This is a house built for an elderly married couple in the outskirts of the city. Besides providing living functions to the couple, the house is also an atelier space for their son who lives in the same city.

In the recent years, Japan is experiencing an ageing society, most of the elder citizens are still active in the society as an “Active senior”. It is essential for us to consider and explore any possible way to help them to enjoy their second life after retiring.

In the project, three private rooms were specifically designed for father, mother and son to ensure their privacy. According to the living preference of each other, the three rooms are rooms are including Western style, Japanese style and Earthen floor, each space has placed at the site individually to create courtyard spaces that connect to each other.

We placed a curved roof at the between of each private room to form a space called “AI-NO-MA”. Because the private rooms were both connected with the “AI-NO-MA” space, it is such as a buffer zone to allow each to remain relationship while keeping distances. “AI-NO-MA” is not only a living area for families to communicate, but also a shared veranda, families are able to feel and watching each other when they are in their own space.