



## Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press)

By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

**Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press)** By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart

Japanese architect Arata Isozaki sees buildings not as dead objects but as events that encompass the social and historical context -- not to be defined forever by their "everlasting materiality" but as texts to be interpreted and reread continually. In *Japan-ness in Architecture*, he identifies what is essentially Japanese in architecture from the seventh to the twentieth century. In the opening essay, Isozaki analyzes the struggles of modern Japanese architects, including himself, to create something uniquely Japanese out of modernity. He then circles back in history to find what he calls Japan-ness in the seventh-century Ise shrine, reconstruction of the twelfth-century Todai-ji Temple, and the seventeenth-century Katsura Imperial Villa. He finds the periodic ritual relocation of Ise's precincts a counter to the West's concept of architectural permanence, and the repetition of the ritual an alternative to modernity's anxious quest for origins. He traces the "constructive power" of the Todai-ji Temple to the vision of the director of its reconstruction, the monk Chogen, whose imaginative power he sees as corresponding to the revolutionary turmoil of the times. The Katsura Imperial Villa, with its chimerical spaces, achieved its own Japan-ness as it reinvented the traditional shoin style.

And yet, writes Isozaki, what others consider to be the Japanese aesthetic is often the opposite of that essential Japan-ness born in moments of historic self-definition; the purified stylization -- what Isozaki calls "Japanesquization" -- lacks the energy of cultural transformation and reflects an island retrenchment in response to the pressure of other cultures.

Combining historical survey, critical analysis, theoretical reflection, and autobiographical account, these essays, written over a period of twenty years, demonstrate Isozaki's standing as one of the world's leading architects and preeminent architectural thinkers.

 [Download Japan-ness in Architecture \(MIT Press\) ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Japan-ness in Architecture \(MIT Press\) ...pdf](#)



# **Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press)**

*By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart*

## **Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart**

Japanese architect Arata Isozaki sees buildings not as dead objects but as events that encompass the social and historical context -- not to be defined forever by their "everlasting materiality" but as texts to be interpreted and reread continually. In *Japan-ness in Architecture*, he identifies what is essentially Japanese in architecture from the seventh to the twentieth century. In the opening essay, Isozaki analyzes the struggles of modern Japanese architects, including himself, to create something uniquely Japanese out of modernity. He then circles back in history to find what he calls Japan-ness in the seventh-century Ise shrine, reconstruction of the twelfth-century Todai-ji Temple, and the seventeenth-century Katsura Imperial Villa. He finds the periodic ritual relocation of Ise's precincts a counter to the West's concept of architectural permanence, and the repetition of the ritual an alternative to modernity's anxious quest for origins. He traces the "constructive power" of the Todai-ji Temple to the vision of the director of its reconstruction, the monk Chogen, whose imaginative power he sees as corresponding to the revolutionary turmoil of the times. The Katsura Imperial Villa, with its chimerical spaces, achieved its own Japan-ness as it reinvented the traditional shoin style.

And yet, writes Isozaki, what others consider to be the Japanese aesthetic is often the opposite of that essential Japan-ness born in moments of historic self-definition; the purified stylization -- what Isozaki calls "Japanesquization" -- lacks the energy of cultural transformation and reflects an island retrenchment in response to the pressure of other cultures.

Combining historical survey, critical analysis, theoretical reflection, and autobiographical account, these essays, written over a period of twenty years, demonstrate Isozaki's standing as one of the world's leading architects and preeminent architectural thinkers.

## **Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #1133427 in Books
- Published on: 2011-02-25
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .69" w x 6.00" l, 1.33 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 376 pages

 [Download Japan-ness in Architecture \(MIT Press\) ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Japan-ness in Architecture \(MIT Press\) ...pdf](#)



## Download and Read Free Online Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart

---

### Editorial Review

#### Review

Drawing on both his own extensive experience as a practicing architect and a broad grasp of world history, Arata Isozaki takes on the century-old debate over what is (or should be) 'Japanese' about Japanese architecture. This self-reflective critique is fresh and timely, and in the process provides provocative arguments about the shape of all Japanese history.

(Henry D. Smith II, Professor of Japanese History, Columbia University)

Iconoclastic and erudite, opinionated and insightful, wily and contrarian this exciting book should be widely read not only by architects, but by anyone interested in Japan. Isozaki's essays are at once autobiographical and oracular; the collection, written over decades and discussing buildings spanning centuries, establishes his personal struggle with being Japanese in a global era as one that offers provocative insight into the culture of Japan yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

(Dana Buntrock, Department of Architecture, University of California, Berkeley)

#### About the Author

Eugene M. Izhikevich is Chairman and CEO of Brain Corporation in San Diego and was formerly Senior Fellow in Theoretical Neurobiology at the Neurosciences Institute, San Diego. He is editor-in-chief of *Scholarpedia*, the free peer-reviewed encyclopedia.

Arata Isosaki is a leading Japanese architect. His works include the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, the Olympic Stadium in Barcelona, the Volksbank Center am Postdamer Platz in Berlin, the Team Disney Building in Orlando, and the Tokyo University of Art and Design.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

##### David Ochoa:

Do you have favorite book? Should you have, what is your favorite's book? Reserve is very important thing for us to learn everything in the world. Each publication has different aim as well as goal; it means that reserve has different type. Some people truly feel enjoy to spend their the perfect time to read a book. They are reading whatever they have because their hobby is definitely reading a book. Consider the person who don't like examining a book? Sometime, man feel need book when they found difficult problem as well as exercise. Well, probably you will want this Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press).

**Kurt Gomez:**

What do you ponder on book? It is just for students since they are still students or it for all people in the world, what best subject for that? Simply you can be answered for that concern above. Every person has distinct personality and hobby for every single other. Don't to be forced someone or something that they don't want do that. You must know how great along with important the book Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press). All type of book would you see on many options. You can look for the internet sources or other social media.

**Myrtle Galloway:**

Typically the book Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) will bring that you the new experience of reading the book. The author style to describe the idea is very unique. In case you try to find new book to learn, this book very ideal to you. The book Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book from official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

**Megan Jordan:**

Do you like reading a e-book? Confuse to looking for your favorite book? Or your book has been rare? Why so many concern for the book? But virtually any people feel that they enjoy for reading. Some people likes reading, not only science book but novel and Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) or perhaps others sources were given understanding for you. After you know how the good a book, you feel would like to read more and more. Science reserve was created for teacher or perhaps students especially. Those books are helping them to put their knowledge. In various other case, beside science publication, any other book likes Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) to make your spare time far more colorful. Many types of book like this.

**Download and Read Online Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press)  
By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart #ZLC67YH9NTQ**

# **Read Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart for online ebook**

Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart books to read online.

## **Online Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart ebook PDF download**

**Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart Doc**

**Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart Mobipocket**

**Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart EPub**

**ZLC67YH9NTQ: Japan-ness in Architecture (MIT Press) By Arata Isozaki, David B. Stewart**