

**Project:** Bakery Under the Overpass

**Design Team:** B2A

**Size:** 277.94 m<sup>2</sup>

**Location:** Tokyo, JAPAN



**Feature:**

**Project** - Nestled under an elevated train track in Musashikoganei, Tokyo, this slender bakery designed by K Baba Kanenobu of B2A Architects masterfully transforms a sliver of space into a charming community hub. The elongated site presented a puzzle – with roads on three sides and a park planned opposite, the building has no obvious front or back. Baba aimed to create an architecture that embraces this context, intentionally evoking the impromptu clutter under infrastructure.

The design utilizes a lightweight steel frame adhering strictly to standard modules, clad in a patchwork of familiar materials like corrugated metal and stone tiles. By dividing the roof into three sloping sections and staggering the walls, Baba eliminates the sense of front and back, allowing for an open-air deck, bike parking, and multiple entrances. Inside, details like hand-thrown tiles and a sales counter framed in steel reference the craft of baking. Threaded with warmth and whimsy, the bakery continues founder's tradition of hand-making the shop an evolving work of art. The architecture follows suit, forging human connection and community from the underbelly of infrastructure.

**Design Team** - Led by architect Baba Kanenobu, Tokyo-based B2A Architects is recognized for contextual designs that forge connections between people and places. Their insightful approach pairs sensitivity to surroundings with inventive forms, as seen in projects like a slender bakery tucked under a train track, creating an impromptu community hub. Baba pursues architectures attuned to their sites, eschewing flashy forms for spatial richness emergent from constraints. Since establishing B2A Architects in 2013, Baba has earned accolades including the JIA New Face Award and Good Design Award. His team of young designers brings fresh perspective to projects emphasizing sustainability and social

resonance. Committed to surrounding contexts, B2A Architects shapes spaces into springboards for human experience.