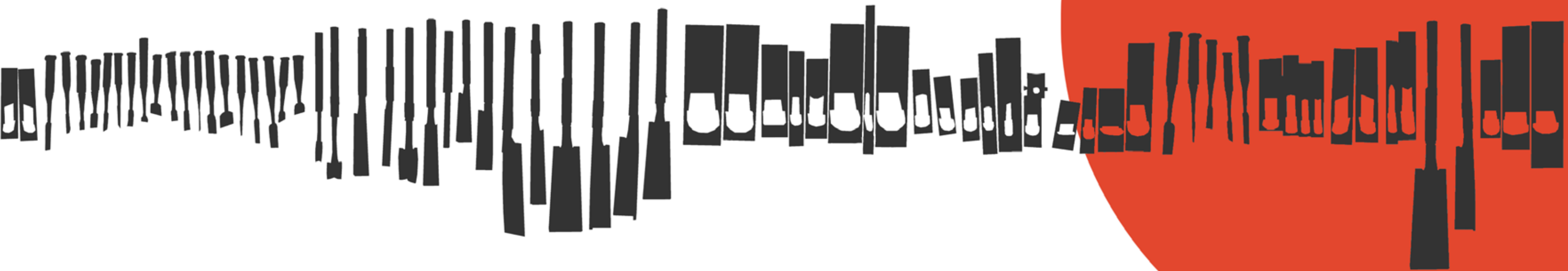


WOOD CRAFTSMANSHIP

A COMPARISON OF DESIGN TRADITIONS
AND INFLUENCES IN **JAPAN** AND THE **UK**

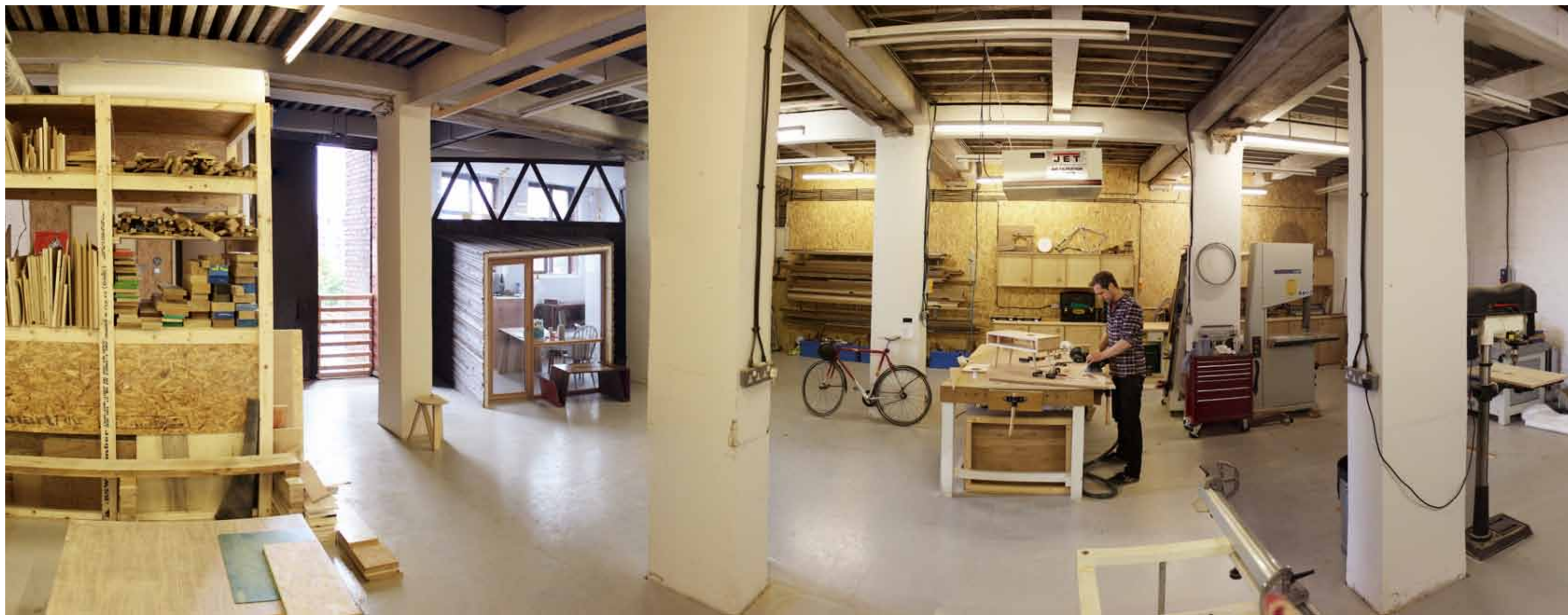
A lecture by furniture designer and maker, **Hugh Miller**



18th November 2016

Department of Design and Architecture

Osaka Institute of Technology



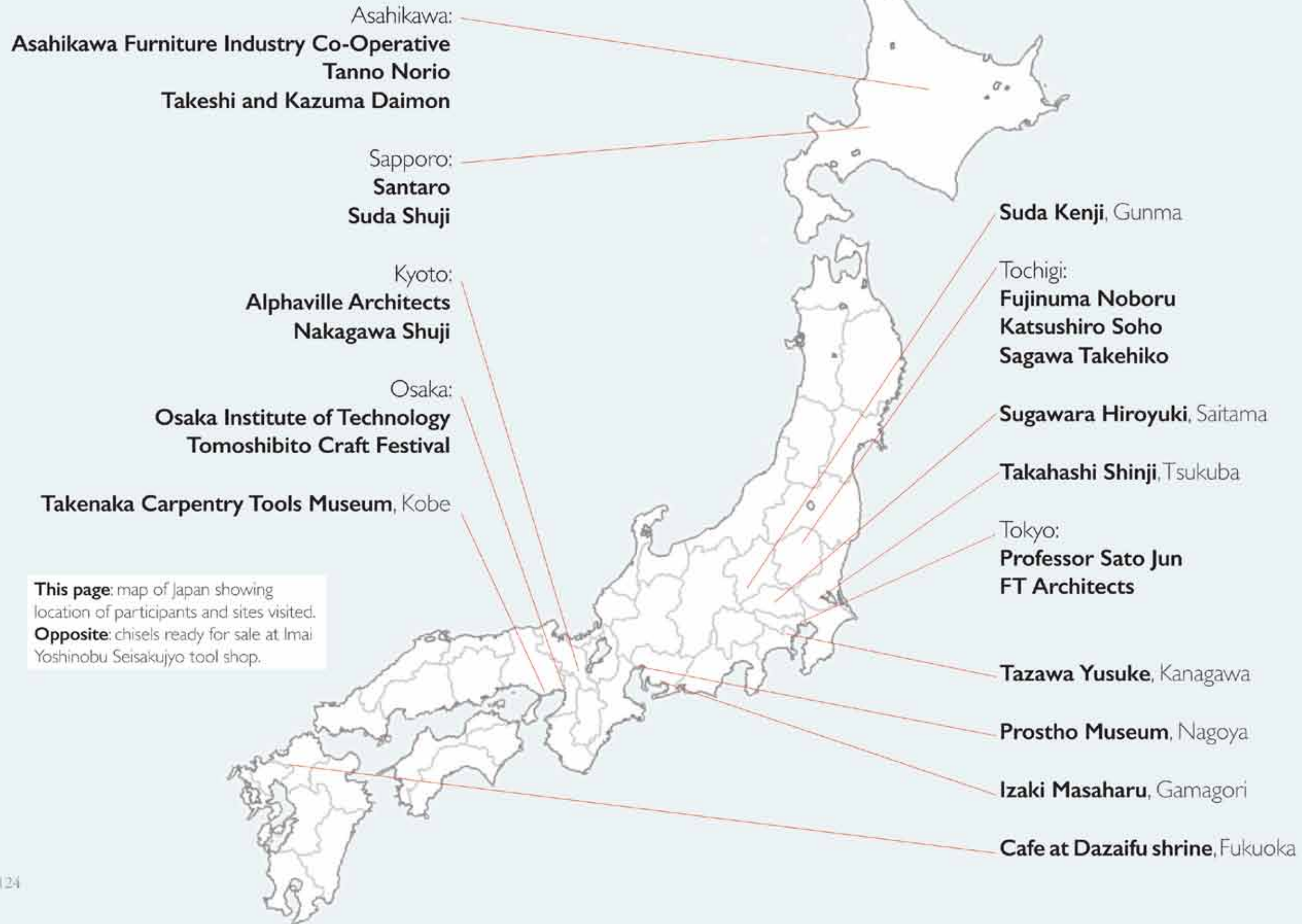
Hugh Miller Furniture Studio, Liverpool



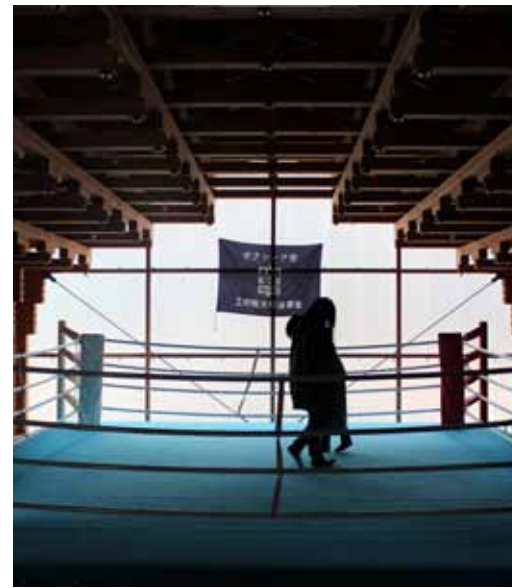
Dining Chair, by Hugh Miller

Constellations Bar, Liverpool, by Hugh and Howard Miller





A study into Japanese wood craftsmanship, 2015, by Hugh Miller



Veneration of the Practitioner Over the Object:

