

Annual Report

2017

2017 was a tremendous year for AIA Japan. We increased our membership to 78, had more participation in our meetings, local activities and overseas events than ever before, and developed stronger and more meaningful relationships with other societies, including JIA (Japan Institute of Architects), SAME (Society of American Military Engineers), ACCJ (American Chamber of Commerce Japan), UIA (International Union of Architects), and PechaKucha.

AlA Japan is also working closely with AlA's COD (Committee on Design) for their visit to Japan in 2020. Takashi Yanai FAIA is Chairman of the COD for 2020 and has been visiting Japan recently and will be joining AIA Japan Chapter this year. AIAJ is also supporting AIA's Architectural Adventures, which will be bringing a tour to Japan this year.

The great successes accomplished by the Chapter this year were directly as a result of the superlative efforts of the superlative Board that served during my term as President:

Vice-President Daishi Yoshimoto, AIA Secretary Akira Nakamura, AIA Treasurer Hisaya Sugiyama, AIA 2016 President George Kunihiro, FAIA 2015 President Richard Moriwaki, AIA

Next year's Officers will be terrific, and will be led by Daishi Yoshimoto:

President Daishi Yoshimoto, AIA
Vice-President / President-Elect Akira Nakamura, AIA
Secretary Yasushi "Leo" Nishimura, AIA Intl Assoc., SAME
Treasurer Hisaya Sugiyama, AIA
2017 President / International Board Scott Gold, AIA, SAME
2016 President George Kunihiro, FAIA

Thank you all for making my year as President so rewarding; I look forward to supporting Daishi and his team this year. In the meanwhile, please enjoy the attached highlights of 2017.

Sincerely,

Scott Gold, AIA AIA Japan 2017 President







LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS AND OVERSEAS EVENTS

Local highlights included great CES lectures by _Opolis, Øivind Slaatto, and James Cutler. SAME sponsored two multi-day events - Industry Day at Yokota Airbase in April and the Okinawa Engineering Symposium in Okinawa in November. ACCJ organized a tour of the new Coca Cola building in Shibuya, by Jun Mitsui and Associates (Jun Mitsui, AIA). The CES lecture series is made possible via the generosity and cooperation of our sponsors Arper and Louis Poulsen and we extend our warm thanks to them.

Overseas events included the Grassroots Conference in Washington, DC (February), the National Convention in Orlando (June), and the International Region Conference in Prague (October). At the IR conference, it was officially announced that Canada has been officially sanctioned as 7th Chapter of the IR (the other 6 are Japan, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Great Britain, Continental Europe, and Middle East). Future IR Chapters in our part of the world may include Singapore and Korea. The UIA Conference Seoul was held in September, with half a dozen AIA Japan members in attendance.



Opolis Architects, Mumbai at Arper showroom.



Øivind Slaatto at Louis Poulsen showroom.



James Cutler lecture.



Prague.



AIA Japan members at the IR Conference, Prague.



International Region Design Award Ceremony.



A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR CES LECTURE HOSTS, ARPER AND LOUIS POULSEN!

Arper is a leading Italian company that creates chairs, tables, and furnishings for community, work and home. The company, created by Feltrin family in 1989, distinguished itself right from the start for its innovative products and state of the art processes, as well as for its international approach. Arper has always availed itself of the collaboration of international designers. These collaborations help define Arper's identity, drawing inspiration from all over the world to elaborate an original synthesis.

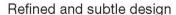
Arper's focus is mainly on the contract sector (80% of sales), with products targeted for different uses and market segments. The DNA of the brand, which approaches design as a means of action and communication, expresses itself through a special focus on color and system flexibility, in a constant dialogue between form and function. Today Arper has 11 showrooms, 4 subsidiaries, 3 branches and 2 Meeting Hubs, located in the major markets throughout the world, and it is distributed in 90 countries through a widespread network of dealers and agents.







LP Slim Round®





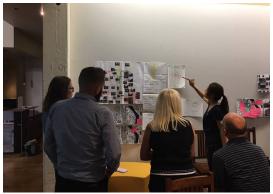
At Louis Poulsen, we are aware of the challenge that lies in maintaining the same visual identity in a building with many different rooms and functions. LP Slim Round is a new family developed by Louis Poulsen. With a broad palette of product variants, it offers the opportunity to work with one aesthetic look across different functional needs.



STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

We have been lucky to have another terrific year with our Student Internship Program, where we sent another group of 6 young architects and future AIA members to the Pacific Northwest. The trip took place 27 August – 16 September. As usual, we have been lucky to get great coordination from Yasuyuki Yanagisawa, who has been spearheading this important aspect of our Chapter since its inception.

This year's students were: Takuyo Fuse, Syunsuke Yoshida, Momoko Nakaoka, Ryo Narita, Yumiko Inoue, Haruka Tanaka, and Jonah Jumila. Fuse-san gave a Pechakucha-style presentation of their trip to the Pacific Northwest. This year the Student Program was supported by Autodesk.



Intern Minami Tanaka at Mahlum Architects.



AUTODESK



Intern Yumiko Inoue at SRG Partnership.



Student reception at UDS Harajuku office.





PECHA KUCHA NIGHT AND AIA DESIGN AWARDS

This is the second year in a row that we have patterned with Mark Dytham and Astrid Klein to hold our final event of the year at Super Deluxe, PechaKucha style. The evening comprised of AIA Design Awards, AIA Student Challenge in English, and AIA Student Program Report. The event was kindly co-sponsored by Louis Poulsen, Arper, and Autodesk.

AIA DESIGN AWARDS

This year, we had excellent entries, judged by a very fine jury - Waro Kishi, Takaharu Tezuka, and Tom Heneghan.







THIS YEAR'S WINNERS



AlA Japan Award for Architecture: Hiroyuki Ito, AlA International Associate Tatsumi Apartment House



AlA Japan Award for Interior Architecture: Nachiko Yamamoto, AlA (Gensler) Nomura Research Institute, Office Relocation (Minatomirai)



Honorable Mention, Nachiko Yamamoto, AIA (Gensler) Accenture Digital Hub



AIA JAPAN ARCHITECTURE ENGLISH CHALLENGE NIGHT

6 students were selected to give presentations of their research and work – again, pechakucha style. The presentations were quite varied and quite exceptional, from the study of pedestrian bridges to living on Mars.

The presenters were:

Zdenka Havlova – Pedestrian Overpasses

Kaede Hatashima – Form of Objects / Objects of Form

Luciana Tenorio – Architecture on Mars

Ryusuke Baba & Tomohiro Aoyama – Replacement of Existing Material Characteristics

Vimu Heenkenda – Upside/Down and Gate Kiosque







DON YOSHINO FAIA

Although Don Yoshino FAIA is not a member of the Japan Chapter, he did live in Tokyo and was one of my predecessors at PAE Japan, running the operation from 1973 – 1977. The original Tokyo American Club, Australian Embassy Housing, and many other projects were executed during Don's tenure with PAE. After this period, he returned to the USA and eventually settled in Florida, where he has his own practice.

On 03 November 2017, the Government of Japan conveyed the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays on Don. This is one of the highest honors given to a civilian from a foreign country - only 149 people received such an honor worldwide. The honor was bestowed upon Don in recognition of his commitment to the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens and his promotion of understanding Japanese culture.

Don is a san-sei. He grew up in California, though he was born in Colorado at the Amache Granada Relocation Center in Colorado — an internment camp - during WWII. Don visited Japan, bringing university students with him and met with some of our members. He plans to come back again this year, and if so, let us give him a warm AIA Japan welcome.





AIA Japan

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