

The Grand Opening of CMP INSPIRATION, Taichung: Five Highlights to Discover!

Experience a remarkable blend of architecture by a renowned architect, innovative visual design, interactive furniture concepts, an engaging inaugural exhibition, and the debut of an eco-conscious restaurant.



After over a decade of cultural development, three transformations as temporary venues, and six years of construction, CMP INSPIRATION will open its doors as a permanent institution, poised to redefine the cultural landscape along the Calligraphy Greenway. (Photo Credit: CMP INSPIRATION, Photography by Chen Yang)

CMP Museum has taken on various forms in the memories of many: a white art venue transformed from an unused elementary school in 2012, a cultural space reborn from a traditional construction site in 2019, and a series of artistic initiatives that have shaped the Calligraphy Greenway since 2010. Over the past decade, CMP Museum has expanded beyond its creative practices, extending its artistic energy to neighboring communities, hotels, shopping centers, and residential spaces. By breaking free from the conventional constraints of exhibition venues and formats, it has turned everyday corners into stages for art, blurred the boundaries between art and daily life, and accompanied people through different phases of their lives.

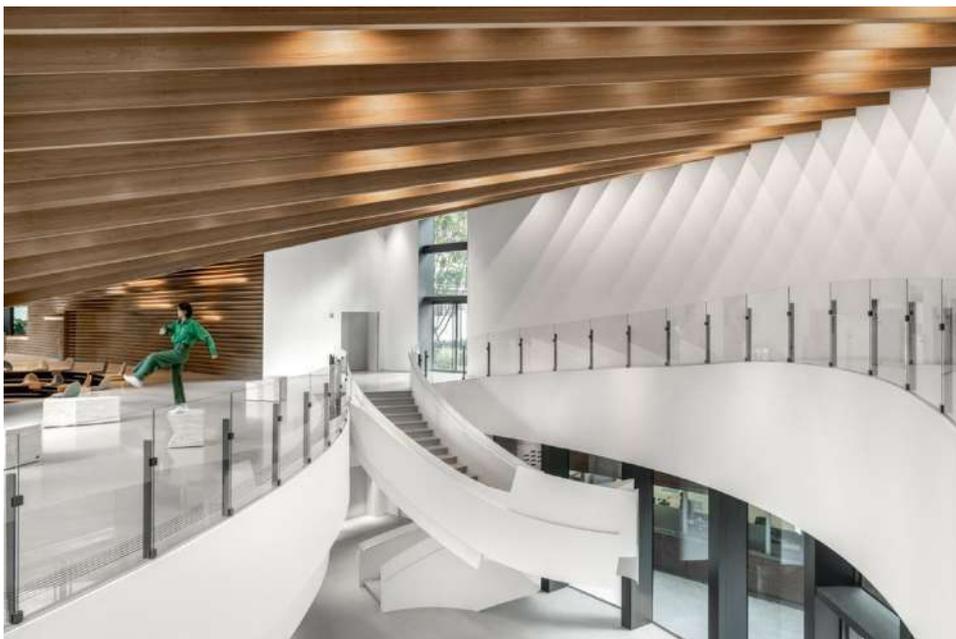
Moving beyond its era as a temporary venue, CMP INSPIRATION will open its doors as a permanent institution in late 2024. Guided by the belief that "imagination is the foundation of all innovation," CMP INSPIRATION will continue its mission of connecting people and life through creativity and aspire to act as a platform for exchanging local culture and global perspectives. Through cultural curation, Calligraphy Greenway narratives, children's education programs, lifestyle retail and dining experiences, the museum promotes a sustainable way of living and brings art to daily life. On Friday,

December 13, CMP INSPIRATION will celebrate its grand opening with highlights to discover: architecture by a renowned architect, innovative visual design, interactive furniture concepts, an engaging inaugural exhibition, and the debut of a restaurant outside Taipei. What lies ahead for visitors? CMP INSPIRATION invites everyone to break conventional boundaries, explore endless possibilities, and find the courage to turn dreams into reality.

Highlight 1: A Landscape-Inspired Museum with a Mountain-like Experience

CMP INSPIRATION, designed by Japanese architect Kengo Kuma, features a 410-ping curved rooftop composed of countless triangular particles, evoking the imagery of "unfolding the earth". The structure combines steel with large floor-to-ceiling windows and 1,282 uniquely shaped wooden panels, creating a visual sense of lightness and transparency while adding warmth to the museum. The rooftop's greenery is sustained by a water recycling system, offering visitors spaces to rest, walk, and enjoy refreshing city views.

Inside the museum, Kuma's architectural team employs wooden lattices, stone-textured walls, and undulating floors to evoke natural landscapes. These elements harmonize with dynamic ceiling beams, creating a mountain-like experience. Arabesque motifs, incorporated throughout the interior and exterior, highlight the fluidity of movement between the building and its environment. These intricate, flowing lines seamlessly connect the museum to its surroundings, blending with the greenery of Calligraphy Greenway, as well as art and daily life. The result is a landscape-inspired museum that complements its surroundings and embodies the essence of nature while remaining subtly integrated into it.



