





# constellation of stargazing tea ceremony house

a cluster of tea rooms by moriyuki ochiai architects  
reconnects the people to the stars







**previous spread** The aim of the project is to reconnect the local people with the Bisei's beautiful skies.

**left page** Polygonal cuts in the structures' surfaces blur the boundaries between interior and exterior.



**bisei** – The city, whose name means 'beautiful stars', is known both as a sanctuary for stargazing, and the birthplace of Eisai, a Japanese Buddhist priest, credited with introducing green tea to Japan. Moriyuki Ochiai Architects was inspired by the town's heritage to create a 'constellation of tea rooms' which sprawl across a field, framing the surrounding natural landscape of rolling hills and distant mountains.

Built to accommodate events held throughout the year by the Astronomy Club and the Tea Ceremony Club, as well as a performance stage for concerts and plays, the 16 structures are arranged in harmony with the undulating

terrain 'creating a landscape in which the indoor and outdoor expand seamlessly,' says the design team. Painted with striking colours and pierced by polygonal openings, the geometric wooden structures become highly permeable, taking in light, rain and the starry night sky.

Moriyuki Ochiai Architects has created an installation that is as functional as it is spiritual in order to reshape the town's panorama: 'The loose gathering of tea rooms forms an extension of the landscape and creates an environment that enhances the fun and enjoyment derived from human activities.'



a constellation of tea rooms frames  
the surrounding natural landscape







**eon sld** p.000, 000  
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EON SLD was established in 2000 in Seoul, South Korea by Mee Jeong. The company is comprised of 15 designers from different fields such as space, architecture, and industrial design, working on a similarly varied range of projects: architectural, interior, landscape, and event lighting for commercial, hospitality, and mixed-use spaces.



**estudio guto requena** p.000, 000  
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Estudio Guto Requena was established in 2008 by architect Guto Requena and five collaborators. Requena says his work aims at 'the reflection about memory, digital culture and poetic narratives in all design scales, investigating the impact of numeric technologies in the fields of information and communication on our daily lives, as well as its deployments regarding projects.' At the core of the studio's projects is an obsession for experimentation with digital technologies.



**francesc rifé** p.000, 000  
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Interior and industrial designer Francesc Rifé founded his studio in Barcelona in 1994 and currently leads a team of professionals from several design fields. His work is influenced by minimalism and follows a tradition of craftsmanship, focusing on ways of approaching spatial order and geometric proportion, with a special attraction for fine materials. Rifé has received numerous accolades from Contract World, Emporia, Red Dot, FAD and the 8th Ibero-American Biennial CIDI of Interior Design.



**lina ghotmeh architecture** p.000, 000  
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Lina Ghotmeh Architecture is a critically acclaimed international firm of architects, designers and researchers based in Paris. The firm has completed work across the world and a variety of scales from product design to museum architecture. The studio believes in a fair and ecological future, and so its work emerges in tight dialogue with nature, soliciting memory and senses.



**linda bergroth** p.000, 000  
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Linda Bergroth is a Helsinki and Paris-based designer whose projects range from interior architecture to industrial and set design. Having studied both furniture design at the University of Art and Design and architecture at the École d'Architecture Paris-Malaquais, Bergroth moves fluently between different scales fusing commercial and experimental, lasting and temporary. Her vision is valued by leading Scandinavian design brands such as Fiskars, Marimekko and Artek.



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Lucas Y Hernández-Gil Architects was founded in 2008 by Cristina Domínguez Lucas and Fernando Hernández-Gil. Working on architectural projects, as well as interior and graphic design, the Madrid-based studio seeks a different point of view that merges curiosity, intuition and trade. Its work aims to discover a story where all the elements fit together.



**genesin studio** p.000, 000  
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Ryan Genesin established his own studio in 2008, which has since developed into a progressive architecture and interior design office with a team of professionals who enjoy reinventing themselves on every project. Based in Adelaide, the firm invests in the best interests of its clients, resulting in sophisticated residential interiors, and innovative and experimental hospitality and retail spaces. Creating experiences that are simply practical yet bespoke is the priority.



**hachem** p.000, 000  
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Hachem is a design studio with architecture, interiors and branding at its core. Led by Fady Hachem, the firm is dedicated to creating progressive and cohesive outcomes in projects ranging from contemporary hospitality venues to public buildings and residential developments. Creative and technical skills are utilised in tandem with intuitive research, not only to achieve a responsible practical outcome, but also to make intangible qualities manifest – to create a brand, atmosphere or experience.



