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The Japanese House Reinvented

Philip Jodidio

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#1138525 in Books 2015-05-19 2015-05-19 Original language: English PDF # 1 11.25 x 1.13 x 8.30l, .0 #File Name: 1580934064304 pages | File size: 31.Mb

Philip Jodidio : The Japanese House Reinvented before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Japanese House Reinvented:

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Although Japanese architects have to contend with very particular constraints, from tiny plots in crowded urban contexts to ever-present seismic threats, their innovative solutions to the creation of space and stable structures, combined with their close attention to materials, technology and natural light, have resulted in homes that are internationally admired. This overview of fifty recently built Japanese houses includes projects by three Pritzker Prize-winners Tadao Ando, Shigeru Ban and Kazuyo Sejimaas well as by lesser-known emerging architects. Each house is clearly illustrated with colour photographs and plans, and is lucidly described by Philip Jodidio, who has travelled

extensively around Japan and is deeply familiar with these projects and their creators. His book is a powerful demonstration of Japan's enduring commitment to design innovation.

"Readers of architecture blogs will be familiar with many of the often diminutive houses featured in *The Japanese House Reinvented*, but writer Philip Jodidio who traveled in Japan to see the featured projects and meet designers places the 50-odd structures in their rightful context. Extreme density, the threat of natural disasters, a love of kitsch as well as simplicity, and laws pertaining to access of natural light all have a role in sculpting the orderly jumble of Japanese houses. With each house, whether by Shigeru Ban, Atelier Bow-Wow, Tadao Ando, or Jun Igarashi, Jodidio explains materials, site, programmatic needs, and challenges faced by the architects or clients. Roughly three pages are devoted to each project, accompanied by large photographs and an explanatory drawing or two. An inspiring encyclopedia of ideas." *Architectural Record*

About the Author Philip Jodidio is renowned the world over as a writer on architecture. He is the author of numerous books, including monographs on Tadao Ando, Santiago Calatrava, Norman Foster, Richard Meier, Jean Nouvel, and Zaha Hadid.