

TOKYO METROPOLITAN TEIEN ART MUSEUM

The main theme of this project was to expand the presence of the Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum by building a new wing to the existing main wing and redeveloping the garden area entirely at the same time. This was done to contribute to the preservation of the main wing, the former Prince Asaka Residence, which is designated as an important cultural property, and to revitalize the activities of the museum by taking advantage of the unique features of the building.

Within limited buildable area and height limitation, two gallery spaces and administrative spaces were stacked to fit within the volume of the new building. In Gallery 1, exposed pre-cast concrete floor slabs were used for the ceiling structure instead of girders to maximize the space volume. LEDs were installed to light up the pre-cast concrete slabs consistently to create a white cube exhibition space. In contrast, Gallery 2 has a clerestory on the north side to let natural light in to light up the exhibition space. As for the main wing, the interior was restored to bring its exhibition space back into its original state and to revive the Art-Deco residence. This has given a clear functional differentiation between the new wing and the main wing.

For the design of the new wing, the overall expression and materials were kept to a minimum with modern design. This was done to manifest modernism, which was already rising in Europe at the time the main wing was built, in a contrastive manner to explore the possibility of reviving the pulse of the architectural culture back then.