

畝森泰行建築設計事務所
UNEMORI ARCHITECTS



ABOUT UNEMORI ARCHITECTS

UNEMORI ARCHITECTS is an architectural office based in central Tokyo, Japan. Founded in 2009 by Japanese architect Hiroyuki Unemori, UNEMORI ARCHITECTS aims to create diverse and complex spaces of every scale, thereby developing architecture that is small and simple, yet big and complex at the same time.

The idea of opposing characteristics lies at the heart of UNEMORI ARCHITECTS' architectural approach. Their work is characterized by complex structural layouts while maintaining a simple form, with projects ranging from delicate and intimate small-scale spaces to large scale public facilities. Major works by UNEMORI ARCHITECTS include "Smallhouse" (2010), "House Tokyo" (2019) and the "Sukagawa Community Center" (2018). As exemplified in their diverse projects, UNEMORI ARCHITECTS transcends conventional building typologies by merging opposing qualities like smallness and bigness, simplicity and complexity. In doing so, each project reacts to the local circumstances and provides a unique architectural solution for diverse uses and spatial demands.

"When I think about architecture, I always focus on what scale would be most appropriate, how massive it should be, how many years it will take to build it, and to whom it will be delivered. This is the most fundamental approach I take as an architect, and also a way to participate in society as a human being", says founder and architect Hiroyuki Unemori.

The ability to deal with a wide range of scales is one of the major characteristics of UNEMORI ARCHITECTS' work. The following four points further define the office's architectural approach:

1. Scale

UNEMORI ARCHITECTS aims to create architecture that is small and big at the same time. The office creates intricate and intimate small-scale spaces with a sense of spaciousness by realizing high ceilings or large openings among other features. The idea of merging opposing characteristics is also applied in large-scale architecture with the aim of creating different spatial densities.

2. Form

UNEMORI ARCHITECTS aims to create architecture that is simple and complex at the same time. Since architecture is not only for its owner but for society at large, its simplicity is the key to widely communicating its significance. Along with simplicity, UNEMORI ARCHITECTS strives to generate complexity in architecture by creating a simple overall form that brings complex experiences by reinterpreting architectural elements. Some of the examples include floors that overlap while shifting positions, such as in the project Sukagawa Community Center (2018), and ceiling heights that change in response to changes in the building height, such as in the project Yamate Street House (2014).

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3. Structure

UNEMORI ARCHITECTS aims to create architecture that is light and dynamic. Structures poses a fundamental question for architecture that will stand for a long time, and also represent a challenge to achieve freedom in architecture. Structural approaches to architecture include a megastructure with extensive cantilevered floors, such as in the Sukagawa Community Center (2018), suspended structures to achieve column-free spaces, such as in the projects Smallhouse (2010), and House Tokyo (2019), or reinforced concrete columns seamlessly connected to underground piles as if growing out of the ground as in House in Takaoka (ongoing).

4. Relationship

UNEMORI ARCHITECTS aims to create new values through collaborative interactions among individuals. The office collaborates with other architects and experts in various fields on many occasions. In doing so, they take on the challenge of designing new uses, programmes as well as relationships and create new architecture transcending conventional building typologies.

ABOUT FOUNDER HIROYUKI UNEMORI

Founder of UNEMORI ARCHITECTS, Hiroyuki Unemori was born in 1979 and completed his studies at the Yokohama National University in Tokyo, Japan in 2005. After working at TAIRA NISHIZAWA ARCHITECTS, Hiroyuki Unemori established UNEMORI ARCHITECTS in 2009. He holds lectures at various universities. His projects at UNEMORI ARCHITECTS have won numerous national and international awards, including the BCS Prize 61th, Japan, the AIJ Annual Architectural Design Commendation, Japan, the Record Houses 2015, USA or the AR House Outstanding Awards 2013, United Kingdom.

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PROJECTS BY UNEMORI ARCHITECTS



Sukagawa Community Center
Library, Childcare Support, Public Hall
Completion: 2018



House Tokyo
Private Residence
Completion: 2019



Smallhouse
Private Residence
Completion: 2010



Yamate Street House
Private Residence
Completion: 2014

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Yokohama National University, Archi-Media
University
Completion: 2015



Alley & Place
Private Residence
Completion: 2018



Guest House with Firewood
Guest house
Completion: 2018



Akishima Education and Welfare Center
Library
Completion: 2020



House in Takaoka
Private Residence
Completion: 2020



Kitkami Health and Childcare Support
Health Care, Childcare
Under Construction

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Tamura Indoor Playground
Indoor Playground
Under Construction



HOUSES
Private Residence
Under Construction



Kotoura Lifelong Learning Center
Educational Complex
Ongoing



Nagi Junior Highschool
Junior High School
Ongoing



Project A
Private Residence
Ongoing



Susaki Library and Facilities
Library, etc.
Ongoing

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