



October 14, 2016

## Yasushi Horibe: A Human Space for Architecture

### Exhibition: Friday, January 20 – Sunday, March 19, 2017

Venue: TOTO GALLERY·MA

(TOTO Nogizaka Bldg., 3F, 1-24-3 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo)

Closed on Mondays and National Holidays

Hours: 11:00 – 18:00

Admission: Free

### Lecture: Friday, January 27, 2016 at 18:30

Venue: Iino Hall (2-1-1 Uchisaiwaicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo)

Prior registration required



For inquiries regarding this release, please contact:

TOTO GALLERY·MA (TOTO LTD. Cultural Promotion Department)

PR Representatives: Keiko Ono (keiko.ono@jp.toto.com), Mitsuko Morikawa (mitsuko.morikawa @jp.toto.com)

TOTO Nogizaka Bldg., 2F, 1-24-3 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0062

Tel=+81-(0)3-3402-2541 URL=www.toto.co.jp/gallerma/

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## About the Exhibition

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TOTO GALLERY·MA will be holding a solo exhibition of architect Yasushi Horibe titled *Yasushi Horibe: A Human Space for Architecture*.

In the two decades since he started out on his own as an architect at the age of 26, Horibe has built an oeuvre of more than 80 works consisting mostly of houses but also buildings such as guesthouses. The works he creates are characterized by their forms based on polygonal geometries; their refined appearance; the deft use of materials such as wood, stone, and concrete; and beautiful detailing. In recent years, he has also designed buildings of a more public nature, such as community assembly halls and temple buildings. The Charnel House in Chikurinji (Kochi Prefecture) that he completed in 2013 was awarded the 2016 Prize of the Architectural Institute of Japan (Architectural Design Division) in recognition of how “while melting into the site environment, it has a presence in the temple grounds that transcends that of a simple charnel house for its serene, dignified spaces created using reinforced concrete and timber with modern construction techniques, meticulous detailing, and the handwork of skilled craftsmen” (translated excerpt from the AIJ website).

This exhibition will attempt to convey the essence of Horibe’s architecture through a presentation of short films focusing on 14 of his projects, including major works such as the Charnel House in Chikurinji and Library in Asagaya. The films, which feature interviews with clients who have spent time with the buildings over the years, capture the changing countenances of the buildings through showing how visitors interact with them and how they relate to their surroundings. Viewers should be able to appreciate how the buildings are at once both embodiments of the architect’s spirit and joint creations that have been and will continue to be supported by countless people. The exhibition will also feature the recreated interiors of the studio where Horibe develops his work day in and day out. This exhibit will illustrate the process behind the making of his work through showcasing study models, his favorite design tools, and buildings that have influenced him.

The short films that will be shown include “Library in Asagaya (a small urban library housing the private book collection of a scholar of social economics and his grandfather’s altar)”, the “Charnel House in Chikurinji (a space for spending time with the souls of the deceased)”, and the “Hiver bosque (a small pastry shop and café born from the passion of its young owner)”, among others. (Details about show times will be posted on our website.)

The exhibition’s title, “A Human Space for Architecture”, reflects Horibe’s hope that people living at this time in which humans have grown distant from nature will recall their memories of the comfortable spaces everyone intrinsically possesses and find that original place where they can truly be themselves.

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Hours: 11:00 – 18:00

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Venue: TOTO GALLERY·MA

(TOTO Nogizaka Bldg., 3F, 1-24-3 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 107-0062)

Tel: +81-(0)3-3402-1010

URL: [www.toto.co.jp/gallerma](http://www.toto.co.jp/gallerma)

Directions: 1-min. walk from Nogizaka Station (Exit No. 3) on the Chiyoda subway line

6-min. walk from Roppongi Station (Exit No. 7) on the Oedo subway line

7-min. walk from Roppongi Station (Exit No. 4a) on the Hibiya subway line

7-min. walk from Aoyama 1-Chome Station (Exit No. 4) on the Ginza, Hanzomon, and Oedo subway line

Organized by TOTO GALLERY·MA

Planned by TOTO GALLERY·MA Planning and Management Committee

(Special Advisor: Tadao Ando; Members: Kazuhiro Kojima, Kazuyo Sejima, Yoshiharu Tsukamoto, Erwin Viray)

Movie production: TV MAN UNION

Supported by the Tokyo Society of Architects and Building Engineers; Tokyo Association of Architectural Firms; The Japan Institute of Architects Kanto-Koshinetsu Chapter; Kanto Chapter, Architectural Institute of Japan.

