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Tane Garden House at Vitra Campus brings together nature and memory

Tane Garden House by Atelier Tsuyoshi Tane Architecture launches at the Vitra Campus in Weil am Rhein, Germany



(Image credit: Photographer Julien Lanoo, courtesy of ATTA and Vitra)

BY ELLIE STATHAKI
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Tane Garden House is the latest addition to be revealed at the Vitra Campus in Weil am

during the Basel 2020 and represents an immersive garden structure that draws on ideas of nature and memory.



(Image credit: Photographer Julien Lanoo, courtesy of ATTA and Vitra)

Tane Garden House at Vitra Campus: the origins

‘Like archaeologists, we begin a long process of exploration and digging up the memory of a place. It is a process of surprise and discovery, a quest to encounter things we did not know, what we had forgotten, what has been lost through modernisation and globalisation. I believe that a place will always have memories deeply embedded in the ground and in history. And that this memory does not belong to the past, but is the driving force that creates architecture. Through this process of thinking about the future from the memory of a place, archaeology gradually becomes architecture,’ said Tane.



(Image credit: Photographer Julien Lanoo, courtesy of ATTA and Vitra)

Tane Garden House: making and materials

The project was realised using sustainable and environmentally friendly materials wherever possible. It also predominantly uses locally sourced elements and was constructed by local craftsmen. The resulting design features, for instance, stone and wood – the former is granite from a quarry some 28km away, and the latter was retrieved from the local forest, about 50km from the Vitra factory.



(Image credit: Photographer Julien Lanoo, courtesy of ATTA and Vitra)

The compact structure measures a mere 15 sq m. It can hold up to eight people and acts as

degree vistas of the surrounding planted expanses, as well as the Oudolf House and the rest of the Vitra site.

'It took three years to design the Garden House. We had many conversations and talks and at the end of the day, it just needed time. We were not only using local materials, but also learning to express the local grammar, patterns, details and techniques, as if learning to pronounce a local language. The final result is a unique, primitive and warm form of architecture,' said Tane.



(Image credit: Photographer Julien Lanoo, courtesy of ATTA and Vitra)

'When Rolf [Fehlbaum, chairman emeritus at Vitra] picked us up by car and drove us to the Vitra Campus, he told me about his childhood, about his memories, recounting how he used to come here with his grandmother when it was only a large field. The Vitra Campus came into being over a number of years. He was thinking of bringing nature back in the next phases of the Vitra Campus, guided by the idea of sustainability. In support of this goal, he had already commissioned the Oudolf Garden. Then suddenly, Rolf asked me: "Tsuyoshi, would you be interested in designing a garden house that can serve as a symbol of sustainability?"' the Japanese architect recalls.

'He is such a visionary person and has given me a lot of inspiration. During the process, I had many great conversations with him. He knows how to work with architects and designers. His words and inputs give a clear direction and you can see that throughout

... of the ... autumn 2023.

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Ellie Stathaki

Ellie Stathaki is the Architecture Editor at Wallpaper*. She trained as an architect at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in Greece and studied architectural history at the Bartlett in London. Now an established journalist, she has been a member of the Wallpaper* team since 2006, visiting buildings across the globe and interviewing leading architects such as Tadao Ando and Rem Koolhaas. Ellie has also taken part in judging panels, moderated events, curated shows and contributed in books, such as *The Contemporary House* (Thames & Hudson, 2018) and *Glenn Sestig Architecture Diary* (2020).

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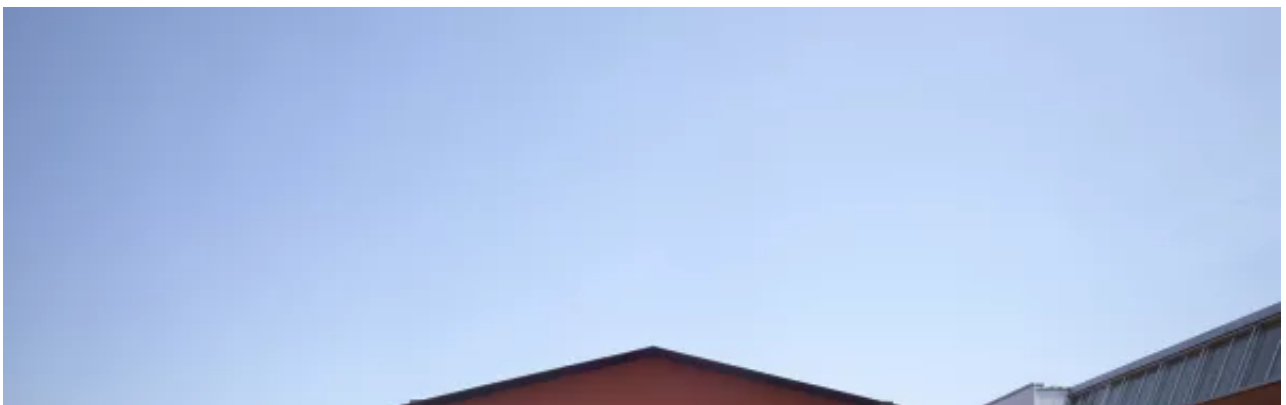
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