  
+81 3 3260 5071

At the peak of the open slope, there is a main building of a shrine in a primitive form of roofing and pillars. The gentle slope takes your body gradually to the highest point, and through the shrine, we wanted to create a sense of liberation in that natural precinct. The exterior of the main house is made of plain wood in a lattice grid to control its relation with outside. The roofing is so-called yamato-buki in steel plates, where two sheets are arranged alternately.

34 LA KAGU



Curation store  
67, Yaraicho, Shinjuku-ku, 162-0805  
SHOP: +81 3 5227 6977  
CAFE: +81 3 5579 2130  
OPEN HOURS: [shop] 11:00-20:00,  
[cafe] 8:00-22:00(L.O.21:30)

Kagurazaka is one of the few districts in Tokyo that best retains historic townscape. The project was a renovation of a big warehouse of books located on top of Kagurazaka hill, for which we created a public space like a ground, together with a café and a shop. We opened the house toward the street, and connected its first floor with the crossing using an organic-shaped wooden staircase, which expands just like earth. The stairs diverge in the middle, and one leads up to the second floor. We connected the town and the warehouse, the ground and the architecture, the past and the present.

35 TOSHIMA CITY HALL



City hall  
2-45-1, Minamiikebukuro,  
Toyoshima-ku, 171-0022  
+81 3 3981 1186

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.

36 TECCHAN



Yaki-tori-ya restaurant  
Hamonika-yokocho, 1-1-2, Kichijoji-  
honcho, Musashino-shi, 180-0004  
+81 422 20 5950  
OPEN HOURS: 15:00-23:00

The project took place in Kichijoji (one of Tokyo's suburban towns)'s Harmonica Yokochi, a wondrous bystreet that still retains the atmosphere of black-market stalls during the post-World War II period. We designed the interior for a small Yaki-tori bar that sits on the edge of the street.

It is mostly made of recycled materials. We applied recycled LAN cables, which we call Mojamoja – to describe its shaggy, wooly look – and what is called acrylic ball (left-over melted acrylic byproduct pieces) to everything from interior materials to furniture. As the result, some amazing interior emerged, where form becomes invisible and only materiality and various colors appear as if floating in the air. It also came to match well with the wall painting by Teruhiko Yumura.

37 M2



Ceremony hall  
2-4-27, Kinuta, Setagaya-ku, 157-0073  
+81 3 3749 0983

The M2 Building, located along Tokyo Ring Road 8 on the edge of Tokyo, was created as a design laboratory for an automobile manufacturer. The building is a chaotic mix of fragments made using various architectural styles, materials and scales. This collection of fragments was intentionally created in order to integrate these elements while accelerating and highlighting them. Of particular note are the hollow Ionian style column, antennae by the Russian architect Ivan Leonidov and sound insulation panels for the expressway which are polymerized in a threadless manner. It was later converted into a funeral home while retaining almost the entire original design.

③⑧ FOOD AND AGRICULTURE MUSEUM



Museum and Laboratory  
2-4-28, Kamiyoga, Setagaya-ku, 158-0098  
+81 3 5477 4033  
OPEN HOURS: APR-NOV 10:00-17:00  
(entrance closed at 16:30),  
DEC-MAR 10:00-16:30  
(entrance closed at 16:00),  
CLOSED ON MONDAY, HOLIDAY  
AND MONTH END TUESDAY

This university museum is designed for a new age and is open to local residents. The display space, experimental space and café are organically integrated, fostering natural interaction between people that live in the area and the researchers. The row of Zelkova trees in Baji Equestrian Park in front of the site and museum are joined together by means of vertical louvers made from Ashino stone. Selection of the material was based on the theme of aging. A natural material that beautifully changes color over time (Ashino stone has high absorptivity and a soft texture) was used with the objective of creating “biological architecture” befitting the Tokyo University of Agriculture.

③⑨ TAMAGAWA TAKASHIMAYA  
S.C. MAIN BUILDING PILOTI



Shopping center  
3-17-1, Tamagawa, Setagaya-ku, 158-870  
+81 3 3709 2222  
OPEN HOURS:  
[department store] 10:00-20:00  
[specialty store] 10:00-21:00

A pedestrian arcade was added to the mid-rise wing of the Tamagawa Takashimaya department store in an attempt to provide a soft connection between the city and the building. Aluminum sheets with a thickness of 6mm were individually cut out with varying curves, and were then connected together with thin steel beams in order to build a soft arcade that has an organic form. Planter boxes were installed beneath the arcade which will soon become a “green cave”, providing a pleasant three-dimensional walkway.

④⑩ TAMAGAWA TAKASHIMAYA  
MARRONIER COURT



Shopping center  
2-27-5, Tamagawa, Setagaya-ku, 158-8701  
+81 3 3709 2222  
OPEN HOURS: 10:00-21:00

The main theme for the Northwest Wing of the Tamagawa Takashimaya department store is green. We built “soft green architecture” that consists of various types of greenery planted in a façade made only from stainless steel mesh that is bent to give it strength so that no steel beams are required. The greenery consists of various plants that bloom at different times of the year, including Hedera, Caroline Jasmine, Asiatic Jasmine and Blue Passion Flower. These “green eaves” provide a gentle expression that has been absent from commercial architecture up until now.

④① MURAI MASANARI ART MUSEUM



Museum  
1-6-12, Nakamachi,  
Setagaya-ku, 158-0091  
+81 3 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

As implied by the name, this museum was created for the artist Murai Masanari (1905-1999), who was a pioneer in the field of modernism painting in Japan. The 60-year-old wood home located in a residential district on the outskirts of Tokyo built in the 1940s was renovated into an art museum. The small room that Murai Masanari used as a studio was preserved in the state it was by covering its exterior in a large box, with the gap between the large box and small box being used as display space. Old materials from parts of the house that were dismantled were used for the exterior walls in an attempt to merge old time with new time.

④2 TEIKYO UNIVERSITY ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL



Elementary school  
1254-6,Wada, Tama-shi, 206-8561  
+81 42 357 5577

All schoolhouses in Japan used to be made from wood. Many children learned in the warmth and softness of space created with wood. I too studied in a wooden schoolhouse, and cannot forget the things I experienced.

④3 TAKAOSANGUCHI STATION



Station  
2241, Takaomachi, Hachioji-shi, 193-0844  
+81 42 661 6825

The project was an entire makeover of the building of Takao Sanguchi station, using a grand roof made of wood. Mount Takao is worshipped as a sacred ground in the west of Tokyo. The roof here functions as a boundary between the secular world and the holy place, represented also by the railroad as a modern infrastructure and a big natural environment. The platform was also freshly designed with wood, equipped with a lighting system that got a clue from some special lantern of this district. The soft and warm light from the platform guides the train passengers to the different world outside.

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