**Project title: White Arbor and Open Air Theater, Maezawa Garden**

黒部市にある前沢ガーデンハウス（1982年竣工、槇総合計画事務所設計）にはイギリス庭園の風情を持つ広大な庭園があり、その一角に野外ステージ（1989年に竣工。当社設計）がある。ここが、今秋、サンクトペテルブルクと富山県で開催されるシアター・オリンピックスの一会場に充てられることになった。

私たちは、この国際的なイベントを開催するための関連施設整備に関わった。白花亭はそのひとつで、劇場のフォワイエともなる14メートル角の東屋である。この屋根（パーゴラ）は16本の立ち木（シラカシとスギ）が支えている (※)。

学校の起源は一本の樹の下で語り始めた人の話を聞きに人が集まることだと述べたルイス・カーンを待つまでもなく樹下は古今東西人の集まる場所になる。生きている樹木の野生が場所に霊気を与えるからだろう。

実際白花亭に佇めば、古代から綿々と人類が引き継いできた「自然との共生」の本当の姿が体で感じられ、人々の表情は和やかになる。さらに、この東屋は神社のように樹木で覆われた崖の裾にあるので、外から見れば半分森に身を隠し自然の一部となり、内に入れば人を森の冷気と暗がりが神話的な世界に誘う。

※構造的に正確を期せば、屋根にかかる鉛直荷重および地震による水平荷重は25本の柱（立木16本と鉄骨9本）で支えている。ただし、現在の立木の太さでは（先端で直径約8センチ）北陸の最大積雪時の荷重を支えきれない。当初、今年限りの仮設施設として計画が始まったが、来年以降にも残したいということになり、イベント終了後、積雪の前に屋根の形状を更新する予定である。

**■建築概要**

作品名：前沢ガーデン　白花亭　野外ステージ  
設計：アプルデザインワークショップ  
所在地：富山県黒部市前沢  
完成年月：2019年6月  
建築主：YKK  
用途：あずまや  
建築設計：大野秀敏、江口英樹、山本真也、猪飼洋平(主担当者)、岩田慎一郎  
構造設計：小西泰孝建築構造設計  
設備設計：総合設備計画  
施工：第一建設（建築）黒部エムテック（設備）黒部クリーンアンドグリーンサービス（外構）  
構造・規模：鉄骨造地上1階  
敷地面積：56,454.11㎡  
延床面積：98.94㎡(白花亭)70.57㎡(楽屋)  
撮影：北嶋俊治/アーキフォト

Location: Kurobe, Toyama Prefecture, Japan

Completion date: June, 2019

Client: YKK

Architect: A.P.L. design workshop. OHNO, Hidetoshi, EGUCHI, Hideki, YAMAMOTO, Shinya, IKAI, Yohei, IWATA, Shinichiro

Structural engineering: KONISHI Structural Engineers

Mechanical and Electrical engineer: Sogo Setsubi Consulting Co.,Ltd

Contracotrs: Daiichi Kensetsu(Architecture), Kurobe M-tech(Mechanical and Electrical), Kurobe Clean and Green(Gadenning)

Site area：56,454.11㎡

Floor area：98.94㎡(White Arbor)70.57㎡(dressing room)

Photo: KITAJIMA Toshiharu/ Archi Photo

Maezawa Garden House\* in Kurobe City, a small city facing the Japan Sea, has a vast natural garden made up of undulating lawn topography with trees. There is an amphitheater named the “Open Air Theater” in the corner of the garden. It is integrated into the landscape design. It consists of gentle lawn slope that was here prior to our commitment, a circular mound with diameter of X m and a semicircular bank with steps made of timber ties for railroad. Lawn slope and bank are facing each other across the circular mound.

Different combination in uses of the three components will make three types of theatrical configuration. The first configuration is to use the semicircular bank for the seating of audiences and the circular mound and the lawn slope for the stage. It can accommodate about 300 audiences. A very deep and vast lawn stage with rising section may create very dynamic and unique effect.

The second one is to use the bank and the mound for the stage and the lawn slope for the seating of audiences. The third one is to use only the circular mound for the stage and the rest for the audiences. The last configuration is what they call vine-yard type. It is also big accommodation and good for music performance. The last two configurations can accommodate more than one thousand of audiences. This amphitheater was designed by us and completed in 1989.

This theater was appointed for one of the venues for an international drama festival called “Theater Olympic 2019,” which was held in Toga and Kurobe in Japan as well as Saint Petersburg in Russia. For facilitating this international event, several supporting facilities were requested. Frameworks for the stage lightings at the ridge of the semicircular bank as well as some dressing rooms for the players behind the bank. Dressing rooms were implemented by conversion from ocean containers. For the audiences a foyer is needed. It was designed as a garden arbour, whose roof is supported by 17 living trees (oaks and cedars) and steel pillars\*\*. It was named ‘White Flower Arbor’. It will be used as a rest place for the strollers around the garden in an ordinary occasion.

Louis Khan once talked “probably began with a man under a tree, and around him the listeners to the words of his mind.” A tree can create a place for meeting anywhere in the world. The wildness of a tree may also endow a place with spirit. Those who spend some time in White Flower Arbor will experience the true sense of “living together with nature,” passed down from ancient times. Their expressions will soften.

As this gazebo sits on the foot of a slope covered by a forest – almost like a Japanese Shinto shrine – its entity sinking into the forest looks like a part of nature from the outside, while on the inside, its chilly air and darkness bring the people in the gazebo to a world of myth

\* Maezawa Garden House was designed by MAKI Fumihiko, a Pritzker Architecture Prize laureate, and was completed in 1982 for YKK, a global Japanese company manufacturing zippers and other fastening devices as well as architectural products.

\*\* To be precise, in terms of structural engineering, this structure is planned on a formula in which the vertical load on the roof is supported by 26 pillars that include the 17 living trees and 9 steel pipes, and the lateral earthquake load is resisted only by the steel pillars. The diameter of the tree trunks (8cm) is not enough to support the maximum snow depth in this district (1500cm). At the beginning of this project, the gazebo was to be used only for this event this year, but people wanted to keep it to use again, and it will be used for many years.