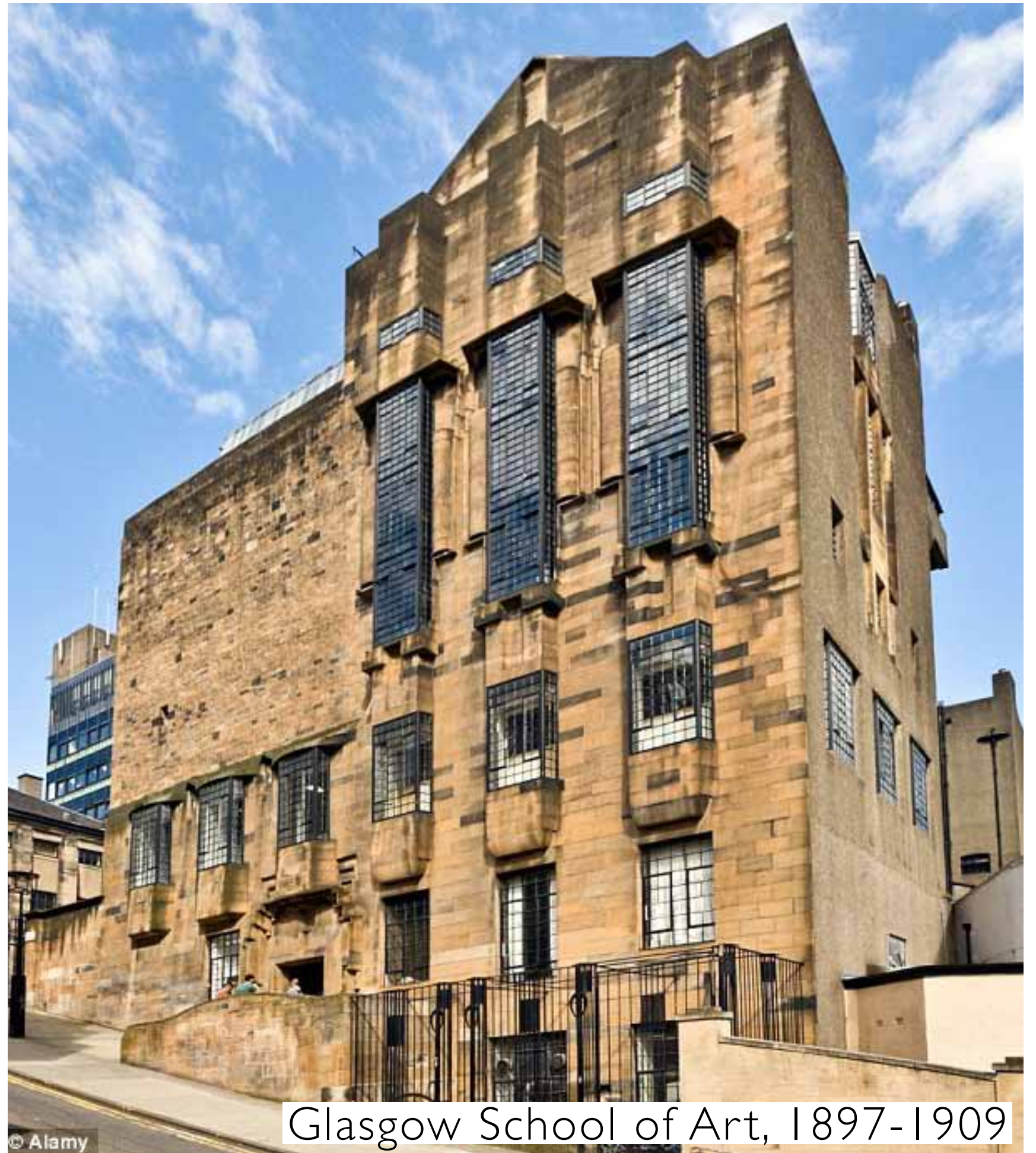




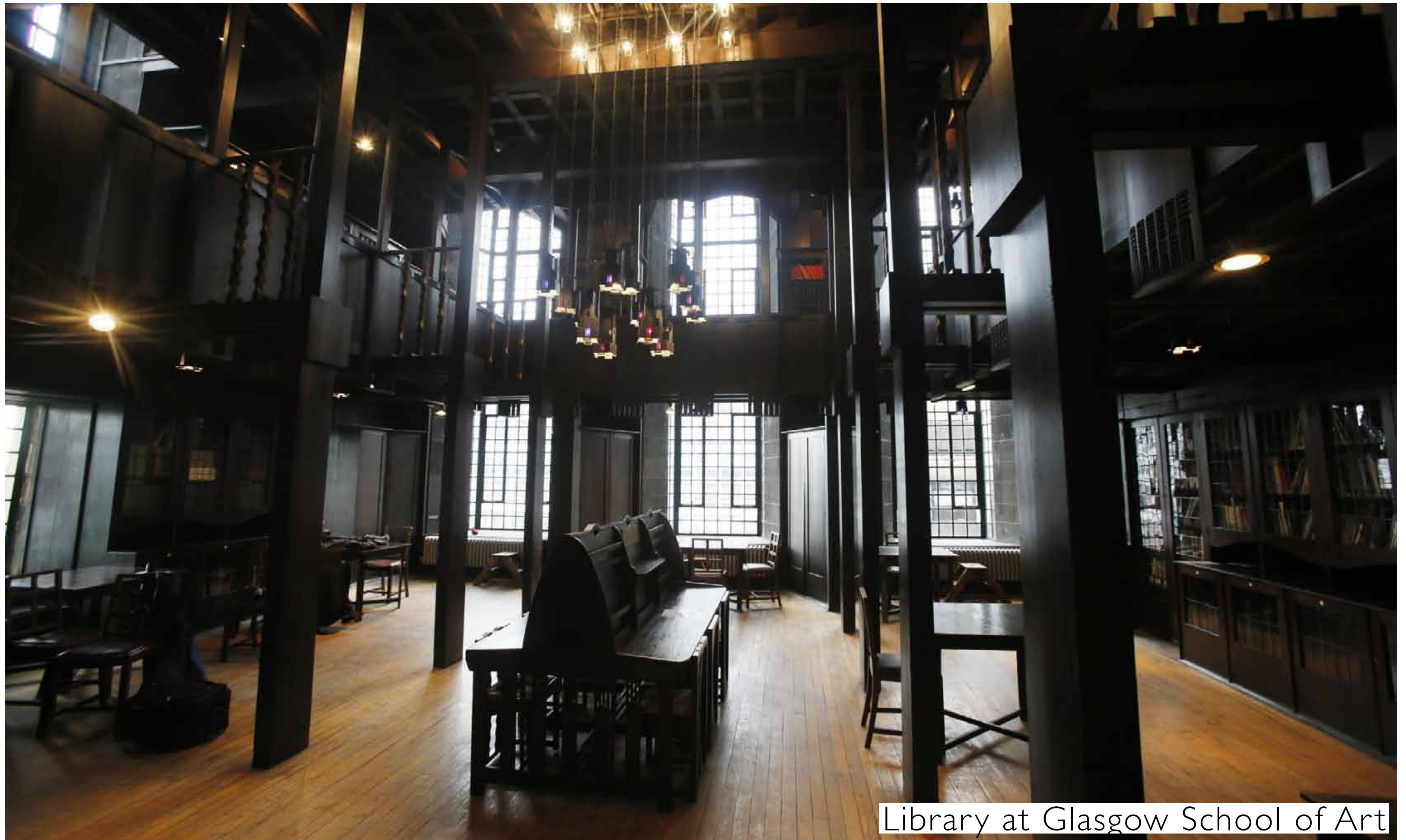
katsushiro Soho,
Living National Treasure in Bamboo Arts



