

# Dreams of Life Connected by Modern Design

*Bruno Taut*

*Fusaichiro Inoue*

*Antonin & Noemi Raymond*

*Isamu Kenmochi*

*George Nakashima*

*Isamu Noguchi*



*Isamu Noguchi, Akari Light Sculpture BB9/38S, ca. 1952*



*Bruno Taut, Table clock, 1935*

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*Jan. 11 → Mar. 22, 2020*

Closed on Wednesdays

Opening Hours: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (Admittance until 5:30 p.m.)

\*Open until 8 p.m. (admittance until 7:30 p.m.) on Feb. 7 Fri. and Mar. 6 Fri.

Admission fee: Adults: ¥800 Visitors aged 65 or over carrying proof of age: ¥700  
Students (College): ¥600 Students (Senior/Junior High school): ¥400

\*Admission is free for children in primary school and younger.

\*Groups of 20 or more will receive a ¥100 discount per person.

\*Admission is free for disability passbook holders and up to one accompanying adult.

Panasonic Shiodome Museum of Art  
ROUAULT GALLERY

Organizer: Panasonic Shiodome Museum of Art

Supports: Embassy of the United States of America,  
Embassy of the Czech Republic in Tokyo,  
Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany,  
Goethe Institut Tokyo, Architectural Institute of Japan,  
Japanese Society for the Science of Design JSSD,  
Japan Industrial Designers' Association JIDA,  
Japan Interior Architects / Designers' Association,  
The Japan Institute of Architects, Minato City Board of Education

Planning Collaborator: Curators Inc.

Exhibition design: Naotake Maeda

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# Dreams of Life Connected by Modern Design

In 1928, the Industrial Arts Institute was built in Sendai, marking the establishment of Japan's first national advisory for design. Five years later, the German architect Bruno Taut (1880–1938) was invited to join the institute as an advisor. There, he offered advice to Isamu Kenmochi (1888–1976) and his colleagues. That same year, the architect Antonin Raymond (1888–1976) and his wife, the interior designer Noëmi Raymond (1889–1980), met the businessman Fusaichiro Inoue (1898–1993). Inoue was a patron of the arts scene in Takasaki, Gunma Prefecture. In 1934, Inoue invited Taut to Takasaki—an encounter that led to crafts designed by Taut being sold at a furniture shop called Miratiss. These exchanges symbolized a growing movement throughout Japan and worldwide of designers connecting to discuss how modern design could enrich lives in unprecedented ways.

Modern design was characterized by mass production—made possible by developments in industry and science—which allowed for

a design philosophy prioritizing functional elegance over decorative beauty. While Japanese craft artists and manufacturers attempted to adapt this global trend to Japanese lifestyles and customs, architects and designers from around the world were simultaneously uncovering the modern aesthetic already residing in Japanese architecture and craftsmanship. It was the intertwining of these two trends that led to the birth of aesthetically stunning products that could not be defined purely by functionalism.

This exhibition introduces the works of Taut, Inoue, the Raymonds, and Kenmochi, as well as furniture designer George Nakashima (1905–1990) and sculptor Isamu Noguchi (1904–1988), through 160 items including crafts, furniture, architectural designs, scale models, and photographs dating from the 1930s to the 1960s. Together, the items will convey how the designers developed their dreams of a better world following the Second World War, and how they communicated those hopes to the next generation.



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1. Bruno Taut, Former Hyuga Villa, 1936, Photo: Sadamu Saito 2. Isamu Noguchi, Koga (Ego as an individual), 1956, Sogetsukai Foundation, deposited to Chiba City Museum of Art) The Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum/ARS, New York/JASPAR, Tokyo E3259 3. Furniture shop Miratiss 4. Isamu Kenmochi, Kashiwado Chair T-7165, 1961, Matsudo City Board of Education 5. Antonin Raymond, The New Studio in Karuizawa, 1963, Photo: Sadamu Saito 6. Study of the mural in the Peacock room of the Imperial Hotel (designed by Noemi Raymond) 1920, KITAZAWA Collection 7. George Nakashima, Conoid Chair, 1960/1992, Musashino Art University Museum & Library 8. Bruno Taut, Drawing of a desk lamp, 1935, Bruno Taut no Kai (Bruno Taut Friendship Association)

**Images on the front side:** Artwork above, Isamu Noguchi, Akari Light Sculpture 335 (BB3 stand), 1952, Hida Earth Wisdom Center. Below, Bruno Taut, Table clock, 1935, Iwanami Shoten Publishers, deposited to Waseda University Library. Images on the blue background, from top to below, Furniture shop Miratiss. Antonin and Noemi Raymond at Raymond's House and Studio in Kogai-cho, ca. 1952, Photo: Kitazawa Collection. Kenmochi Isamu, Living Art showroom on the first floor, ca. 1956, Photo Courtesy of Kenmochi Design Associates. Interior of the Minguren Museum, 1969, Photo: Nakashima Foundation for Peace.

## Related Events



### Lecture 1:

#### What Bruno Taut & Antonin Raymond Had Seen in the Japanese Architecture

Speaker: Shunsuke Kurata  
(Architectural Historian, Associate Professor of Faculty of Engineering at Osaka City University)

Date: 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Jan. 25th 2020



### Lecture 2:

#### Modernism in Japan, Its Past and Future

Speaker: Kenya Hara  
(Graphic Designer, President of Nippon Design Center, Inc., Professor at Tokyo's Musashino Art University)

Date: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Feb. 15th 2020

## Gallery talk by curator and guest speakers

Date: Jan. 19th, Jan. 26th, Feb. 11th starting from 4:00 p.m.

Feb. 7th starting from 2:00 p.m.

No booking required.

An exhibition ticket will be required for entry to the museum.

## Workshop for Junior and Senior Highschool Students (reservation required)

### Let's Make Woven Bamboo Sheath Buttons in Hommage to Bruno Taut

Instructor: Yoshie Maejima (certified traditional craftsman)

Date: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Feb. 8th and  
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on Feb 9th 2020.



Please note that all events will be conducted in Japanese.

For more information about the events and the reservations, please visit:  
<https://panasonic.co.jp/ls/museum/>

**Giveaway of special postcards** to the first 250 visitors on each of the following dates: Jan. 17th, 27th Feb. 7th, 27th.

## Family day: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Mar. 4th.

An exhibition ticket will be required for adults.

Free entrance for children up to elementary school.

- The Rouault Gallery is exhibiting works by Georges Rouault from the museum collection. Visitors are welcome to visit the gallery as well.
- Upcoming exhibition: Georges Rouault and Japan: A Shared Spirit and Sense of Art, April 11th to June 23rd 2020

## Panasonic Shiodome Museum of Art ROUAULT GALLERY

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Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-8301, Japan

Contact: +81 (0)3-5777-8000 (NTT Call center) Official Website: <https://panasonic.co.jp/ls/museum/>

### Access:

- 8-minutes walk from JR Shimbashi Station
- 6-minutes walk from Shimbashi Station of Tokyo Metro Ginza Line, Asakusa Line, and Yurikamome
- 5-minutes walk from Oedo Line Shiodome Station

