

**Project:** Material Waltz

**Team:** ARED ARCHITECTS

**Size:** 84.16 m<sup>2</sup>

**Location:** Tokyo, JAPAN



#### **Feature:**

**Project** - Material Waltz is an apartment renovation in Setagaya, Tokyo designed by Akaike Kazuhito of ARED Architects. Taking inspiration from the creative process behind waltz compositions, the architects sought to express the "dance of decoration" within renovation design. They viewed the existing rules of the apartment as a "musical score" and constructed a new "sheet music" along "skewed spatial axes", treating materials as "musical notes" and giving them form beyond function.

The 22 degree angle spatial axes pay respect to and organize the elements inside and outside the building, creating a unified yet non-monotonic atmosphere with its own unique personality - one where floorplans and arrangements take on musical rhythm and harmony. Beyond functionalism and aesthetics, the architects hoped to appeal to visitors' emotions and experiences through this musical approach. They gave the materials, viewed collectively as "notes", distinct "personalities" with whimsical designs that convey more than just modern practicality. The old and new materials assert themselves within the one-room space, crossing brightly like dancers waltzing to the inevitable beats of morning, day and night.

**Design Team** - ARED ARCHITECTS was founded in 2023 by Akaike Kazuhito, the Managing Director and a first-class architect. With professional experience at both top contractors and design studios, he is highly versed in architectural designs ranging from small houses to large complexes, and everything from innovative concepts to solid details. Skilled at one-of-a-kind sculptural design, he strives to unlock projects' fullest potential while emphasizing client empathy. The firm provides comprehensive services encompassing architecture, furniture, product design and creative direction. So far, ARED has successfully completed a diverse range of projects in close cooperation with various clients.