

**Project:** Yazawa Hanoi

**Design Team:** Takashi Niwa Architects

**Size:** 840 m<sup>2</sup>    **Location:** Hanoi, Vietnam



**Feature:**

**Project** - In the heart of Hanoi, Takashi Niwa Architects has revitalized a historic French colonial villa into Yazawa Hanoi, a yakitori restaurant that pays homage to the transformative power of iron. The design approach centers around the "iron" used in cooking, creating a continuous spatial narrative woven with iron elements.

A custom iron emblem emblazoned with the restaurant's initial "Y" was developed, utilizing the local cast iron craft tradition. These 3D curved emblems, mass-produced from 3D printed molds, adorn lighting fixtures, tabletops, the logo, and wine displays, unifying the brand identity throughout.

The existing building underwent major structural reinforcement, with a large void carved out above the open kitchen. Guests can enjoy the chefs' choreography while circulating through a sequence of public and private dining areas, experiencing contrasting scenes of rustic Bengala red earth walls and vivid indigo blue waterproofed areas.

Exterior iron frames juxtaposed with glass and stone hint at the iron-infused interiors. Open kitchen lighting, framing, railings, and balustrades all manifest iron's presence. By interweaving culinary and material narratives, the design crafts an immersive yakitori dining experience that celebrates transformation through fire and iron.

**Design Team** - Founded in 2018 by Takashi Niwa in Hanoi, Vietnam, with a subsequent Tokyo office established in 2020, Takashi Niwa Architects is an international practice guided by the philosophy of "Visualizing Values." This multidisciplinary approach, driven by a diverse team spanning multiple nationalities, seeks to imbue projects with deeper significance through careful consideration of environment and culture.

From interiors and furniture to urban planning, the firm crafts holistic design solutions that elevate user experience and contribute positively to society. Collaborative engagement with stakeholders underpins their process, enabling the creation of impactful, meaningful work.

Under Niwa's leadership, alongside associates like Kyohei Takahashi, the practice has amassed acclaimed projects like the Farming Kindergarten and the award-winning designs for Saigon River Footbridge and Tran Hung Dao Bridge competitions. Their dedication to contextual, value-driven design has garnered international recognition.

With sustainable strategies and community-focused principles, Takashi Niwa Architects strives to shape the future of the built environment across Asia and beyond, maximizing investments through enduring, purposeful architecture that enriches human experience.