Charles Rennie Mackintosh
Scottish Architect, 1868-1928



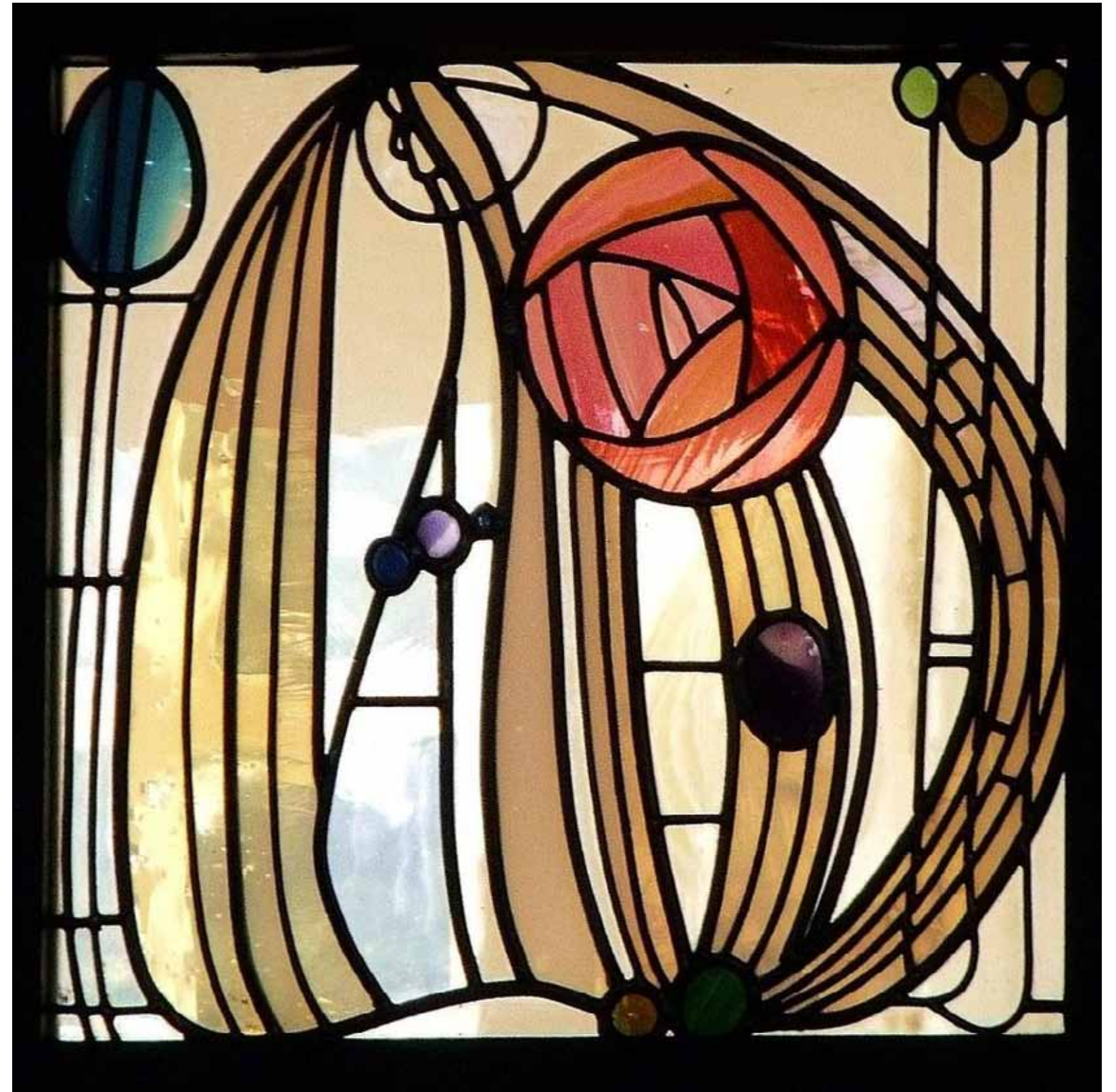
Glasgow School of Art, 1897-1909



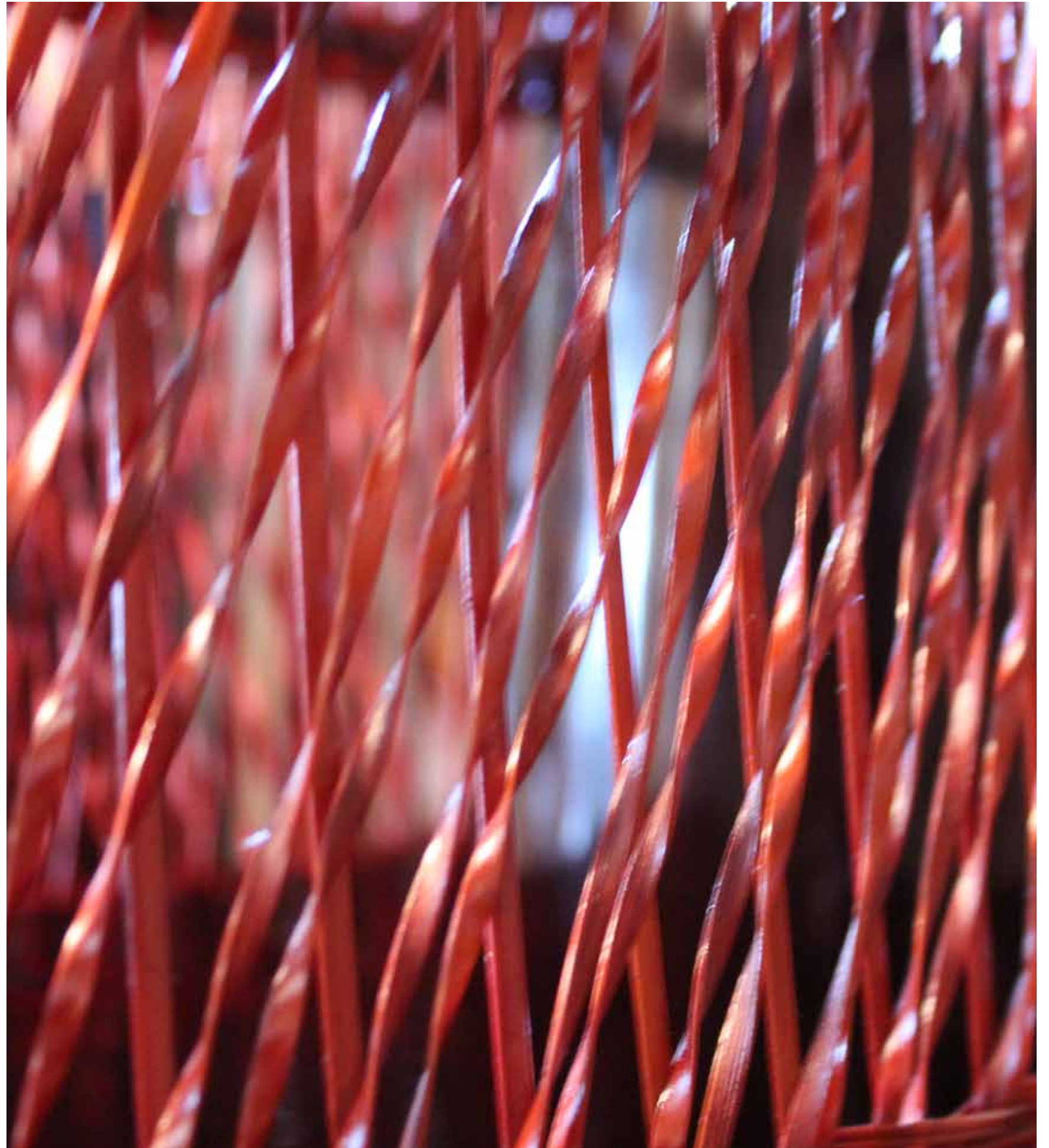
Library at Glasgow School of Art



'Fritillaria', watercolour painting



'Glasgow Rose'



