

CourseNo: ARCHA6390_001_2013_3

Meeting Location: [AVERY HALL 114](#)

Meeting Time: M 09:00A-11:00A

Instructor Information: [Kunio Kudo](#)

TA: [Whitney Boykin](#)

The following files are now working properly, thank you for your patience.

- Kurokawa-KishoKurokawa Metabolism and Symbiosis from week 3
- Zbigniew Kazimierz Brzezinski: The Fragile Blossom: Crisis and Change in Japan - Chapter 1
- Zbigniew Kazimierz Brzezinski: The Fragile Blossom: Crisis and Change in Japan - Chapter 10
- Vogel - Chapter 1
- Vogel - Chapter 10

Introduction

US-JAPAN Parallel

The post war world was formed by US and Japan, politically and economically. So was architecture. Simplifying without being afraid of over simplification, the post war started with Gropius GSD American Modern and Miesian IIT , succeeded by Rudolph Yale and Kahn Penn, then Eisenman IAUS, and then at last Tschumi GSAPP Decon or

Violated Idealism to 911 calamity in 2001. Every cutting edge idea and design seemed transported to Japan by Toshio Nakamura's < a+u > and elaborated. For a short period of Post Modern, Euro played a pivotal role with Hans Hollin in Viena and Starling in England.

Let's look into Japanese post war with together US and Euro, how thoughts and forms were migrated, influenced and merged each other to create the newer the more excited through each other countries, cultures and domains.

The post war US and Japan were an odd couple. They were extremely different, but simultaneously, extremely parallel each other. One was the victor and the other loser. One big and powerful, the other small and apparently weak (immediately after the war). One democracy, the other dictatorship (in-war). industrial vs. agricultural(pre-war), individual vs group, new vs old, frank vs shy/polite and ambiguous,push vs pull (a door or a saw), and so vs. not so. But still both were, and still are, experimental, innovative and fearless to be new, to change. So many things were invented in the US then adopted and adept in Japan. Systematic technology transfer and elaboration happened in every field, including cutting edge military, space and nuke as well as car, electronic and building technology. Supper suspension bridge and multi-stories/ multi-directional auto-tunnel driller as well as all kinds of structures , curtain walls, even American tradition 2x4 were transferred to Japan. You can not find any good stuff of them in American land any more today. They are all in Japan now being elaborated, economised and compactized as commercial products.

The war was concluded by two nukes innocently named Little Boy for Hiroshima and Fat Man for Nagasaki. A week

after Nagasaki, Emperor, by radio, first in his reign, announced the conclusion of war (didn't say "surrender"), asking his people "to bear the unbearable, endure the unendurable" for world peace. The two, hell enemies each other suddenly became forever friends, instantly. There were no guerrilla nor suicide street bomber happened since the imperial radio. Japanese both militaries and civilians received US and the allied as a great liberator. However, this 24 hours 180 degree turn-around and systematic war criminal conscience campaign after on left unerasable trauma among intellectuals including architects and artists. ISOZAKI's schizophrenia or Dada course of carrier and his design testify how deep was the inside scar beneath Japanese smooth acceptance of War to Peace conversion with polite smile.

Though the end of war was a great relief for Japanese people, cities and towns were literally flattened by US air raids, not only Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but also Yokohama, Osaka, Kobe, Fukuoka, Nagoya, Sendai, and all other cities and towns from northern Hokkaido to Southern Kyushu and Okinawa, except Kyoto and Nara. It was a cold turkey mercy-less war. It was a total/lethal devastation ever happened in modern history. When the war ended, average Japanese had no food, no shelter, no medicine but sense of great relief. Tokyo was just rows of instant shanty and broken families and lots of orphans over the scorched ground zero.

But, just fifteen years later, Japan came back to the world's economic front and projected "Metabolism" as manifest destiny. The movement was originally organized around Kenzo Tange by young graduate students of Tokyo University, architects, artists, and product designers, on the occasion of the World Design Conference held in Tokyo,

1960. Superficially it looks simply architectural movement, but Koolhaas warmly documented and celebrated it as national manifest destiny rooted deep in the in-war to post war Japanese persistent ambition to be great and respectable in the world. He called the ambition "Project JAPAN"

Research Project

Group Research Topic List: Suggested themes for your individual or group research project this semester. Alternate themes can be proposed & discussed with Kunio for approval & guidance.