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## Exhibition Concept

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### A Human Space for Architecture

Architecture was initially born to make up for the deficiencies of the human body. Humans needed structures for protecting themselves from the threats of nature, such as rain, snow, sunlight, humidity, wind, heat, and cold, so that they could spend their days in peace. The architecture that was born out of man's physical needs was pure in function and image. The simplicity of such primitive architecture was undoubtedly what enabled it to provide a place where people could both spend peaceful time with others and spend fulfilling time alone. What such scenes speak of is a harmonious relationship between nature and the small yet invaluable lives of humans. They are timeless scenes that have continued to reside deep within the memory of all humans since long ago.

As the ages have gone by, architecture's role has become ever more complex as people have come to entrust it with more and more of their hopes and desires. In the process, architecture seems to have gradually lost the functions and image it originally possessed. I believe architecture has grown distant not only from the human body but also from nature. If architecture can be made to once again embody its initial image—that is, as something that is compatible with modern life and the environment and also responds effortlessly to the real physical needs of humans; as something that carries a fundamental power that can awaken our primordial memories of man and nature; and as something that presents itself in an unextraordinary way as a place where anyone can be themselves—I believe that both architecture and humans will be able to return to where they originally belong.

Yasushi Horibe

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## Yasushi Horibe Profile

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Born 1967 in the city of Yokohama in Kanagawa, Japan. Graduated from the environmental design course of the University of Tsukuba School of Art & Design in 1990. Worked at the Masko Atelier under Yoshihiro Masuko from 1991 to 1994. Established Yasushi Horibe Architect & Associates in 1994. Awarded the 18<sup>th</sup> Yoshioka Prize for the Gallery in Ushiku in 2002. Professor at the Kyoto University of Art & Design Graduate School since 2007. Awarded the Architectural Institute of Japan Prize (Architectural Design Division) for the Charnel House in Chikurin-ji in 2016. Major works include the House in Satsuma (1995), Dr. Norichika Maehara Memorial Museum (1995), House in Izukogen (1998), KEYAKI GARDEN (2008), Hiver bosque (2012), Library in Asagaya (2013), Charnel House in Chikurinji (2013), and Assembly Hall in Kamakurayama (2015). Books include *Horibe Yasushi no kenchiku—form and imagination* (TOTO Publishing, 2007), *Shoko wo tateru* (Shinchosha, 2014), and *Horibe Yasushi sakuhinshū 1994–2004: zenkenchiku to sekkeizushū* (Heibonsha, 2015), among others.



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## Related Program: Lecture I

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### **Yasushi Horibe Lecture " A Human Space for Architecture "**

Date: Friday, January 27, 2016 at 18:30 (doors open at 17:30; event scheduled to end at 20:30)

Venue: Iino Hall (2-1-1 Uchisaiwaicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo)

Capacity: 500 people

Admission: Free

Online pre-registration required. Visit [www.toto.co.jp/gallerma](http://www.toto.co.jp/gallerma) for details.

Registration period is from Tuesday, November 22, 2016 to Monday, January 9, 2017.

Selected registrants will be notified by Friday, January 20.