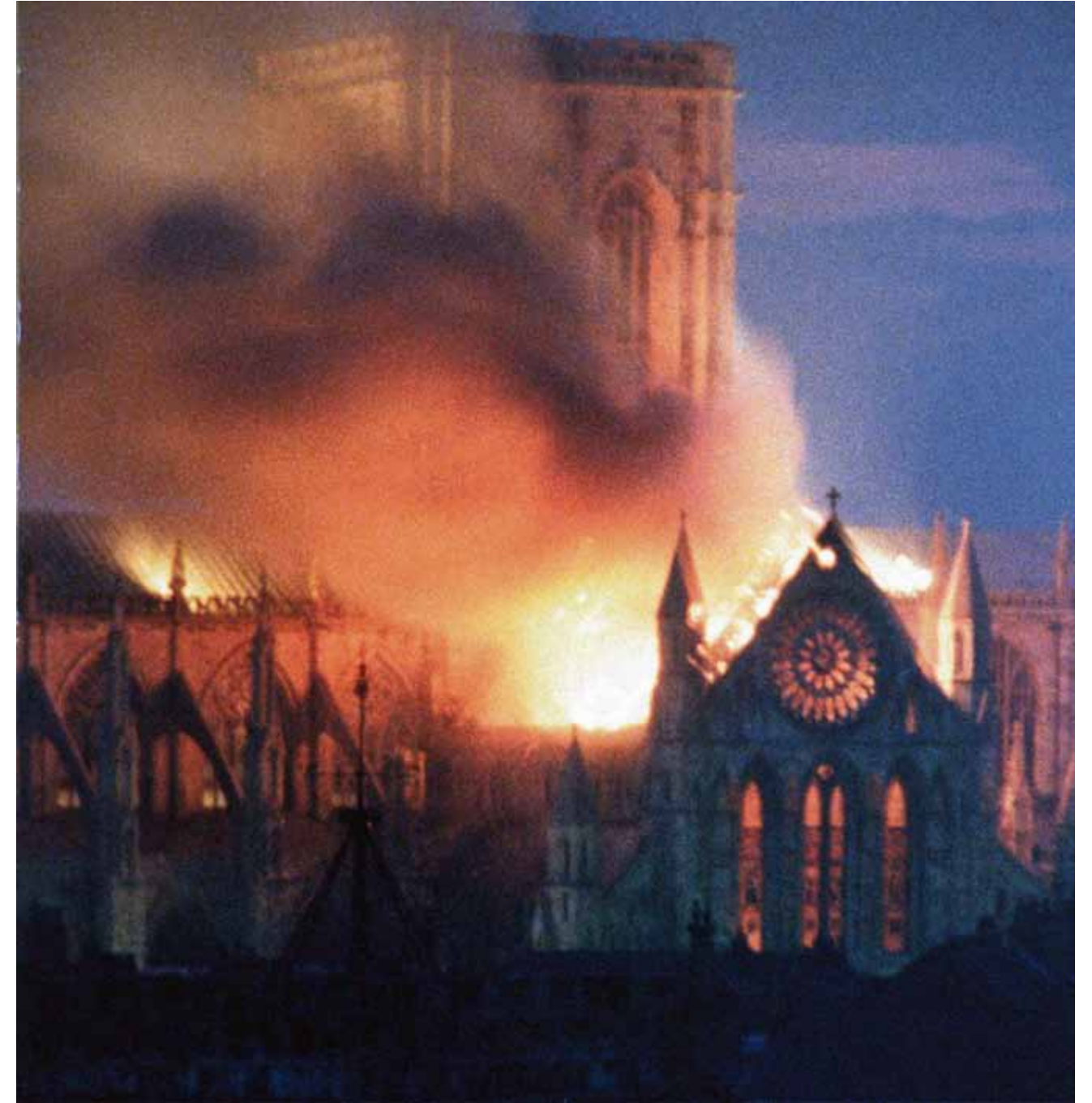
Rain Basket by Katsushiro

Ise Shrine, Nagoya



Protecting the means of creating craftsmanship

York Minster, England, completed 1472



Fire at York Minster, 1984



Damage resulting from fire

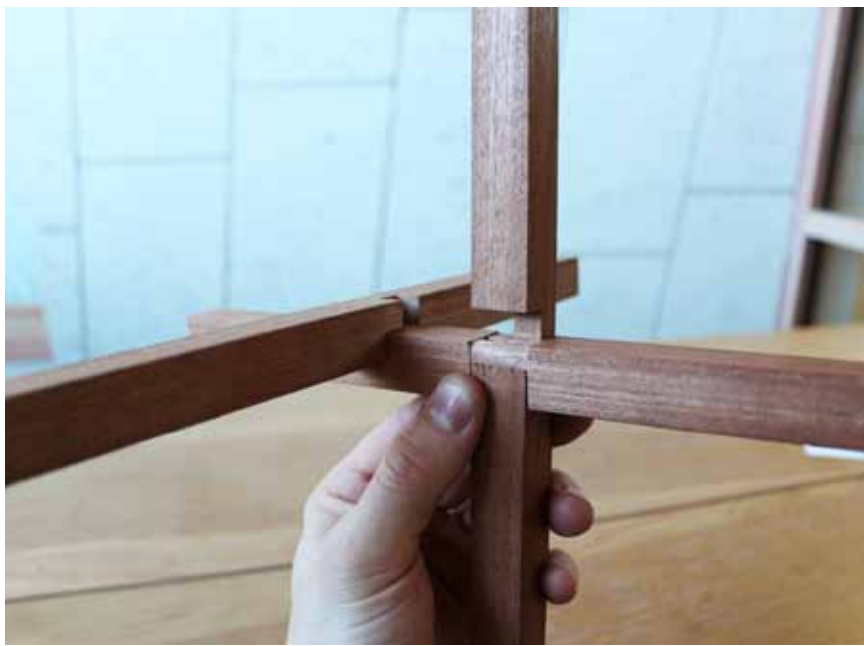


Protecting the fabric of craftsmanship itself



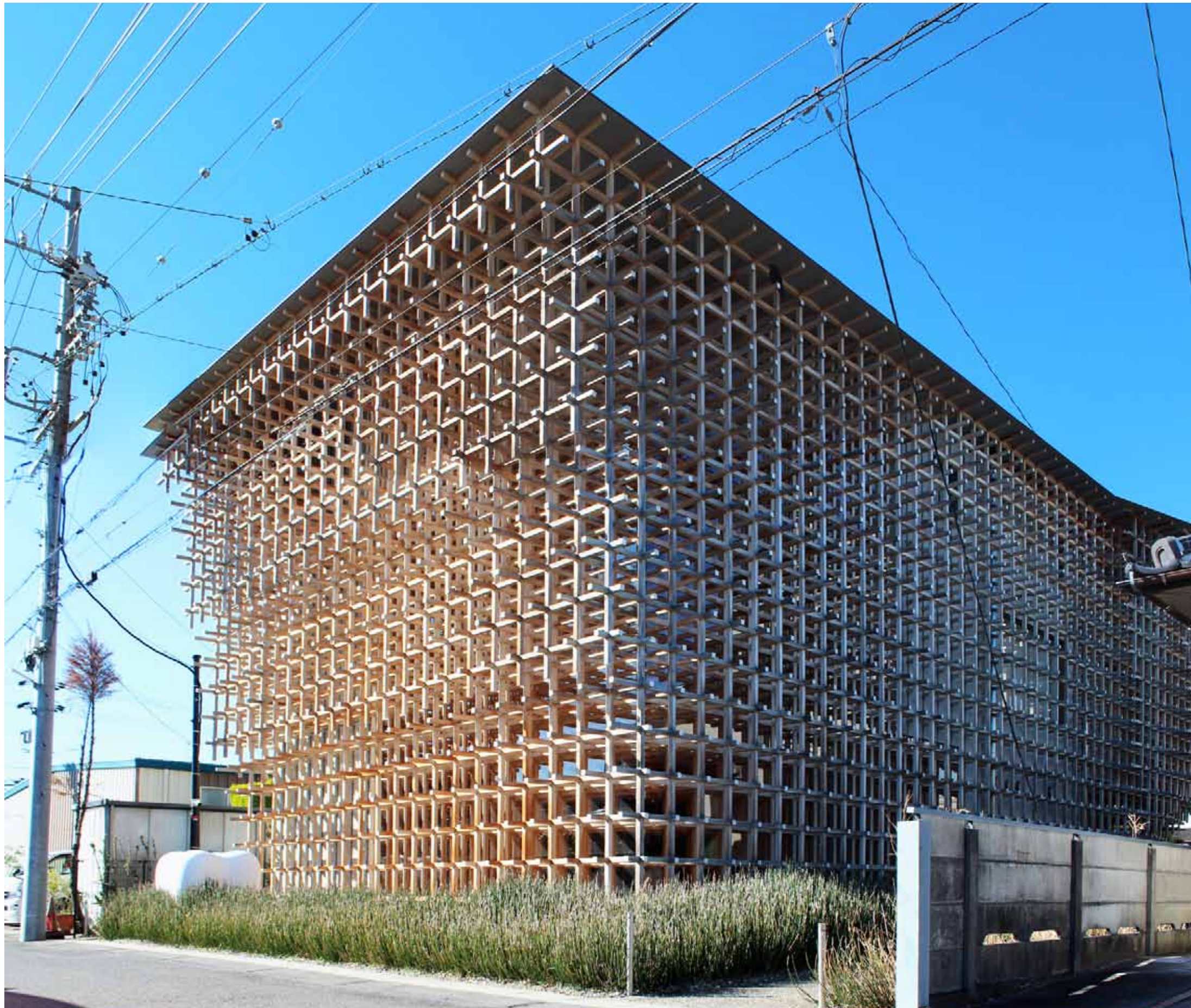
Continual maintenance of wood structures in Gion, Kyoto

Tending the Flame of Tradition:



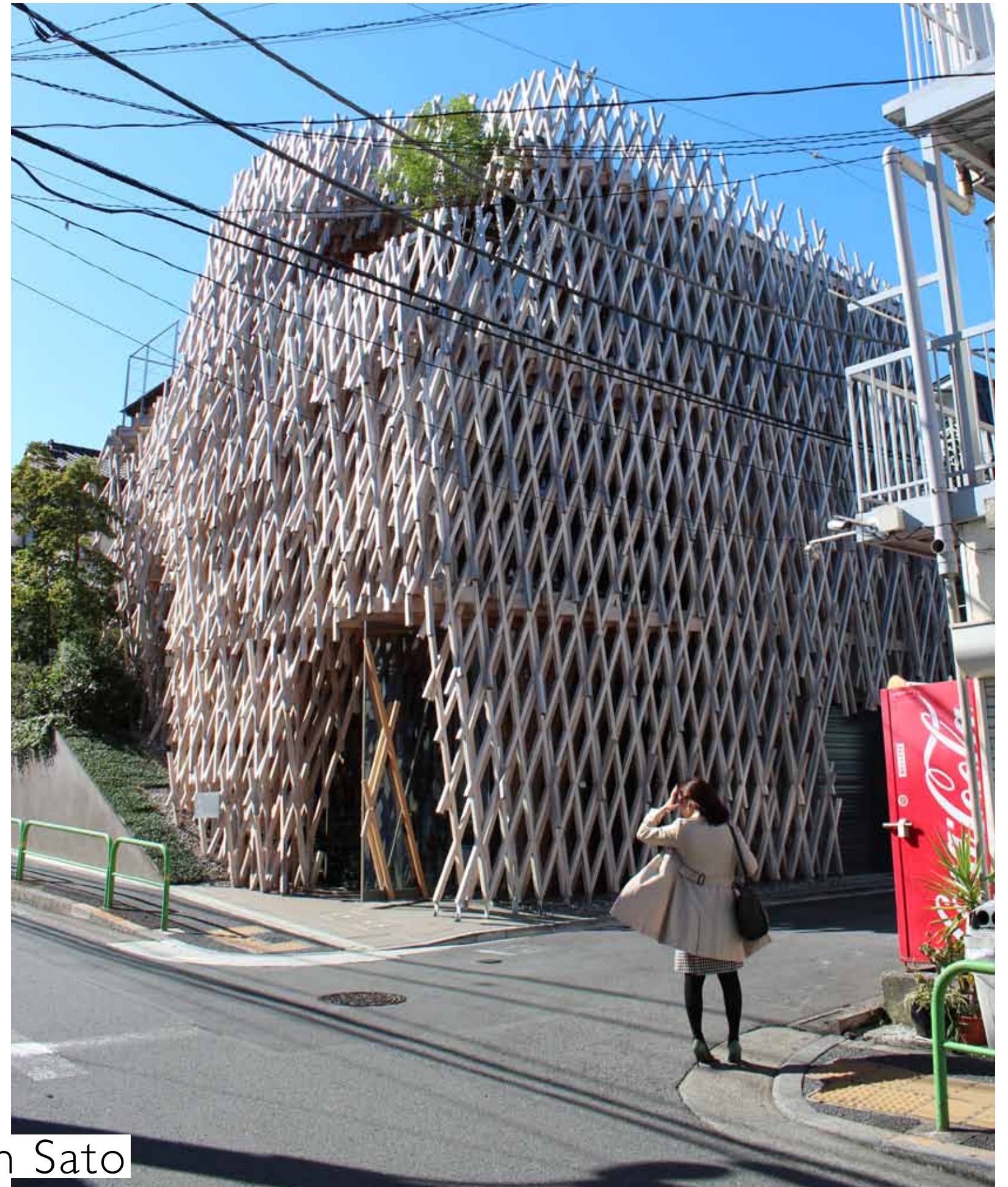
‘Tradition is tending the flame, it’s not worshiping the ashes.’

- Gustav Mahler, 1860-1911, Austrian Composer,



Chidori Experiments, by Kengo Kuma and Jun Sato





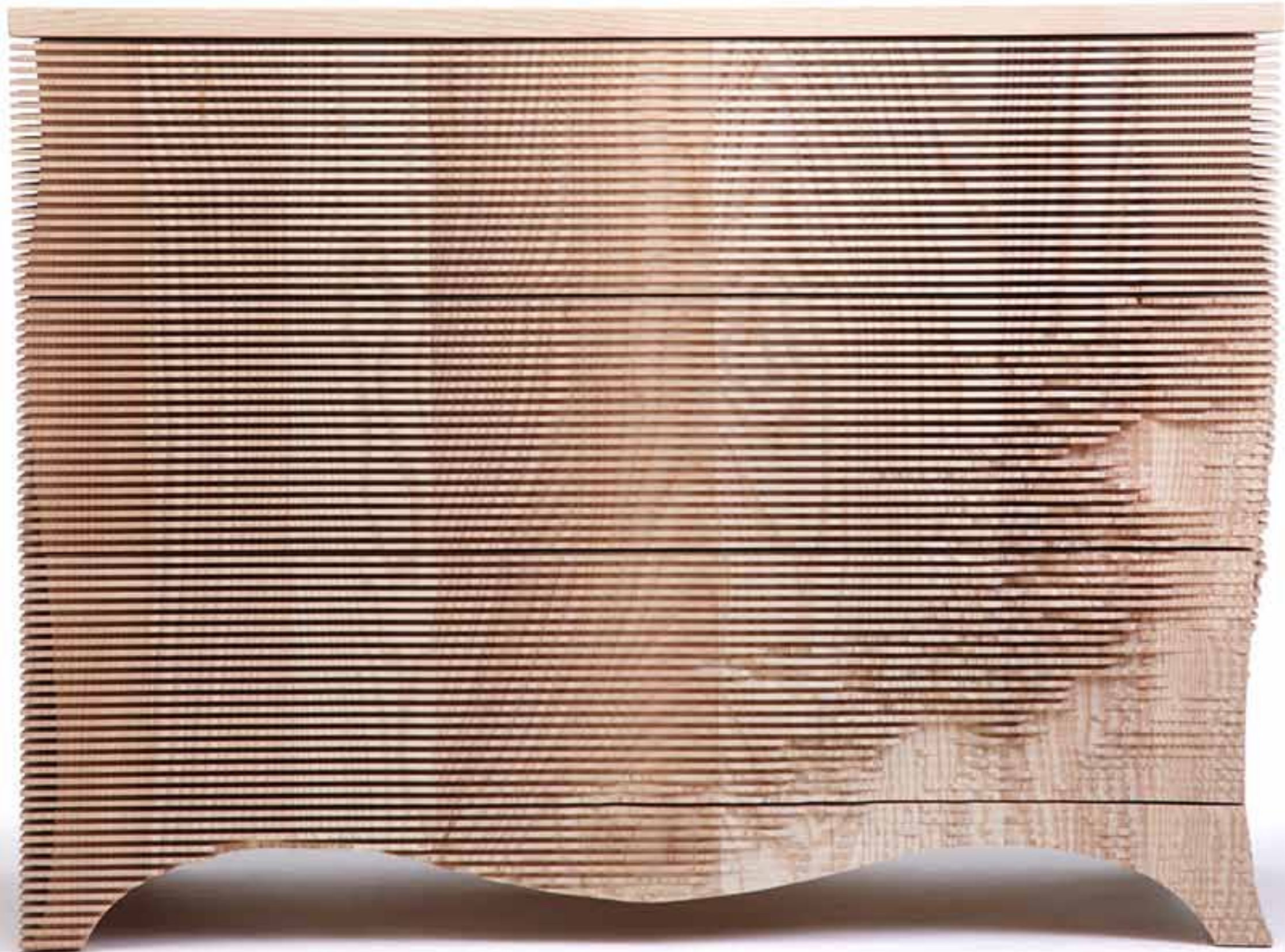
Chidori Experiments, by Kengo Kuma and Jun Sato