- Group or Individual projects are a 30-minute presentation to the class at the end of November.
 - This presentation should compile all information in a format that can be handed in (i.e. pdf or powerpoint) and attribute credit to each participants contribution.
- Individual 10-15 Page Paper to be handed at the end of term December 13, 2013 11:59pm
- The topic for the project and the paper may be different if you choose.

Syllabus

Please purchase *Project Japan: Metabolism Talks* by Rem Koolhaas & Hans Ulrich Obrist

[Supplemental Readings are available here.](#) These are readings that have been assigned in the past or offer promising general information.

9.09 Introduction: Scope of Study

Readings:

[Rem Koolhaas](#), [Hans Ulrich Obrist](#), *Project Japan: Metabolism Talks*, Taschen (2011).

- flip through the book to familiarize yourself with it
- Read pages 56- 83

John W. Dower, *Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II*, (W.W. Norton & Son)

- *strongly recommended to buy, but not Penguin version*
- [Read the Introduction and Chapter One: Shattered Lives](#)

Gary D. Allison, *Japan's Post War History*

- [Read Introduction and Chapter One: Antecedents, 1932 to 1945](#)

Kenneth Frampton & Kunio Kudo, *Planners Architects Engineers Nikken Sekkei: Its Ninety Years and the Modernization of Japan 1900-1989*

- [Read the years 1941 & 1945](#)

9.16 Isozaki Memoir: Post-war Trauma

Readings:

[Rem Koolhaas](#), [Hans Ulrich Obrist](#), *Project Japan: Metabolism Talks*, Taschen (2011).

- Read pages 24-55: Arata Isozaki

[Arata Isozaki: Anti-retrospective](#)

Chapter One: Scattered Seeds of Modernism,

- Chapter Two: Drifting Island on the Sea of Information
- Chapter: Shooting Range of Maniera

9.23 Re-Run: The World Design Conference 1960 and The Rise of Metabolism

Readings:

[Rem Koolhaas](#), [Hans Ulrich Obrist](#), *Project Japan: Metabolism Talks*, Taschen (2011).

- Read Pages 174-205: Birth of a Movement
- Read Pages 206-221

Akira Asada, "Beyond Biomorphic" in Tokyo Bay Experiment/
Emerging Complexities Symposium @ GSAPP

- [Tokyo Bay Experiment-Reiser + Umemoto Studio1](#)
 - Read Pages 20-27

[Kisho Kurokawa: Metabolism And Symbiosis\(German Edition\)](#) by Peter Cachola Schmal, Jochen Visscher, Ingeborg Flagge and Kisho Kurokawa, 2005)

[Raffaele Pernice: Metabolist Movement between Tokyo Bay Planning and Urban Utopias in the Years of Rapid Economic Growth 1958-1964](#), 2007

- Pages to be determined

John W. Dower, *Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II*, (W.W. Norton & Son)

- *strongly recommended to buy, but not Penguin version*
- [Read Chapter 14: Censored Democracy: Policing the New Taboos](#)

9.30 Oracles and Top Guns

Readings:

1.Herman Kahn: Emerging Japanese Superstate : Challenge and Response, (Prentice Hall)

- [Chapter 1](#)
- [Chapter 5](#)

2. Zbigniew Kazimierz Brzezinski: The Fragile Blossom: Crisis and Change in Japan, (Harper and Row, 1972).

- Chapter 1
- Chapter 10

3. Eze F. Vogel: Japan As Number One, 1979

- Chapter 1
- Chapter 10

4. [Wired 9.09, "Is Japan still the Future?"_2001.09.09](#)

5. [William Gibson: My Own Private Tokyo](#), 2001

6. [Rem Koolhaas, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Project Japan. Metabolism Talks, Taschen, 2011](#)