**ippolito fleitz group** p.000, 000  
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Ippolito Fleitz Group is a multidisciplinary, internationally operating design studio based in Stuttgart. Currently, Ippolito Fleitz Group is a creative unit comprising 80 architects and designers covering a wide range of design territory, including strategy, architecture, interiors, products, graphics and landscape architecture. In 2015, Peter Ippolito and Gunter Fleitz were the first German interior designers to be admitted to Interior Design magazine's prestigious 'Hall of Fame'.



**luchetti krelle** p.000, 000  
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Luchetti Krelle is a Sydney-based interior design and architecture studio established in 2010 by Stuart Krelle and Rachel Luchetti. The studio has a diverse portfolio, with a primary focus on the hospitality sector. Luchetti Krelle offers total-concept solutions, from branding and identity design, to customised furniture and fitting design. The result is unique and customised spaces that respond to client briefs and anticipate future trends.



**masquespacio** p.000, 000  
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Masquespacio is an award-winning creative consultancy created in 2010 by Ana Milena Hernández Palacios and Christophe Penasse. Combining the two disciplines of their founders – interior design and marketing – the Spanish agency creates branding and interior projects through a unique approach that results in fresh and innovative concepts. Besides its internationally recognised work in interior design, the studio is currently producing its first furniture collections sold exclusively through Masquespacio.



**moriyuki ochiai architects** p.000, 000  
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Tokyo-born Moriyuki Ochiai launched his practice – active in architectural, interior, furniture, landscape and industrial design – in 2008. Ochiai finds inspiration in 'the vivacious beauty of nature,' especially that unique nature enshrined with care and discipline in Japanese temples and gardens. These qualities he interprets and applies to space with sophisticated naiveté, in ways that are simultaneously straightforward and poetic.



**juan carlos pulido and edgar galicia** p.000, 000  
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Juan Carlos Pulido is a creative designer specialized in interiors. Working independently, his style has been reaffirmed in projects like the El Ganzo boutique hotel in Los Cabos; the iconic Maca bar in Guadalajara, and the image design of nightclubs such as Rioma in Mexico City and Cake in Hollywood. Edgar Galicia – responsible for the image and branding of H.O.L.Y. – is a creative entrepreneur and DJ. Pulido and Galicia united to create a club inspired in art.



**leopold banchini** p.000, 000  
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Leopold Banchini Architects is a multidisciplinary research team exploring the frontiers of space shaping. Deliberately ignoring borders and embracing globalism, it aims to expand the traditional definitions of project making by using DIY culture and eclecticism as a means of emancipation. Addressing architecture as a form of social action, the studio places political and environmental considerations at the very heart of its practice.



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Lera Brumina and Artem Trigubchak are two independent designers based in Kiev, Ukraine. Each of them has experience in external companies but are now working on projects individually, occasionally joining forces in collaboration. Their work covers the fields of interior design and architecture for private and public clients.



**mulderblauw** p.000, 000  
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Mulderblauw was established in 1988 and has been under the management of Robert Mulder since 2008. The Dutch architecture agency consists of a diverse team of around 40 staff who work on a range of international projects, from hotels and residential projects, to office buildings, and distribution and data centre. Prestigious hospitality projects under the management of Mulder are QO Amsterdam, Hotel Indigo, and Staybridge Suites.



**nong studio** p.000, 000  
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Nong Studio was founded in 2015 by Chasing Wang and Neal Zhu. The team of 20 architects and designers aims to create deep passion and long-lasting richness through their design of interesting spaces. The studio devotes itself to making experiences that will amaze and astonish by finding the perfect balance of different cultures and styles. Nong Studio breaks the boundaries between imagination and design reality, meaning that it is always achieving new possibilities through a human-centred design approach.



**norm architects** p.000, 000  
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Founded in 2008 by Kasper Rønn Von Lotzbech and Jonas Bjerre-Nielsen, the Copenhagen-based studio specialises in the fields of industrial design, residential architecture, commercial interiors, art direction and photography. The firm builds on the traditions of Scandinavian design – timeless aesthetics, natural materials and upholding Modernist principles of restraint and refinement. The essence of Norm Architects' work is found in the balance between richness and restraint, order and complexity.