Traditional Windsor Chair
made in UK continuously since 1724



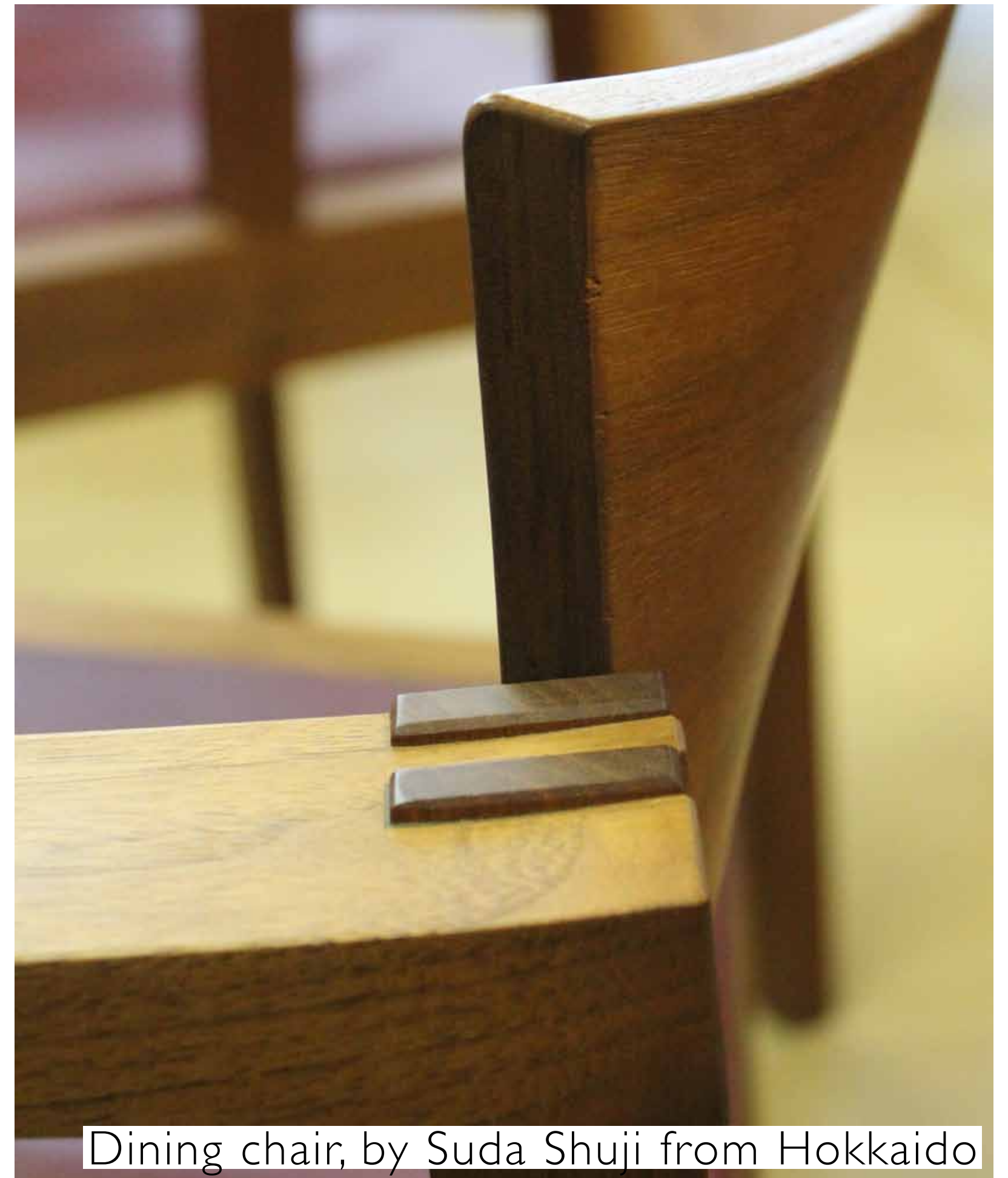
'Windsor Rocking Chair' by Katie Walker



King George III Cabinet, by Gareth Neal

National Identity:
The Melting Pot vs. The Pressure Cooker Effect





Dining chair, by Suda Shuji from Hokkaido

The melting pot.....



'An Absence of Noise' collection, by Hugh Miller

What about Santaro - which is he?



'Hug' chair, by Santaro



'Ray' chair, by Santaro



'The Chair', by Hans Wegner



Gallery Bench, by Santaro,
displayed at Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art

'Tay Bench', by Angus Ross



One detail venerates the maker.....



.....the other venerates the user



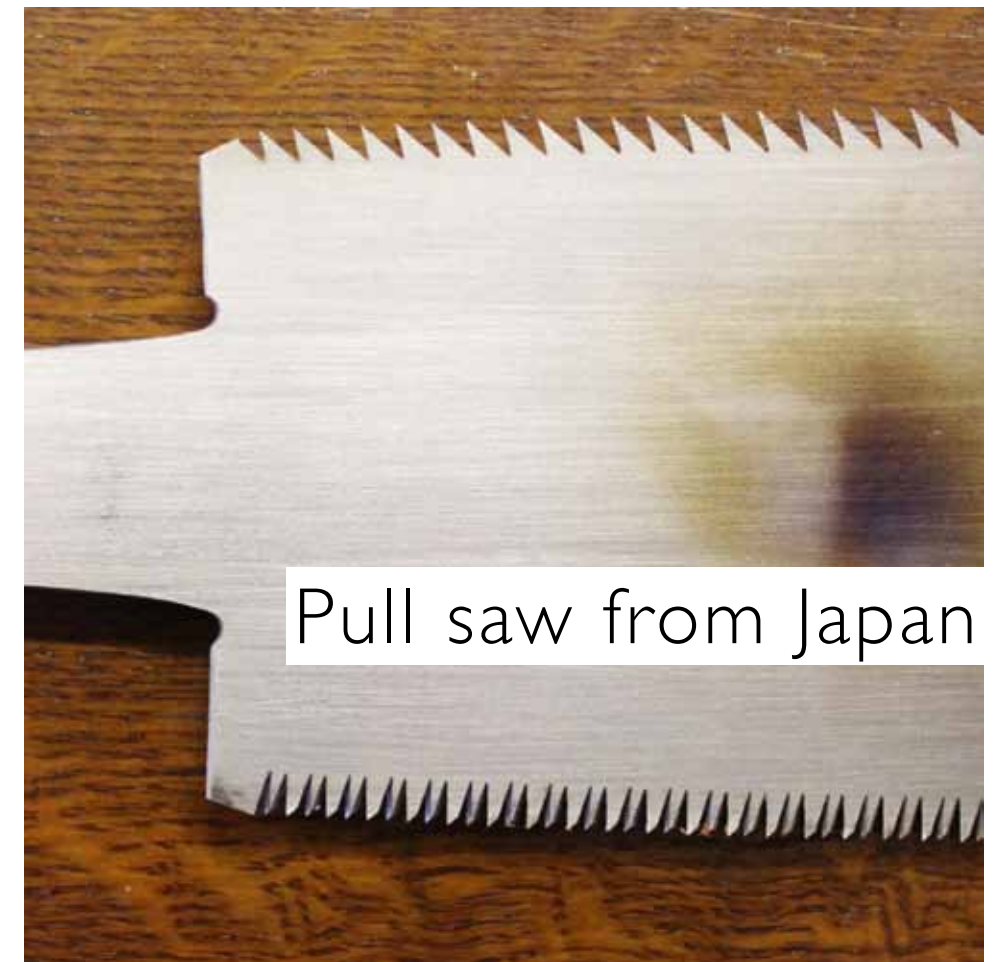
A comparison of woodworking tools



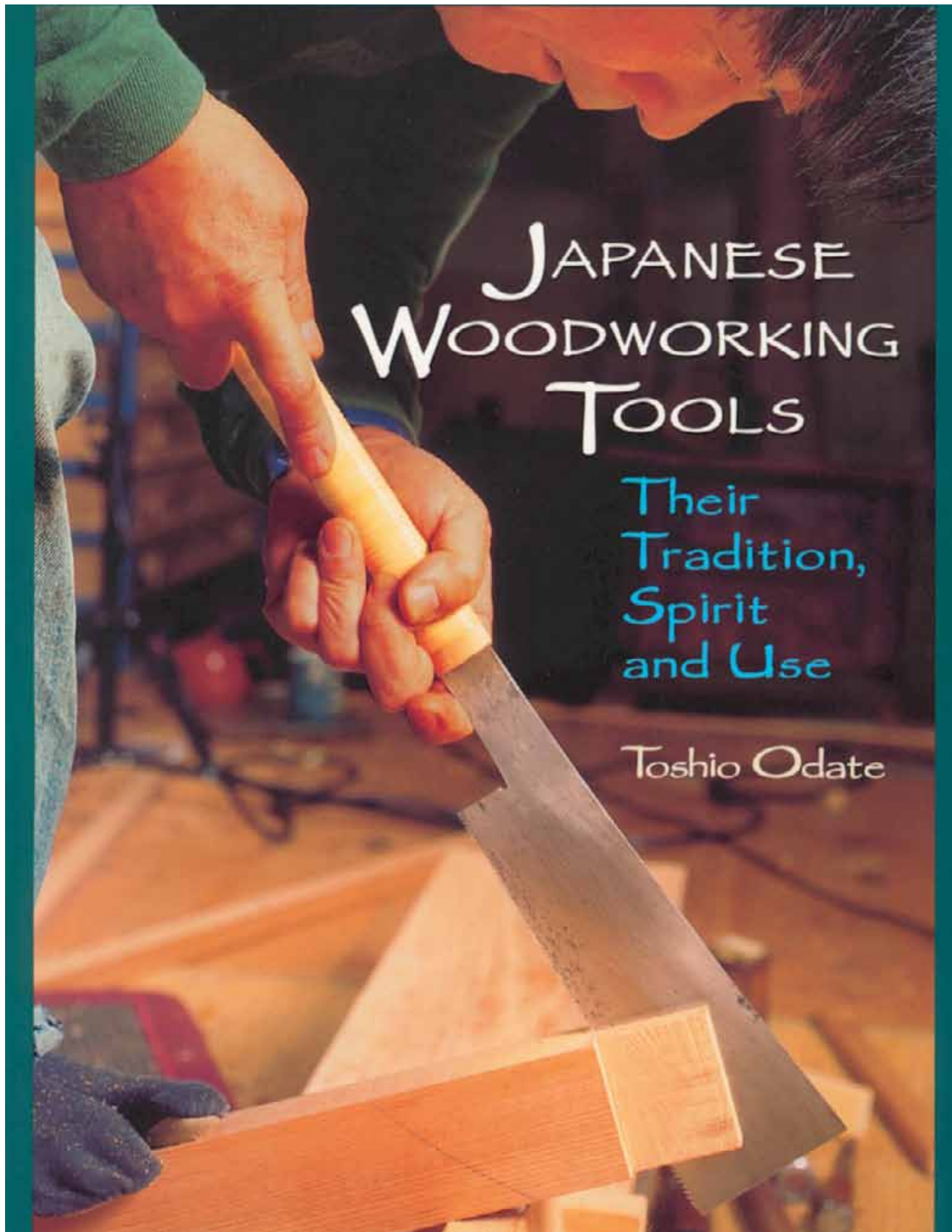
The Pull Stroke [Japan] vs. The Push Stroke



