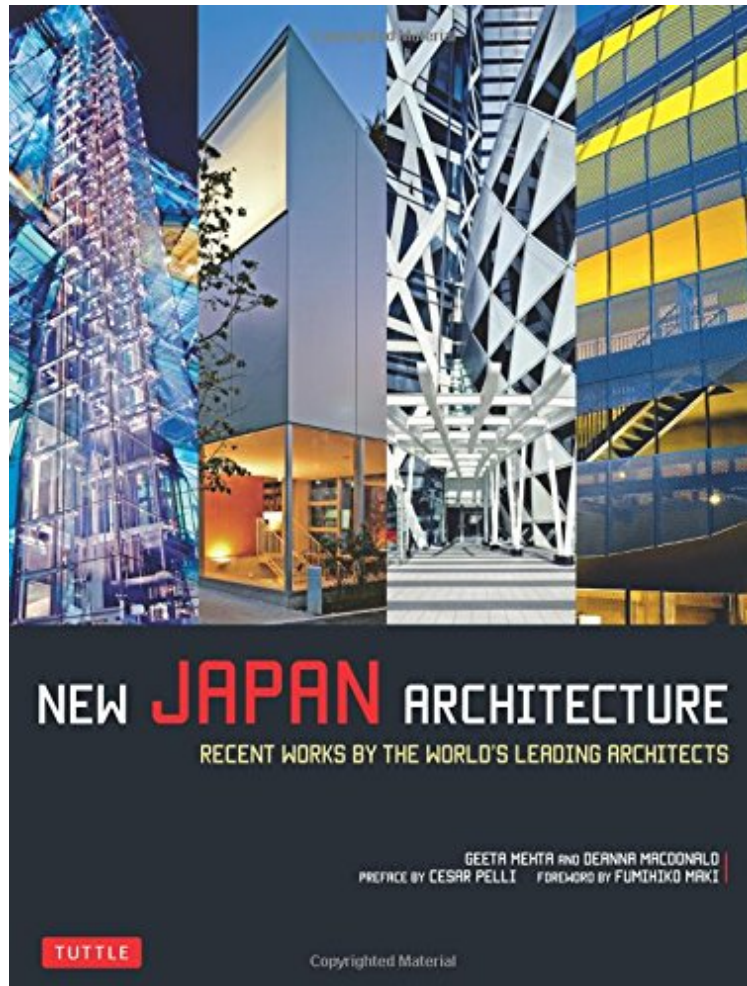


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## New Japan Architecture: Recent Works by the World's Leading Architects

*Geeta Mehta, Deanna MacDonald*

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Japan Architecture: Recent Works by the World's Leading Architects at a bookstore as I was getting ready for my trip to Japan! The book contains beautiful photos and informative explanation of 48 recent projects in Japan designed by Japanese and international architects including Fumihiko Maki, Tadao Ando, Hiroshi Hara, SOM, and SANAA. While the book has technical details that may be interesting to architects, I as a layman who enjoys architecture have found it very readable and interesting. The preface by Cesar Pelli (former Dean of School of Architecture at Yale University) and the foreword by Fumihiko Maki (a world famous Japanese architect) provide excellent perspectives to understand modern Japanese architecture in the context of cultural change, technological innovation and sustainability. I travel to Japan often for business and pleasure, but am getting tired of museums, gardens, temples and shrines. I am glad to know from the book that Japanese architectural design is leading the cutting edge of architecture worldwide. I will definitely visit those buildings illustrated in the volume in my future trips. It should add much to my enjoyment of the country. This is a must-have book for those interested in culture and architecture in Japan.

Featuring dozens of high-quality photographs, schematic designs and insightful commentary this Japanese architecture book is a must-have for architects or collectors. The past five years are widely considered to have been the most innovative period in contemporary Japanese design history. The projects featured in *New Japan Architecture* were completed during this extraordinarily fertile time. Featuring breathtaking images of modern Japan, this volume presents forty-eight extraordinary projects by forty-two of the world's leading architects, including: Hitoshi Abe, Ward Kishi, Tadao Ando, Chiba Manabu Architects, Toyo Ito, Kengo Kuma, Kazuyo Sejima. This architecture book features a wide-range of buildings, some exhibiting the ultimate ideal of the white Zen cube, while others exemplify the search for the new wow factor in iconic design. In many, cutting-edge modernity is counterbalanced by a concern for sustainability, an issue that has motivated many architects to rethink and reintroduce concepts drawn from traditional Japanese architecture. Projects big and small, private and public, residential and commercial are included. Insightful text by two leading experts in the field of Japanese architecture highlights the remarkable aspects of each building and places these developments within the wider context of world architecture. Offering an essential overview of current trends, *New Japan Architecture* points the way to modern architecture's future.

"Japan remains an architectural hothouse, bursting with some of the most original and daring designs anywhere. This book well-organized, beautifully illustrated, with insightful commentary provides an excellent overview of the best work from the past ten years. A must-have for architects, connoisseurs of great design, and anyone who wants to come take a look for themselves." John Mader, president, AIA Japan "This is a very well researched book that presents innovative projects in their architectural as well as urban context." Richard Plunz, Director Urban Design Program, GSAPP, Columbia University, New York "This excitement and elegance of recent modern Japanese architecture is very well documented in this book, and the core concepts and future trends thoughtfully explained. It is a delight to read." Raquel Ramati, Urban Designer, New York

About the Author Geeta K. Mehta teaches architecture and urban design at Columbia University in New York. A resident of Japan for 23 years, she is a partner in the firm of Braden and Mehta and has designed projects in USA, Japan, India, Vietnam and Indonesia. Educated at University of Tokyo, Columbia University, and SPA in Delhi, she is the co-author of several books including *Japan Style*, *Japan Houses*, *Japan Living* and *Japanese Gardens*, all published by Tuttle Publishing.

Deanna MacDonald teaches Japanese and western art and architectural history at Temple University's Tokyo campus. She received her MA from the Central European University, Prague and her Ph.D. from McGill University, Montreal and is the author of numerous publications on the art, architecture and cultural heritage.

Cesar Pelli was born in Argentina where he earned his Diploma in Architecture from the University of Tucuman. After obtaining his Master Degree in the United States, he worked in the offices of Eero Saarinen. In 1977, he became Dean of the Yale University School of Architecture and founded Cesar Pelli Associates, renamed Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects in 2005. In 1995, the AIA awarded him the Gold Medal in recognition of a lifetime of distinguished achievement in architecture.

Fumihiko Maki (b. 1928) is the founder of renowned architectural firm, Maki Associates. Educated at the University of Tokyo and Harvard, he has taught at these and other institutes as well as lecturing internationally on architecture and urban design. Among his numerous distinctions are the Prizker Prize (1993) and the American Institute of Architects' highest honor, the AIA Gold Medal (2011).