

Public Lavatory on the Green (left bank of Shirakawa Bridge)



Building Profile

It is a small landmark on the bank of the Shirakawa River, located only a few minutes from Kumamoto Station. Though its area is only about 11 m², it was required to complement the architecture of the station surroundings as well as “Flying Lights”, the Kazuko Fujie designed Art Polis work of FY1992 on the Shirakawa Bridge.

Due to flood control measures, the riverbanks, largely bare of trees, are instead dominated by hard-edged utilitarian structures. Therefore, the structure of lavatory, which is cast iron-made arboroid units and without a clear contour, creates gentleness in the scenery. Three arboroid units are placed arc-like on the ground and lean gently towards the river. It is hoped that this facility becomes a spark for community development and a focal point for children playing along the banks of the Shirakawa River.





Architectural Data	
Name	Public Lavatory on the Green (left bank of Shirakawa bridge)
Address	3 Chome, Motoyama, Kumamoto City, Kumamoto Prefecture
Main Purpose	Public lavatory
Project implementing body	Kumamoto City
Architects	Hiroshi Ota / Design Neuob
Builder	Architecture Tomita Kensetsu Co., Ltd
Area	Premises 36,415.07 m ²
	Architecture 11.59 m ²
	Floor space 11.59 m ²
Stories	one-story building
Height	2,700 mm
Structure	Steel construction
Outside finishing	Roof: galvanized steel sheet Outer wall: Styrofoam-sandwiched with metal
Construction Period	December, 2010 ~ March, 2011
Total construction cost	13,000,000 yen

Profile of architect



Hiroshi Ota	
1968	Born in Tokyo
1991	Graduated from Department of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering, University of Tokyo
1993	Earned master's degree from the Department of Architecture, Graduate School of Engineering, University of Tokyo
1993~	Assistant of Campus Designing Room, University of Tokyo (~98)
2000	Co-established Design Neuob with Kashiwara Toru
2002~	Co-presided over Tokyo Picnic Club
2003~	Researcher, Center for International Urban Regeneration, University of Tokyo (~06)
2009~	Lecturer, Institute of Industrial Science, University of Tokyo
Main works	
Guest house of Kugahara, DUET, Picnopolis, PopulouSCAPE	