

組立式
御茶室
Assembled Tea Room

紙日庵

"What Shijitsuan Teaches Us"

が教えてくれる

二帖空間
しじつあん

Two Tatami Space

A meditative space for the information age
The heart of Zen lives on in the Way of Tea
A Wabi-Suki architecture that awakens latent potential
Tatami connects the self to the gifts of nature
Live with care, not haste
Bringing the spirit of Japan into daily life
A path to Zen through a mind free of distractions
Japanese-style mind reset
Engage the five senses: sight, sound, touch, smell, and taste
Tatami beneath the soles awakens the nervous system

An ultra-compact tatami space that resonates with the human spirit
rooted in the grass-hut tearoom of Toyotomi Hideyoshi at Nagoya Castle.

In the Age of Discovery, there once stood the phantom city of Hizen Nagoya
one of the largest cities in the world on the coast of Karatsu
in Hizen Province.

To welcome the emissary of Philip II, King of Spain and ruler of the Philippines,
Toyotomi Hideyoshi commissioned Sen no Rikyu to create the legendary
Golden Tearoom. At the same time, to protect Japan from the encroaching
colonial ambitions of European powers, Hideyoshi summoned over 160 feudal
lords from across the country to Hizen Nagoya.

There, Hideyoshi himself acted as host, holding tea gatherings in a small
grass-hut tearoom to entertain and unify the warlords. It was within this humble
space that the hearts of once-opposing warriors were brought into harmony
an extraordinary function unique to the Souan Chashitsu.

Today, that same function of resonating hearts and dissolving boundaries
is revived and offered to modern society through Shijitsuan (the Paper Tearoom).

This concept is brought to life by an architect who was directly involved in the
design and supervision of the reconstruction of Hideyoshi's original
Souan Chashitsu.

心の揺らぎを整える畳二帖の静寂

The silence of two tatami space helps calm the mind

豊臣秀吉の草庵茶室復元に携った建築家が贈る

Presented by the architect
who was involved in the restoration of Toyotomi Hideyoshi's hermitage tea house

三原宏樹
Hiroki Mihara

"What Shijitsuan Teaches Us: The Way of Tea and the Philosophy of Wa that Opens the Future" is a richly insightful book that
bridges Japan's traditional culture with modern society. At its center is the creation of Shijitsuan—a foldable paper teahouse that
embodies the spirit of wabi-cha, crafted with sustainability and simplicity in mind.

The author, Hiroki Mihara, has worked as a first-class architect in Saga Prefecture for 37 years, designing numerous public,
residential, and medical buildings. Beyond architecture, he has been deeply engaged in local community efforts through NPO
Machizukuri Kenkyujo and the Environmental Promotion Center, dedicating himself to the preservation of historical heritage and
sustainable living.

This book shares the author's journey, including his involvement in reconstructing a teahouse originally built by Toyotomi Hideyoshi,
and his reflections on the philosophies of Hideyoshi and Sen no Rikyu. These insights offer a unique perspective on how the spirit of
the tea ceremony can be reimagined for today.

Shijitsuan, the paper teahouse, fuses the humble ideal of wabi championed by Rikyu with the diplomatic function of the tea space seen
in Hideyoshi's era. Easy to assemble in just 20 minutes, it offers a tranquil space for modern people to calm their minds and awaken
their senses—perfect even for a corner of a city apartment or a living room.

The book also includes stories from the author's real-life projects: restoring cultural properties like the Ryo-ichi Yamaguchi residence,
developing cardboard furniture and system panels, and creating events such as the candle-lit appreciation of calligraphy by
Gochiku Nakabayashi. These episodes illuminate a passion for both craftsmanship and community engagement.

Equally significant is the book's message on environmental consciousness inspired by the paper medium itself. It draws attention to
the often-overlooked wisdom found in natural materials, our bodily senses, and simple practices — like feeling the earth through the soles
of our feet on tatami mats.

This is a book for all who wish to pass on the beauty and essence of Japanese culture to future generations.

From tea, architecture, and sustainability to education and local revitalization
What Shijitsuan Teaches Us offers a multidimensional look at "Japaneseness" and how it can illuminate the path forward.
Let this book quietly awaken the spirit of wa within you.

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