Push saw from UK



Pull saw from Japan





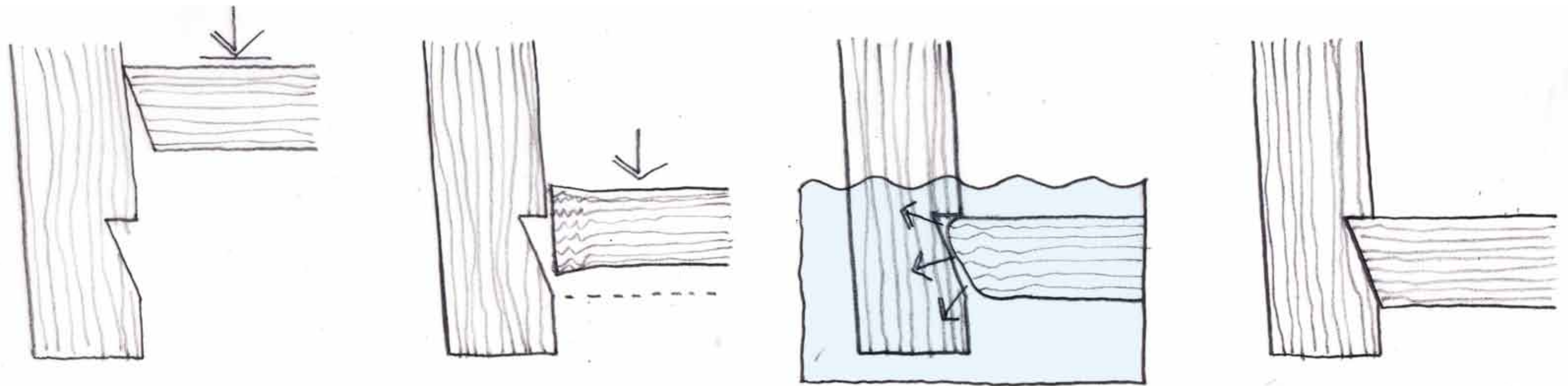
The pull stroke vs. the push stroke in planes and

Use of Water as a Tool



Kio-ke bucket, by Nakagawa Shuji





Use of water to fit base to Ki-oke bucket



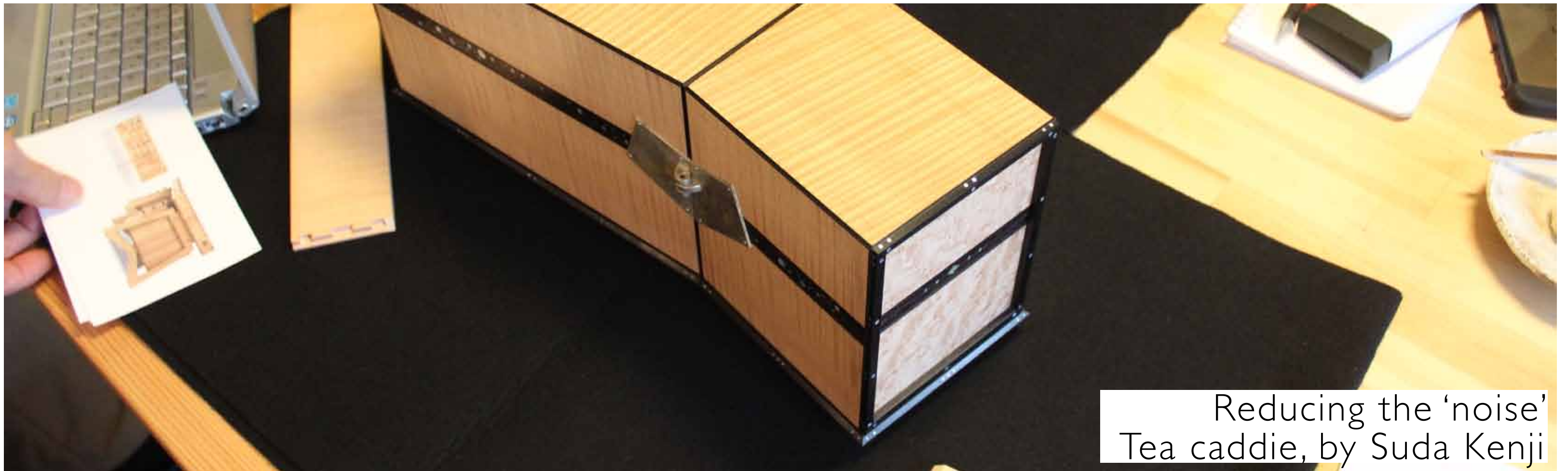
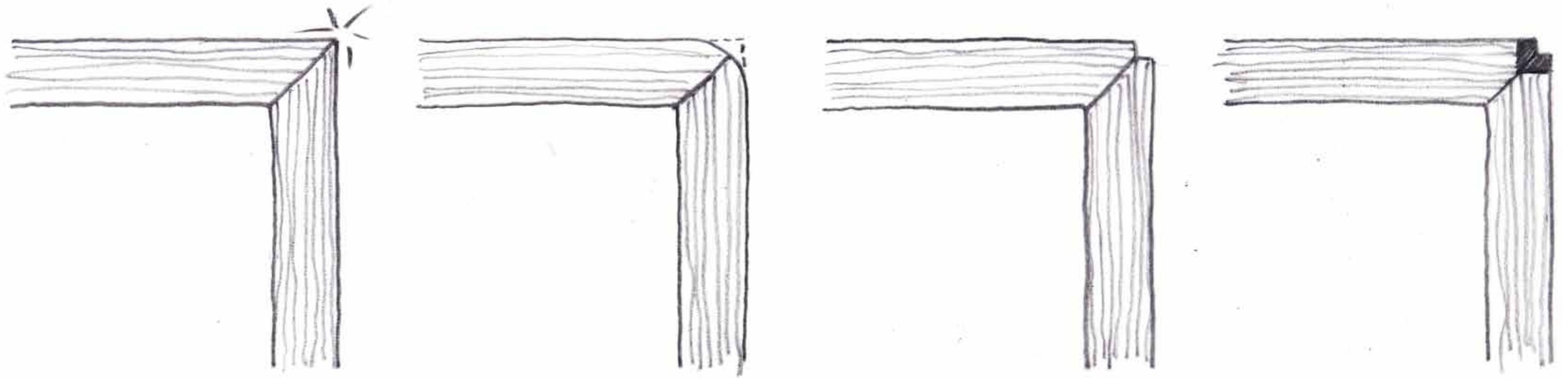
The absence of moisture.....
'Cunard Cabinet' by Waters and Acland

Principles of Design -
How Japan has influenced my work





Suda Kenji
Living National Treasure in Woodwork



Reducing the 'noise'
Tea caddie, by Suda Kenji

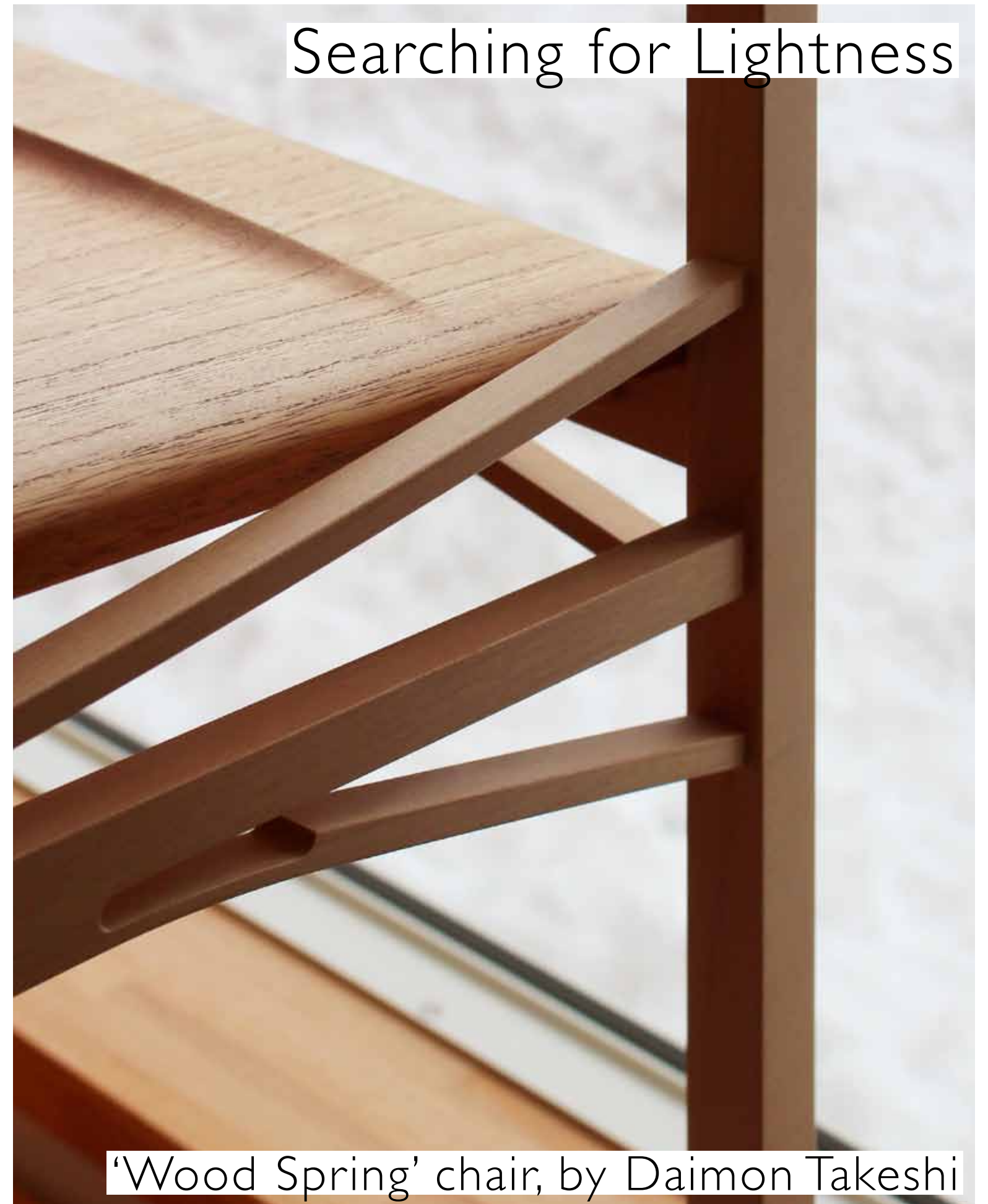


Chair elbow rest detail, by Hugh Miller

Noise?



