

Project: Forest of Pillars House

Team: IGArchitects

Size: 115 m²

Location: SAITAMA, JAPAN



Feature:

Project - Nestled amid dense suburbia in Saitama, Japan, the Forest of Pillars House by IGArchitects crafts an urban oasis through an inventive wooden structural system. Architect Masato Igarashi oriented the boomerang-shaped residence to embrace the verdant mountain backdrop while blocking views from neighbors. Floor-to-ceiling glazing replaces walls along the south facade, drawing abundant natural light into the expansive open interior.

The focal point is a “forest” of 90mm squared wooden pillars, arrayed in a strict 1.8m grid as slender structural columns soaring 3.5m high. Though systematically arranged, the pillars’ narrow scale and density evoke the texture of real trees. This continues the home’s indoor-outdoor dialogue, turning the interior into an artificial extension of the nearby hillside woods. Private rooms hide behind minimalist wooden boxes, maintaining an airy, park-like sense of flowing space.

IGArchitects disassembled and reconstructed traditional elements to generate displacement - gaps between pillars break up sightlines, while the detached roof seems to float ethereally overhead. The resulting spatial relationships redefine inside and outside. Simplicity of materials translates into rich experiential complexity. Through concept-driven architectural innovation, Forest of Pillars House transmutes an unforgiving urban setting into a personal sanctuary as peaceful as any secluded forest glade.

Design Team - Led by 40-year-old Japanese architect Masato Igarashi, IGArchitects builds perfect balance between nature and human life with exquisite designs. Since its establishment in 2019, the design team has continued to win accolades for its innovative

works, demonstrating excellence in designing everything from small residential to large public projects. People-centric, they infuse warmth and meaning into private homes and public facilities. Clean lines, natural light and indoor-outdoor spatial dialogue shape their unique contemporary identity, using minimal yet refined techniques to craft multi-layered living and community spaces.