

Kengo Kuma & Associates

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Kengo Kuma

Principal architect of Kengo Kuma & Associates

1954	Born in Kanagawa Prefecture
1979	Completed the Master Course, Department of Architecture, Graduate School of Engineering, University of Tokyo
1985-86	Visiting Scholar Graduate School, Columbia University and Asian Cultural Council
1987	Established Spatial Design Studio
1990	Established Kengo Kuma & Associates
1998-99	Professor at the Faculty of Environmental Information, Keio University
2001	Professor at the Faculty of Science and Technology, Keio University

COMPANY PROFILE

Size and Structure:

Our architecture office is a middle-size company composed by 33 employees.

We do not have any other affiliated companies.

Our office is organized by the following structure:

1x Principal architect

1x Project Director

2x Project Managers

5 x Senior Architects

22x Junior Architects

1x Office manager

1x International public relations

Companies Activities:

Our company is mainly involved in the business of architecture design at different scales (architecture, urban planning, product DESIGN etc.) getting involved in the projects sometimes just as design consultants but usually up to construction management as well.

Years of Practice:

Kengo Kuma & Associates was founded in 1990. During all these past 15 years our office has been involved in the business of architecture.

Office Philosophy

Architecture and Nature

The essence of my approach is the use of natural materials in order to create airy, open spaces filled with sunlight. The methods for creating architecture must be flexible and open; structures must harmonize with, and be "friendly" towards the human body. Everything must be light and gentle; from the planning of the structure and the ventilation system to the designing of the way light filters through the building. These principles are the complete opposite of what a concrete building stands for. Only by taking this path architecture finally blends into and becomes one with nature.

Relativity of Materials

No matter how rich the tactile qualities of materials are, if they appear as single masses, then to me they are not vivid, because they do not change their expression. If materials are thoroughly made into particles, they are transient like rainbows. At times they strongly appear as objects, but with a momentary change of light or in respect to the observer's movement they instantly disperse like clouds and dissolve like mist. Louvers that appeared to be walls suddenly become transparent and disappear. This transience and fragility is their charm and their very essence.

Type of Services

Kengo Kuma & Associates is an architecture firm that tackles a wide range of design scales: from furniture and product design up to urban scale planning.

1	Site Planning	Inhouse
2	Landscape design	Inhouse/Outhouse
3	Façade Design	Inhouse
4	Architectural Design	Inhouse
5	MEP Design	Outhouse
6	Structural Design	Outhouse
7	Interior Design Services	Inhouse
8	Local Architect Services	Inhouse

Works and Projects

1988	Kyodo Grating *1 A Small Bathhouse in Izu *1
1989	GT-M *2
1990	RUSTIC Maiton Resort *3 Doric M2
1991	Kinojo Golf Club Japan Museum (project)
1994	MAN-JU Yusuhara Visitor's Center Kiro-san Observatory
1995	Water/ Glass Space Design of Venice Biennale Japanese Pavilion
1994	Glass/ Shadow Noh Stage in the Forest River/ Filter
1995	Eco Particle (project)

Reverse Theater
 Memorial Park (project)

1996 Awaji S.A.
 EXPO 2005 Basic Conception (project)
 Seaside Subcenter (project)

1997 Wood/ Slats
 Kitakami Canal Museum
 Super Street (project)

2000 Bato-machi Hiroshige Museum
 Takayanagi Community Center
 Sakushin Gakuin University
 Makuhari Housing Complex
 Nasu History Museum
 Stone Museum

2001 Porous House – Kurakuen Project (project)
 Institute of Disaster Prevention
 Parking Building Takasaki
 Sea/Filter
 Ginzan Bath House
 Bamboo House II – Kurakuen Project (project)
 The Skin That Filters The River (urban project)

2002 Great (Bamboo) Wall
 PLASTIC HOUSE
 Adobe Museum for Wooden Buddha
 ADK Shochiku Square

2003 Housing Exhibition Center
 Horai Onsen Bath House
 Forest/Floor
 Soba Restaurant at Togakushi Shine
 Baiso Buddhist Temple
 JR Shibuya Station Renovation Project
 One Omotesando
 Great (BAMBOO) WALL – Phase 2
 Shizuoka Expo Gate Building