- [Page 267-293 : Tokyo Bay](#)
- [Pages 538-659: Atushi Shimogawara](#)
- [Pages 660-695: Project Japan](#)

10.07 Kenzo Tange in War, Peace and Democracy

Readings:

1. [Rem Koolhaas, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Project Japan. Metabolism Talks, Taschen, 2011](#)
 - Read Pages 102-127: Tange Lab
 - Read Pages 550-589
2. [William Coldrake, Architecture and Authority in Japan: The Grand Shrines of Ise and Izumo, New York: Routledge, 1996.](#)
3. [David B. Stewart: The Making of a Modern Japanese Architecture: 1868 to the Present](#)
 - [Chapter 8](#)

4. Reviewing Works

1. The Pan-Asian Co-prosper Sphere Memorial
2. The Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park

3. Memorial Park for Perished Student Labors, Awaji Island
4. Tokyo Metropolitan Government Office
5. Kagawa Prefectural Government Office
6. Gunma Prefectural Government Office

10.14 No Class due to Kudo's Studio trip

10.21 Kenzo Tange in Economy and Information Age

Readings:

1. [Rem Koolhaas](#), [Hans Ulrich Obrist](#), Project Japan. Metabolism Talks, Taschen, 2011

- Read Pages 266-293: Tokyo Bay

2. David B. Stewart: The Making of a Modern Japanese Architecture: 1868 to the Present

- [Chapter 9](#)

3. Reviewing Works

1. Tokyo Bay Project 1960

2. Yamanashi Broadcasting Station

10.28 Kisho Kurokawa: Metabolism Missionary & Super Media Celebrity

[Rem Koolhaas](#), [Hans Ulrich Obrist](#), Project Japan. Metabolism Talks, Taschen, 2011

- Read Pages 372-440

10.28-1 Kenzo Tange: Tokyo Olympic 1964 and Osaka Expo 1970 : the End of Mission and End of Glory

Mandatory group review with Kunio to discuss your presentation topic. Sign Up

Readings:

1. David B. Stewart: The Making of a Modern Japanese Architecture: 1868 to the Present

• Chapter 10

2. Rem Koolhaas, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Project Japan. Metabolism Talks, Taschen, 2011

3. Reviewing works:

1. Yoyogi Olympic Stadiums 1964

2. Osaka Expo Festival Plaza 1970

11.28-2 Kunio Maekawa: Corb Connection and Technical Approach

Readings:

David B. Stewart: The Making of a Modern Japanese Architecture: 1868 to the Present

Reviewing works:

1. Harumi Apartment

2. Modern Art Museum w/ Corb, Sakakura and
3. Tokyo Cultural Center

11.4 Three Incidents: Death of Good Japan

Investigation on;

The second wave of the post war restructuring of the world.

Mishima's suicide, Kawabata's suicide, & Kurosawa's attempted suicide

Chinese cultural revolution, Kent University Massacre, Columbia Strawberry Paper, Japanese Anti-Ampo, French Cultural Uprise (late 1960s Sartre)

Read, ISOZAKI Chapter Tree: Shooting Range of Maniera

11. 11. Student Project

11.18 Student Project

Saturday 11.23 Make-up class

Visit and Practice Tradition : Urasenke Chanoyu Center

Visit and practice tea ritual. Observation of authentic

Japanese tea rooms of the Urasenke school which was originated by legendary tea master Rikyu in 16th century. The rooms were built in Kyouto, then di-sassembled to ship and re-assembled in New York. Students will have a chance to participate and experience its original meticulous tea ritual to understand the fact that Style Evokes Truth.

The Urasenke Chanoyu Center : 153 East 69th Street,
(Between Lexington and 3rd Avenue) Telephone: 212-988-6161

Check befor you go

You Tube / Course Works:

[Clip1](#) / [Clip1](#) Japanese Tea Ceremony in Manhattan

[Clip2](#) / [Clip2](#) Japanese Tea Ceremony

[Clip3](#) / [Clip3](#) Japanese Tea in America

11.25 Student Project