Study Desk, by Hugh Miller [made 2014]



Searching for Lightness

'Wood Spring' chair, by Daimon Takeshi

Lightness?



Dining table, by Hugh Miller

Another approach to 'lightness'



Sideboard, by Sebastian Cox

A Contribution to Harmony



Basket by Fujinuma Noboru
Living National Treasure in Bamboo Arts

Demanding attention?



Writing Desk, by Hugh Miller from [made 2014]

Awaiting inspection?



Dining Table, by Hugh Miller [made 2016]

What about this?

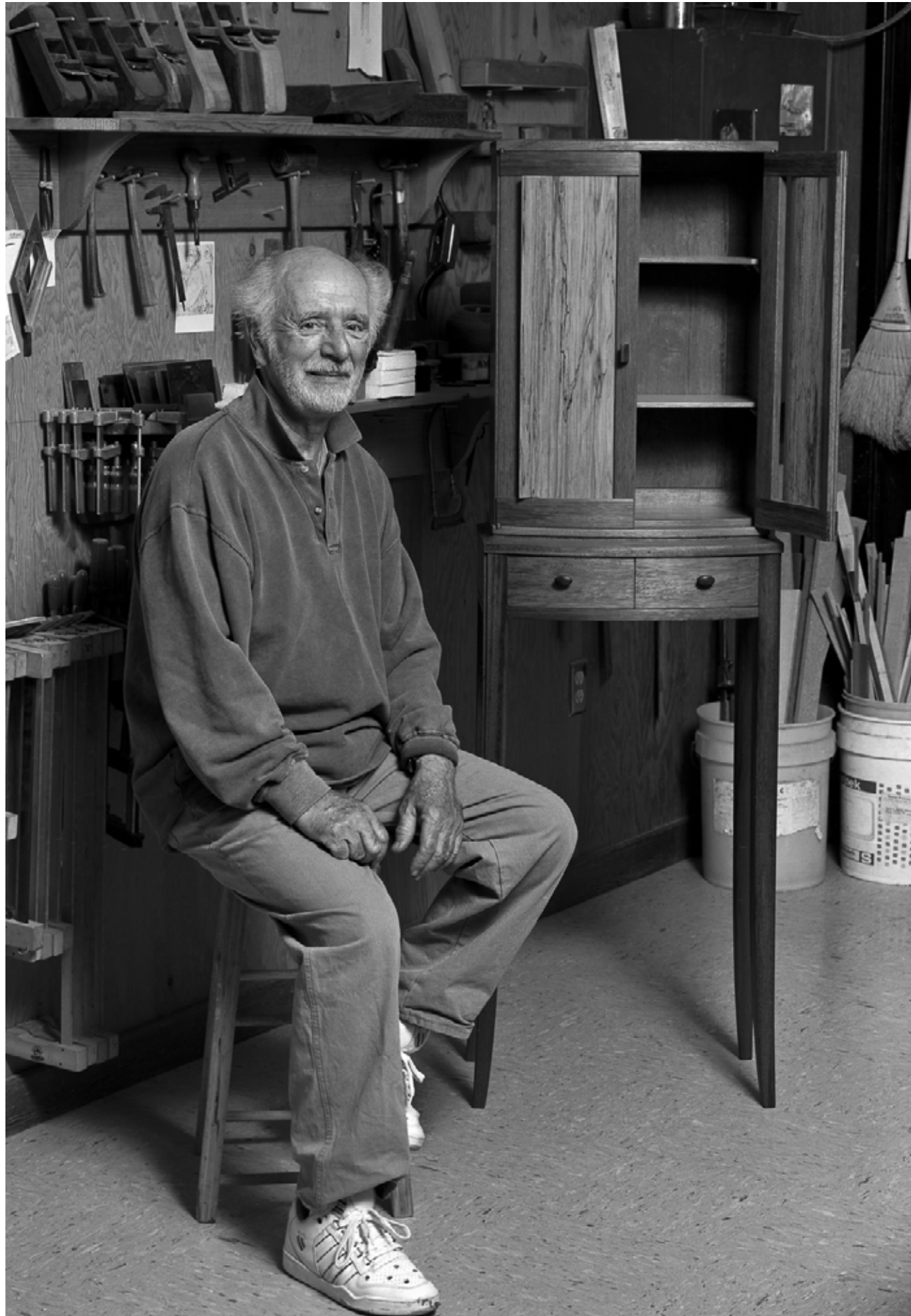


Dining Chair, by Hugh Miller [made 2016]

