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Pocket Gardens: Contemporary Japanese Miniature Designs

Michael Freeman, Noriko Sakai

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Michael Freeman, Noriko Sakai : Pocket Gardens: Contemporary Japanese Miniature Designs before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Pocket Gardens: Contemporary Japanese Miniature Designs:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. wonderful book, worth keepingBy kayphilaSome books one reads once and then passes it on to someone else. But this is one that I will keep, not just because the photographs are lovely, but also because the ideas are worth considering again and again. Even in the west, one sometimes has a small space that could be enlivened with greenery, and this book provides interesting possibilities and options.0 of 3 people found the following review helpful. I lost it because I was disappointed in the contentBy Sue Lynn SteinerI purchased this book for the library to replace one I lost. I lost it because I was disappointed in the content. The photographs are excellence and do stretch the imagination. However, that was not enough for me..

Called tsubo-niwa after a unit of measurement that is two person-sized tatami mats placed side by side, the pocket garden has been a part of the Japanese architectural canon for thousands of years. Undergoing a modernization in the last few decades in which a new generation of architects began experimenting with the concept in imaginative ways, the contemporary garden follows a distinct yet global aesthetic, whether as an urban solution to importing nature, as an individual theme set within a larger garden space, or as a buffer between property lines of a house or apartment. Beautifully illustrated and designed with a reflective, contemplative aesthetic, the book offers a broad array of

miniature garden designs, including Keno Kumas explorations of materials as diverse as andesite and plastic, Takeshi Nagasakis art installation gardens with stepping stones of cast glass and bronze, and Yasuhiro Haradas mobile cube gardensplantings in stainless-steel trays on wheels that can be stacked and rearranged at will.

"Expertly illustrated with a Zen esthetic in mind..." ~Florida International Magazine"It's a great little book that presents not only beautiful spaces but also iterations on balancing contemporary life with tradition--Japan's tsubo-niwa--that could be applied in other places." ~Archidose.com"There is more to the fascinating design in Pocket Gardens than at first meets the eye. Their overall effect exceeds the sum of their parts." ~The Dallas Morning NewsAbout the AuthorMichael Freeman is an award-winning photographer and an authority on Asian design and art. He is the author of Space: Japanese Design Solutions for Compact Living and Meditative Spaces, both of which were edited by Noriko Sakai.