



Traditional Japanese Architecture: An Exploration of Elements and Forms

By Mira Locher, Ben Simmons

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Traditional Japanese Architecture: An Exploration of Elements and Forms

By Mira Locher, Ben Simmons

Thick thatched roofs and rough mud plaster walls. Intricate carved wood transoms and precisely woven tatami mats—each element of traditional Japanese architecture tells a story. In *Traditional Japanese Architecture*, author Mira Locher explores how each of these stories encompasses the particular development, construction, function and symbolism inherent in historic architectural elements. From roofs, walls and floors to door pulls and kettle hangers, *Traditional Japanese Architecture* situates these elements firmly within the natural environment and traditional culture of Japan.

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Editorial Review

Review

"It describes architectural components thoroughly, exactly, and lovely—identifying them all with Japanese terms. Overall, this is a delightful book of photographs and a useful...guide for Japanophile architects and designers."—*CHOICE*

"Designers, architects, artists, and anyone with a love of Japanese traditional culture will enjoy this book."—*Library Journal*

"Mira Locher makes the observation that tradition only exists as an idea when it is challenged or superseded by the new. In her first-rate resource book on traditional design you will learn a great deal about construction methods, in which the use of natural materials encouraged a responsible attitude toward conservation."—*The Japan Times*

About the Author

Mira Locher is an architect and professor who worked for Team Zoo Atelier Mobile in Japan for seven years before setting up an architectural practice in partnership with Takayuki Murakami in the US. She is an Assistant Professor at the College of Architecture & Planning at the University of Utah.

Ben Simmons taught photography at Penland School of Crafts in North Carolina before relocating to Japan where he opened Ben Simmons Photography, Inc. Recent books include *Tokyo Megacity*.
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