Use of computer technology in making



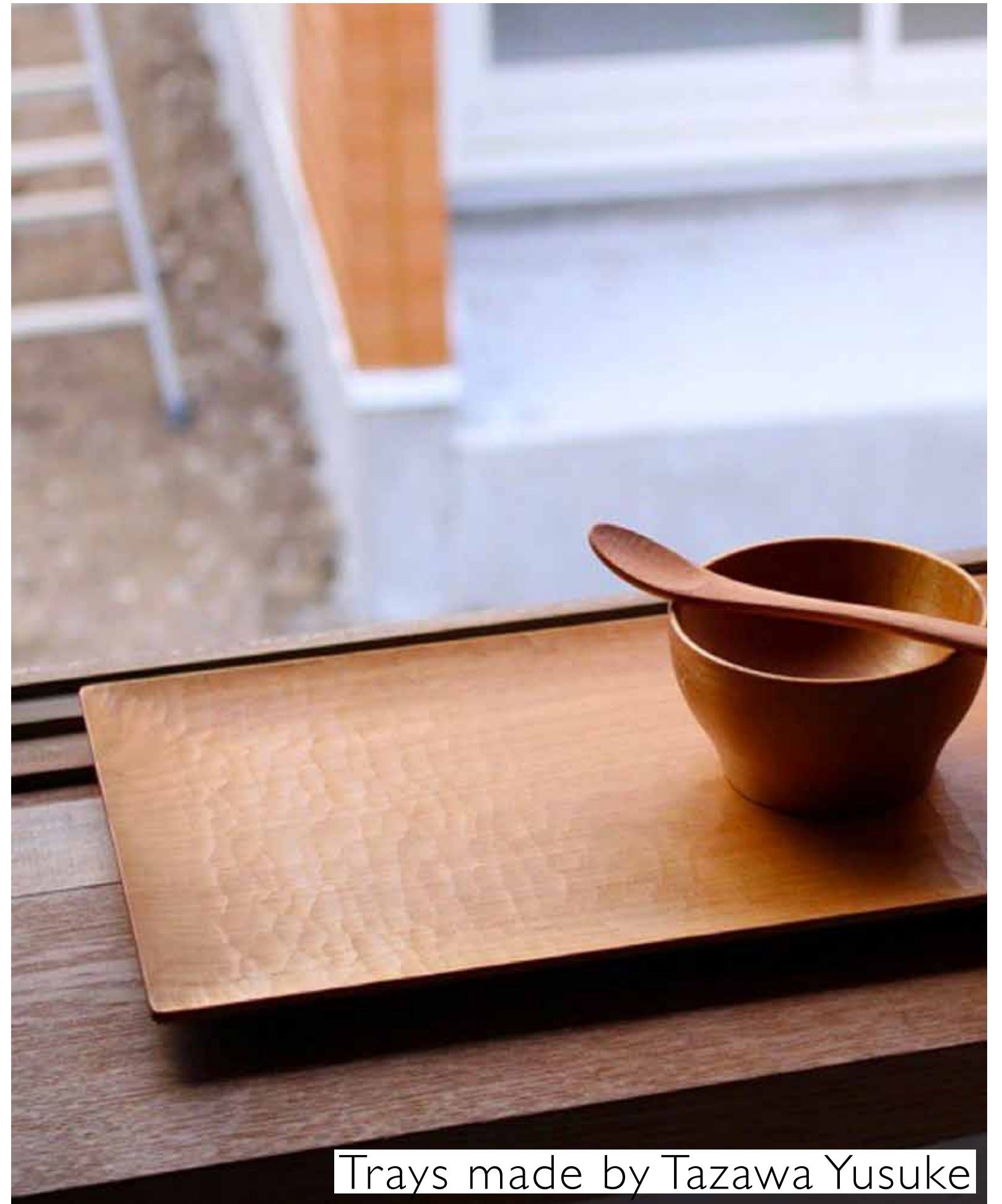
Ripple Cabinet by Edward Johnson



James Krenov, American furniture maker, 1920-2009



The Makers Fingerprints -
Dining table by Suda Kenji

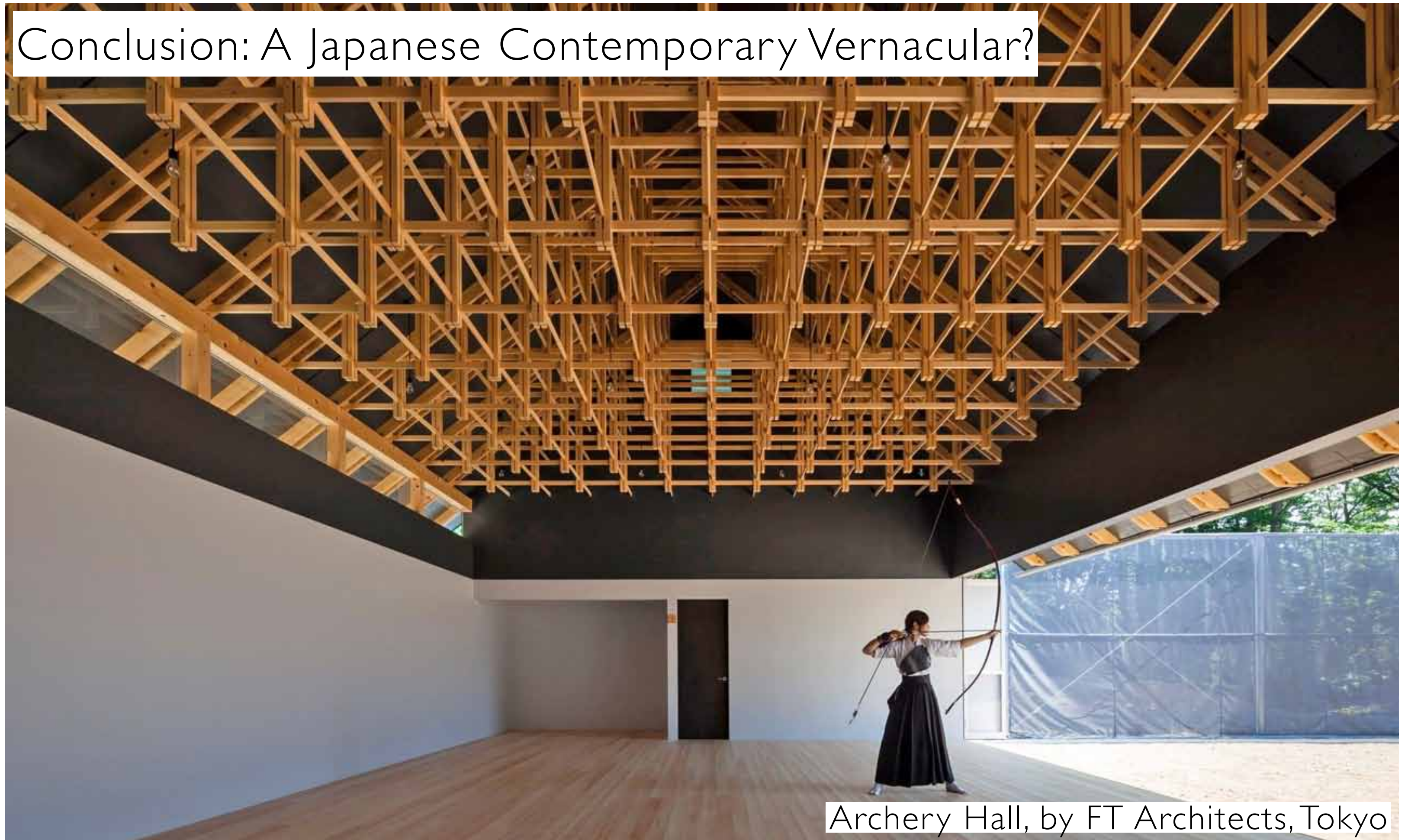


Trays made by Tazawa Yusuke



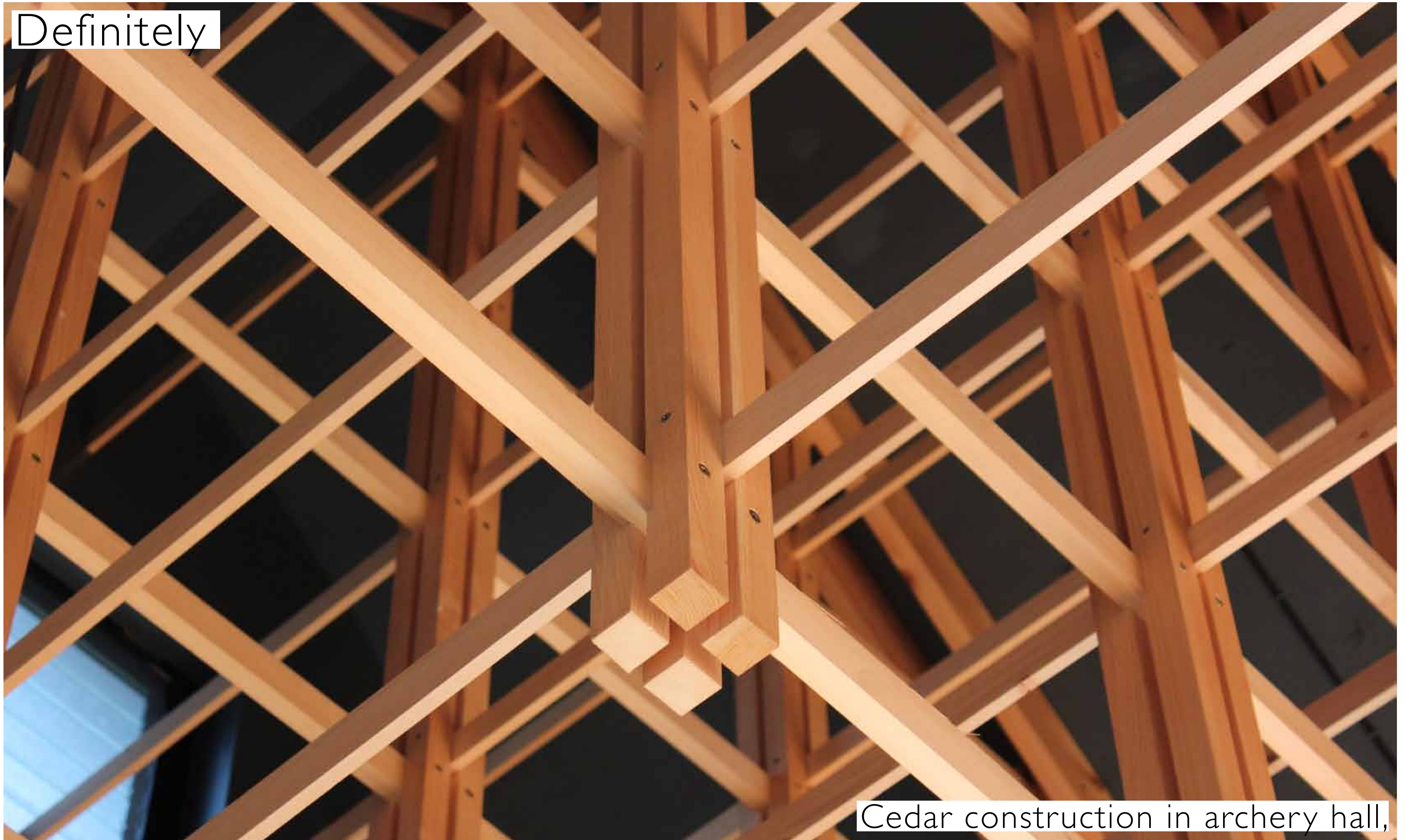
Computer technology.....
.....combined with the makers fingerprints

Conclusion: A Japanese Contemporary Vernacular?



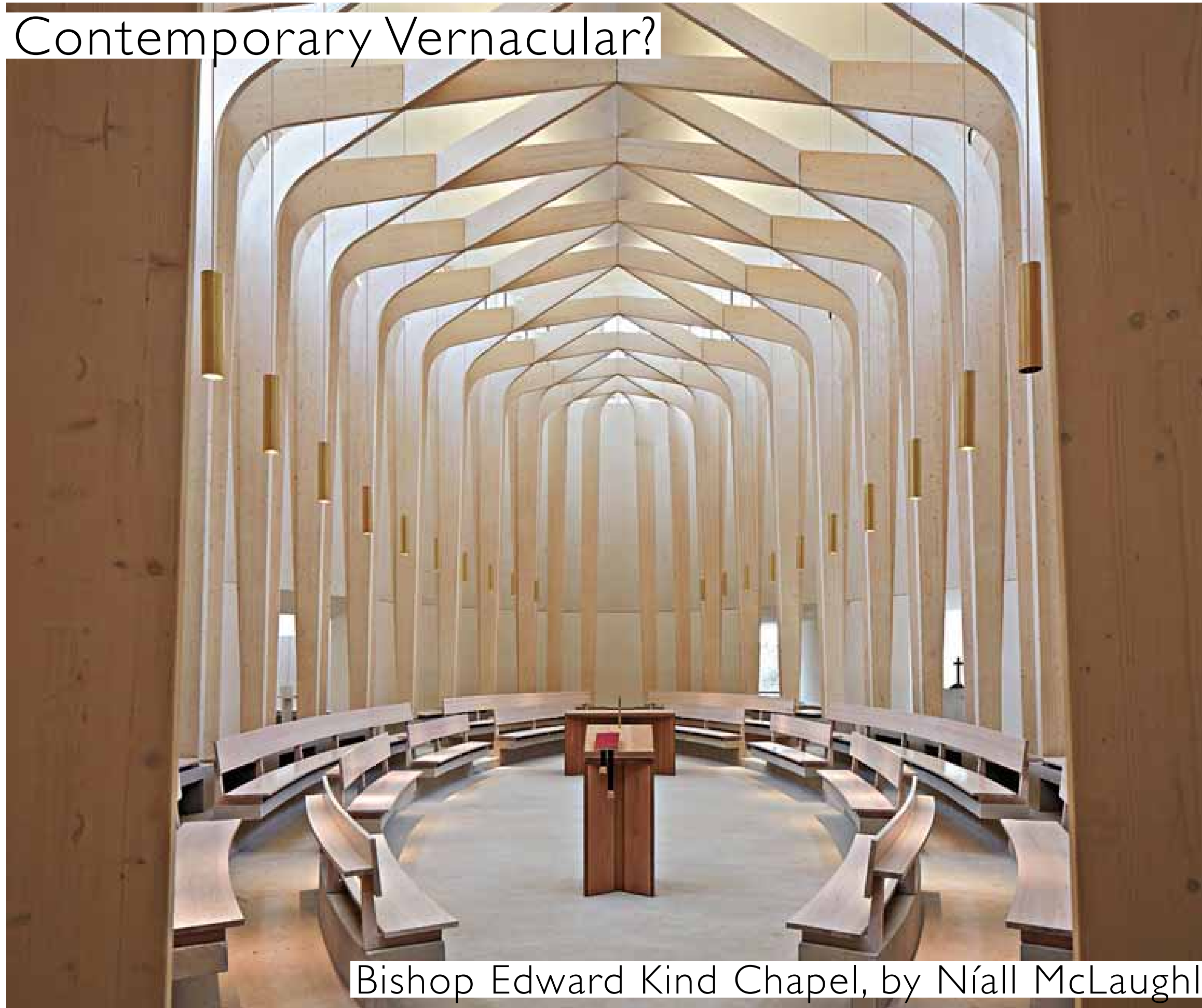
Archery Hall, by FT Architects, Tokyo

Definitely



Cedar construction in archery hall,

A British Contemporary Vernacular?



Bishop Edward Kind Chapel, by Níall McLaughlin Architects

Maybe.....



Bishop Edward Kind Chapel

Links, References and Further reading:

- **Wood Awards**

A good source for the best in British timber furniture and architecture

www.woodawards.co.uk

- **James Krenov**

Furniture maker and author

A hero in Western woodworking who, I believe, bridges the gap between Japanese and western woodworking

- **Japanese Wood Craftsmanship**

by Hugh Miller

If you would like to see my original 2015 study into this subject, you can read the full text here:

<http://www.hughmillerfurniture.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Japanese-Wood-Craftsmanship.pdf>

- **Images from This Lecture**

I have uploaded this presentation to my website here:

<http://www.hughmillerfurniture.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Osaka-Institute-of-Techology-Lecture.pdf>