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| **Sakakura, Junzo (1901-1969)** |
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| [Enter an **abstract** for your article] |
| Sakakura was born in Gifu Prefecture but lived primarily in Tokyo, where he set up a practice in 1940. His studies in Art History at the Tokyo Imperial University (1923-27) were followed with a two-year course in construction that prepared him for a career in Le Corbusier’s Paris workshop that lasted over five years. He would visit Paris again in 1937 for the fifth meeting of the International Congress for Modern Architecture (CIAM), and to design the prize-winning Japanese Pavilion for that year’s International Exposition. With his country at war, and little resources available at home, he committed himself to researching prefabrication in housing, and designed a residential plan for a Manchurian town in 1940. Influenced by Jean Prouvé, he operated the National Institution for the Wartime Construction of Prefabricated Architecture between 1942 and 1945. His first major commission, realized in 1951, was Kamakura’s Museum of Modern Art. This is a Corbusian prism raised over a pond on stilts, indicating respect for tradition – something his *Bamboo Chair* (1949) had already demonstrated. From the late 1950s he designed a number of projects for town halls, train stations, and urban plazas. Sakakura’s status as director of the Japanese sections of Milan Triennale from 1957 to 1960, coupled with his role as a consultant in the planning of Osaka’s Expo ‘70 (just prior to his death), secured his reputation as one of the giants of architectural modernism in Japan. List of Works Japanese Pavilion, International Exposition, Paris (1937)  Housing Plan for Nanko (Shinkyo), Manchukuo (present-day China) (1940)  Unrealized Project for Cultural Centre, Bangkok (1943)  Museum of Modern Art, Kamakura (1951)  Franco-Japanese Institute, Tokyo (1951)  International House of Japan (with Kunio Maekawa and Junzo Yoshimura), Roppongi, Tokyo (1955)  Hashima City Hall, Gifu (1959)  National Museum of Western Art (with Kunio Maekawa, Takamasa Yoshizaka, and Le Corbusier as chief architect), Tokyo (1959)  City Hall, Hiraoka (1964)  Kanagawa Prefectural Office, Yokohama (1966)  West Plaza of Shinjuku Station, Tokyo (1967-68) |
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