2004 Waketokuyama
 Shinonome Apartment Building

The "Food and Agriculture" Museum
 Murai Masanari Art Museum
 NTT Aoyama Building Renovation Project
 LVMH Osaka
 COCON Karasuma
2005 Fukusaki Hanging Garden
 Suntory World Headquarters
 Banraisha (Isamu Noguchi room)
 Nagasaki Prefectural Art Museum
 Lotus House
 Y hutte House (under construction)
 Zhongtai Box Shanghai
 Nippon Design Center Beijing
 Takanezawa Plaza (under construction)
 Suntory Museum (under construction)
 Nezu Museum of Art (current project)
 Asahi Broad Casting Corporation (under construction)
 Sanlitun Urban Redevelopment Project (Under construction)
 Tobata Ward Urban development (under construction)
 Anyang Public Art Project, South Korea (under construction)

Awards:

1998 Good Design Architecture for "Yusuhara Visitor's Center", selected by the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry
 1999 Grand Prize for JCD Design Award 1995 Cultural/ Public Institutions for "Kiro-san Observatory"
 1997 Architectural Institute of Japan Award for "Noh Stage in the Forest"
 First Place, AIA DuPONT Benedictus Award for "Water/ Glass"
 Grand Prize, Regional Design Award (Kochi Prefecture) for "Yusuhara Visitor's Center"
 1999 Honorable Mention, Boston Society of Architecture Unbuilt Architecture Design Award 2000
 2000 Grand Prize, Prize of AIJ, Tohoku Chapter for Design for "River/ Filter"
 Grand Prize, INTER INTRA SPACE design selection for "Kitakami Canal Museum"
 Director General of Forestry Agency Prize for "Bato-machi Hiroshige Museum"
 2001 Togo Murano Award and Architectural institute Award for "Bato-machi Hiroshige Museum"
 International Stone Architecture Award for "Stone Museum", Italy
 2002 Spirit of Nature Wood Architecture Award, Finland
 2005 The Marble Architecture Award 2005 East Asia External Facings 1st prize

One Omotesando



CREDIT

Design date: 2001-2003
Location: Kitaaooyama,
Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Program: shop, office, house
Total floor area: 7690.10 sm
Site area: 1208.69 sm
Structure: Steel Structure
8 stories, 2 basements

Great (Bamboo) wall



CREDIT

Design date: 2000-2002
Location: Beijing, China
Program: Villa
Total floor area: 528.25 sqm
Site area: 1931.57sqm
Structure: Reinforced
concrete
1 story, 1 basement

Lotus house



CREDIT

Design date: 2003-2005

Location: Eastern Japan

Program: Villa

Total floor area: 530sqm

Site area: 2300sqm

Structure: Steel Structure,
reinforced concrete

2 stories

Codan Shinonome development (master plan and 3rd block design)



CREDIT

Design date: 1999-2004

Location: Koto-ku, Tokyo, Japan

Program: housing, shop, parking

Total floor area: 40960 sqm

Site area: 8625 sqm

Structure: Reinforced concrete

14 stories, 1 basement

Tobata C block project



CREDIT

Design date: 2005-07

Location: Kitakyushu, Fukuoka

Program: ward office and others

Total floor area: 40000 sqm

Site area: 12956 sqm

Structure: Reinforced concrete

Sanlitun redevelopment project



CREDIT

Design date: 2005-2007

Location: Beijing, China

Program: Hotel, retail, restaurant, multipurpose hall

Total floor area: 16575sqm

Site area: 8625 sqm

Structure: Reinforced concrete

JR Shibuya station



CREDIT

Design date: 2002-2004

Location: Chui-ku, Tokyo, Japan

Program: Façade renovation

Structure: Reinforced concrete, steel frame

2 stories

NTT Aoyama renovation



CREDIT

Design date: 2004

Location: Minato-ku, Tokyo,
Japan

Program: shop, plaza

Total floor area: 1221sqm

Structure: steel frame

LVMH Osaka



CREDIT

Design date: 2002-04

Location: Chuo-ku, Osaka

Program: shop

Total floor area: 8297sqm

Site area: 983 sqm

Structure: steel frame

9 stories, 1 basement