Yebisu Garden Place

Location: Mita Meguro-ku – Ebisu Shibuya-ku, Tokyo
Owner: Sapporo Breweries Ltd.
Architect: Kume Sekkei Co., Ltd.
Contractors: Taisei Corporation

Tokyu Construction Co., Ltd.
Aoki Corporation
Penta-Ocean Construction Co., Ltd.

Completion Date: Aug. 1994
山手線恵比寿駅前の内観にあったナポリーティスト様式の工場地を複合的に再利用して、多様な機能を兼ね備えた新しい街を生み出した事業であつた。

ここには恵比寿ナポリーティスト・ボン・ガーデンホール（恵比寿ナポリーティスト・ボン・ガーデンホール）と、ナポリーティスト・ボン・ガーデン・スクール（ナポリーティスト・ボン・ガーデン・スクール）が併設し、ピアノアカデミー・エントランス施設も設け、東京中央美術館、東京美術館、恵比寿ナポリーティスト・ボン・ガーデンホール（恵比寿ナポリーティスト・ボン・ガーデンホール）の1校において、あらゆるイベントが行われる場として、地域社会の交流拠点として活用されている。

こうした大規模な再開発においては、個々の施設の特性と、全体的な街路の質感をどのように保つかが大きな課題となっていた。そこでアーキテクチャチェンジを行うことによって、仕切りをもとにして、風呂のインテリアにおいても新しい構築方法を導入するという手法が採用され、見違えることのできる新しい街路が見直されている。

BICS Prize-winning Work

Location: The inner side of the Tokyo Yamanote railway circle, at Eibus Station, the site of this multifunctional redevelopment complex was formerly occupied by a Sapporo Beer Co. brewing plant. The new compound is made up of the Yebisu Garden Place Tower; Garden Hall(plus a membership sports club in the basement), Beer Station and the entrance building, the Tokyo Museum of Photography, a commercial block, the Yebisu Garden Terrace Niban Kan (with 2 movie theaters), the Chateau Restaurant, home office of the Sapporo Beer Co. (with memorial facilities plus the Yebisu Beer Memorial Hall), the Westin Hotel Tokyo, and the Yebisu Garden Terrace. The large size of the components buildings makes this project as much city construction as architectural construction. From start to finish, it required only a brief 3 years.

Each building has a distinctive contemporary form suited to its function. One of the major themes of the project was ensuring such distinct individuality within overall harmony. This is achieved by dividing the total site in half by means of a wide (15 meters) thoroughfare while establishing closer overall interconnection on underground levels. The most outstanding design achievement of the project is the creation, through integration, of a multicultural urban zone with above-ground urban spaces.

The semi-underground Center Plaza, located in the middle of the district, serves both as the focal point binding the whole area together and as a popular place for the integration of a wide range of activities.

The redevelopment project takes less than full account of the historical nature of the site as the home of a large brewing plant. Still, an ever-present eye spies out casually positioned indications of the past, like a statue of Koyo Megashi, founder of the Sapporo Beer Co., a memorial plaque; and the top section of the old brewery smoke stack. Since the name of the beer company gave this part of town its name—Eibusia—a spelling variant of Yebisu—it would have been good to make more positive use of the past. Instead of looking backward, however, the basic plan policy was to create all necessary elements for a project that looks forward to the future.

Extraordinary design talents were needed to preserve total coherence while endowing each part with a distinctive personality of its own. Equally as outstanding were the management abilities that enabled a large number of construction companies to work in cooperation. Rarely does a site as large as this one become available in the heart of Tokyo. This complex is to be lauded for taking advantage of such an unusual opportunity to produce an appealing architectural complex.