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## Related Publication

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### **Horibe Yasushi: Kenchiku wo kimochi de kangaeru**

Author: **Yasushi Horibe**

Publication Date: January, 2017

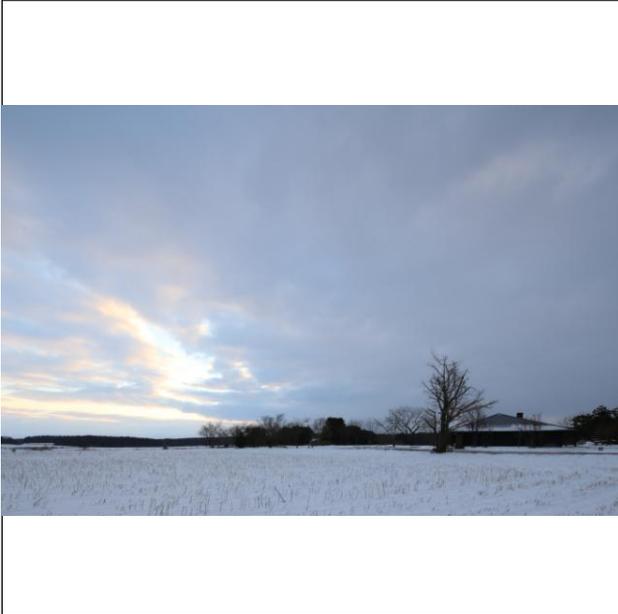
Format: 148mm x 210mm, paperback, 304 pages

Publisher: TOTO Publishing (TEL = 03-3402-7138 URL = [www.toto.co.jp/publishing/](http://www.toto.co.jp/publishing/))

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Images for Media Use 1/2

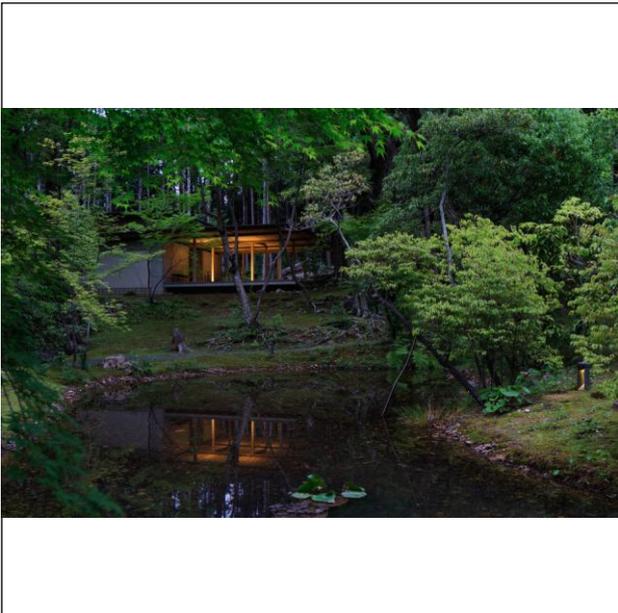
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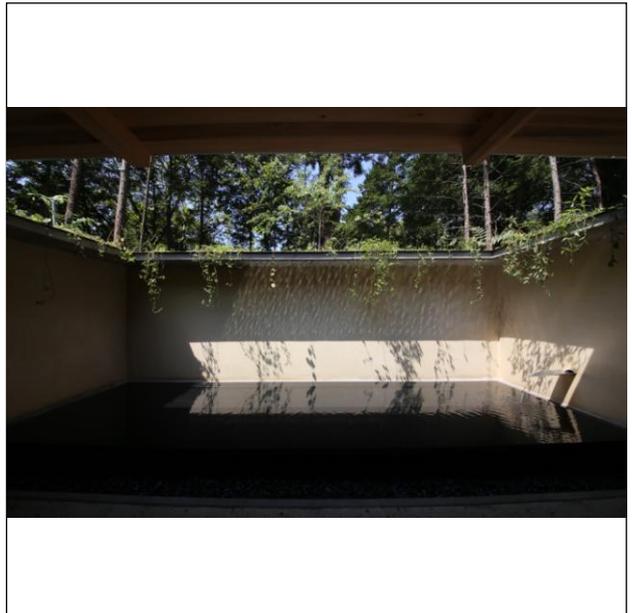
[1] Hiver bosque (Ishikawa/2012) © Yasushi Horibe



[2] Hiver bosque (Ishikawa/2012) © Yasushi Horibe



[3] Charnel House in Chikurinji (Kochi/2013)  
©Ken' ichi Suzuki



[4] Charnel House in Chikurinji (Kochi/2013)  
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**For press images, please contact:**

