

Introduction :

Overlooking Cosmos - Noguchi's taste, Le Corbusier's ambition -

Why do we desire "minimal space"?

Isamu Noguchi set out to create an “art of the garden” to communicate with the human body, nature, and weather--as an alternative to modeled sculpture, the dominant method of sculpture in the 20th century.

However, as a maker of interiors, Noguchi's taste tended towards the handcrafted: simple, primitive, and small. A scholar (call him Mr. I) suggested that this stemmed from his interest in “Zen”. Is this true?

Le Corbusier always wanted a "small house, small space" as a base from which to venture forth to the sea to swim or to dance.

In his book “Hôjôkishiki,” Yoshie Hotta writes that Kamo no Chôumei dreamed of having a small space that would be like a window onto “the whole world,” even as--under frenetic circumstances: war and natural disaster leaving corpses in the streets of Kyoto--he pretended to be a recluse. Isn't it natural that Takeshiro Matsuura, who is known as an explorer, would also want a small space?

To spend one's life seizing the world is reckless; it requires a solid base. The enormousness of the world turns us inside out, causes us to desire a small cosmos.

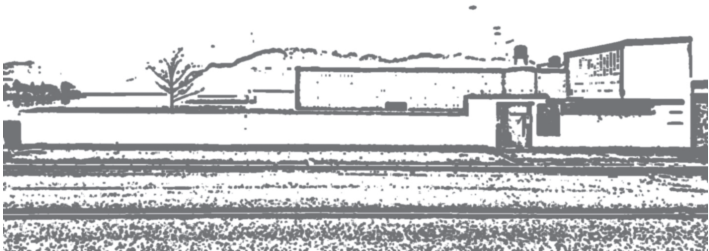
Ryu Niimi

Director,
OPAM | Oita Prefectural Art Museum

Isamu Noguchi (1904–1988) was one of the twentieth century's most important and critically acclaimed sculptors. Through a lifetime of artistic experimentation, he created sculptures, gardens, furniture and lighting designs, ceramics, architecture, and set designs. His work, at once subtle and bold, traditional and modern, set a new standard for the reintegration of the arts.

Kamo no Chômei (1153 or 1155–1216) was a Japanese author, poet (in the waka form), and essayist. He witnessed a series of natural and social disasters, and, having lost his political backing, was passed over for promotion within the Shinto shrine associated with his family. He decided to turn his back on society, took Buddhist vows, and became a hermit, living outside the capital. This was somewhat unusual for the time, when those who turned their backs on the world usually joined monasteries. Along with the poet-priest Saigyô he is representative of the literary recluses of his time, and his celebrated essay Hôjôki ("An Account of a Ten-Foot-Square Hut") is representative of the genre known as "recluse literature" (sôan bungaku).

Yoshie Hotta (1918-1998) was born in Toyama Takaoka, Japan as YoshiMamoru Hotta. He was a writer, known for Hôjôkishiki and Hiroba no kodoku (1953).



The Villa “Le Lac” is a little gem of ingenuity and functionalism – an architectural manifesto where one can find the key ideas of the program developed by Le Corbusier during the 1920s for his famous “white houses”. This laboratory of modern ideas is one of the architect's most personal and inventive works.

Opening hours | 26 May 17.00 to 24.00
Saturday and Sunday from 2 pm to 5 pm.

Outside opening hours, visits on request are possible by appointment for groups of minimum 12 people according to our general conditions.

Entrance fee | Adults CHF 12.- / Students CHF 10.- / Children CHF 6.-
(no debit or credit cards)

Address | Villa «Le Lac»
Route de Lavaux 21
CH-1802 Corseaux <http://www.villalelac.ch>

MIWAKO KURASHIMA

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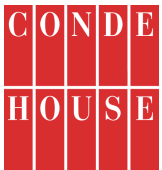
The Noguchi Museum
<http://www.noguchi.org>

The Fundació Mies van der Rohe
<http://miesbcn.com>

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ICU Yuasa Hachiro Memorial Museum
http://subsites.icu.ac.jp/yuasa_museum/index_e.html

Takeshiro Matsuura Memorial Museum



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MUSEUM AT NIGHT
26 MAY 2018, Saturday
every weekend until
24 JUNE 2018, Sunday