

## “Harmony” of architecture and music

Atlantis Associates Co Ltd

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It was my great pleasure to design this concert hall, since I was an architect and a big fan of music as well. In my childhood, I learned playing the piano and the flute and had a plan to enter the music field for the future. However, my passion for architecture became stronger and made myself as I was today. We, human being, are destined to pass away sooner or later, while music or architecture last forever.

This building is composed of the head office of Hakuju Institute for Health Science Co Ltd and the concert hall. There is one entrance led to these two different functions. Therefore, the entrance hall was required to highlight the corporate identity as a company handling health issues in Hakuju group as well as the artistic aspect expressed at the concert hall.

The entrance hall with marble, called “Cevenole” from France, processed in four different finishing method of polished finish, honed finish, tooled finish and bush hammered finish, welcomes the visitors. These give you an impression as if you are looking at four different materials.

The space in Foyer luckily has fantastic views of Yoyogi Park and the high-rise buildings in the Shinjuku area. On account of this benefit, I tried to adopt simple design. The space is produced by exclusively using sliced veneer over-layer wall, thermoforming glass from Bretagne and a French made tapestry, where the visitors spend their time looking over the wonderful views.

Concert hall is composed of the lines representing the floating music wave. When the music stops or changes its tempo, the music wave is born and we, architects, transform the world created by the composer and performed by the musician into a three-dimensional world, where the audience are escorted. Considering the scale of the hall and the request from acoustic engineers, the glass is used as a factor of acoustic reflection. It is used on the sidewall and on the stage to keep the same volume by the clearness of it. The scenario of the lighting, embarrassed and relaxed from time to time, is added to this clearness, producing the atmosphere as if they are floating on the music world. The vision of the audience will disappear into the depth of this clearness and the music wave is coming toward to the audience sometimes energetically, but sometimes gently. Producing the volume, the space and the time is a luxurious work that drives up human being emotion.

The above mentioned was my challenge on this project. You will see the result on October 2003.