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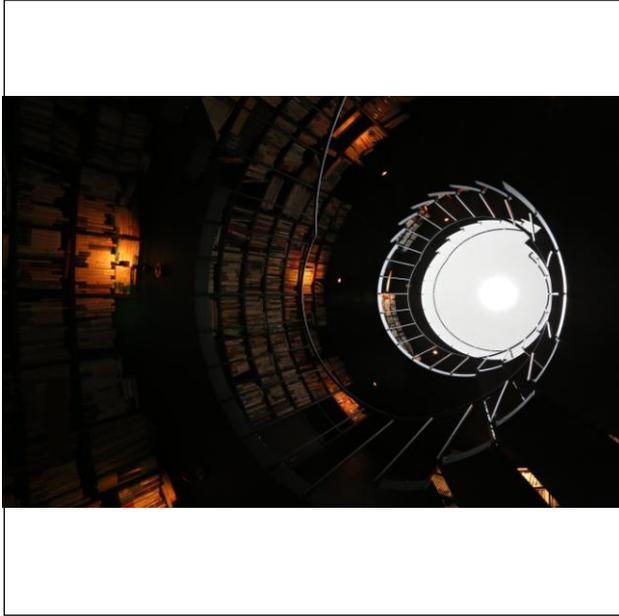
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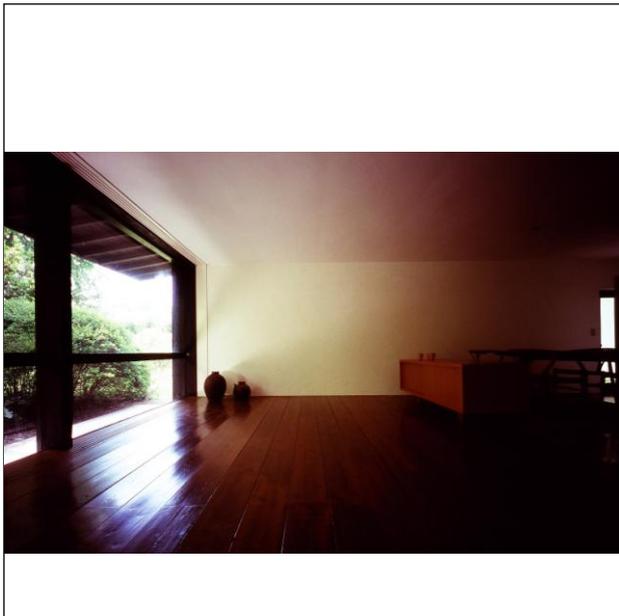
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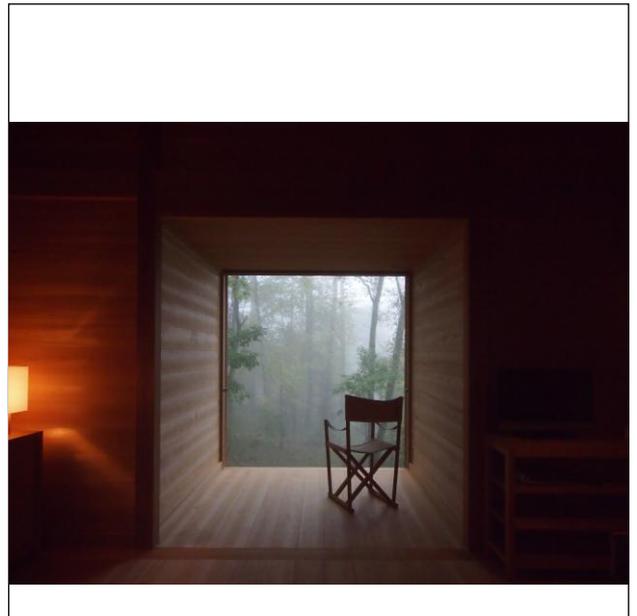
[5] Library in Asagaya (Tokyo/2013) © Yasushi Horibe



[6] Dr. Norichika Maehara Memorial Museum (Kagoshima/1995) © Yasushi Horibe



[7] House in Satsuma (Kagoshima/1995)  
© Yasushi Horibe



[8] House in Tateshina (Nagano/2010)  
© Yasushi Horibe

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