CMP INSPIRATION, the first art museum in Taiwan designed by Kengo Kuma, showcases landscape-inspired architecture with a sense of visual dynamism and transparency. Poised to become a hub for inspiring inspiration,

it harnesses the power of creativity and imagination to foster new ideas. (Photo Credit: CMP INSPIRATION, Photography by Chen Yang)

Highlight 2: Uniforms and Branding Design--Showcasing Taiwan's Design Creativity

After admiring CMP INSPIRATION's architectural features, attention naturally turns to the staff uniforms. Designer Jerry Wang from the Taiwanese fashion brand fuyue drew inspiration from the venue's architecture. Through the use of linear elements and pleating techniques, the design incorporates architectural lines into the fabric to create a sense of fluidity and space. These uniforms challenge traditional notions and subtly convey identity while maintaining visual consistency with the museum's branding system.

CMP INSPIRATION's branding was developed by the local design team biaugust CREATION OFFICE under creative directors Owen Chuang and Cloud Lu. Inspired by the museum's vision of "unlocking imagination," the logo features a white space at its center and creates a visual interplay between text and imagery. This design choice sparks curiosity, inviting viewers to interpret the image and explore its meaning. As a result, the branding becomes an interactive experience, encouraging people to fill the blank space with their own creativity.



fuyue and biaugust CREATION OFFICE have crafted uniforms and branding designs inspired by CMP INSPIRATION's unique characteristics. These creations not only exude distinct visual appeal but also serve as alternative representations that convey the essence of the museum. (Photo credit: left to right: fuyue, CMP INSPIRATION)

Highlight 3: Who Dares to Take on the Challenge? An Interactive Approach to "Masterpieces."

Upon entering CMP INSPIRATION, visitors are greeted with something "unusual." Iconic works of art are displayed throughout the museum, but these works are not only quirky—they require the viewer's imagination and collective interaction to come to life. The Taiwanese design team googoods design crafted the museum's visual identity, and the interactive furniture, public installations, and hardware were all designed with the concept of "subverting masterpieces."

From trash bins creatively designed to resemble *The Scream* to umbrella stands inspired by *The Gleaners*, these installations create a strong visual impact and challenge conventional thinking. Interactive furniture pieces, inspired by classic sculptures like the *Discus Thrower* and *Statue of Liberty*, as well as chairs and tables influenced by Dali's *The Persistence of Memory*, encourage visitors to explore their imagination, engage with the artwork in a hands-on way, and craft their own artistic experiences.

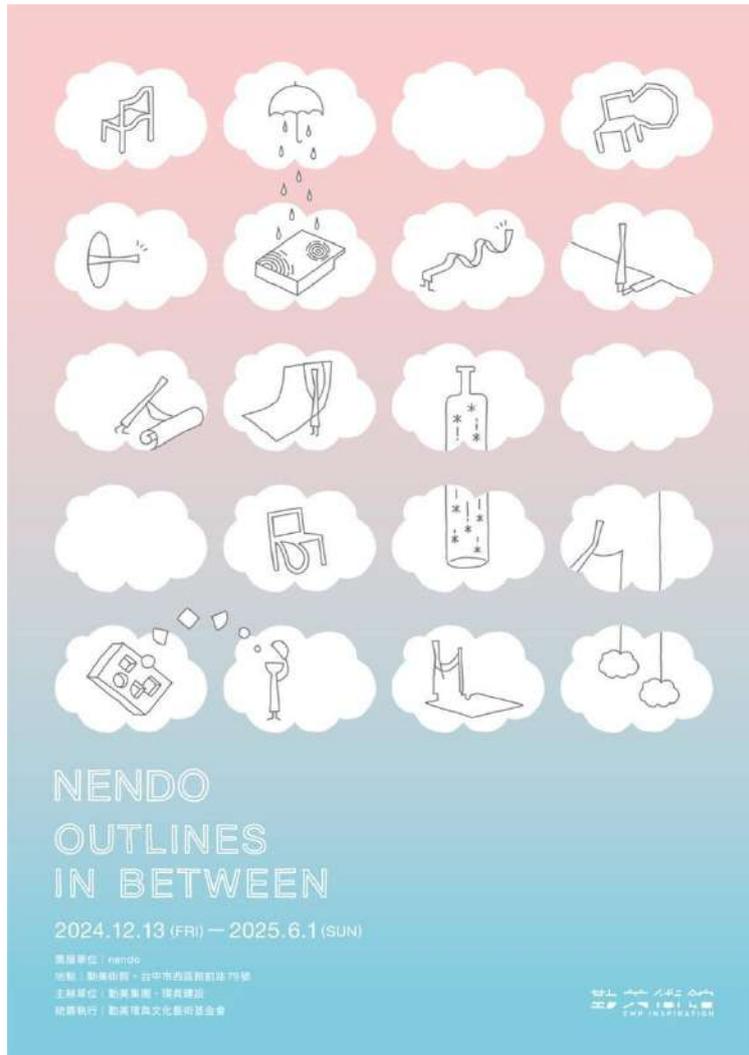


Taking a playful approach to reinterpreting masterpieces, googoods design has crafted imaginative and interactive works that capture the creative and whimsical essence of CMP INSPIRATION. (Photo credit: googoods design; photography by Yan)

Highlight 4: Japan's nendo Design Studio Curates the Inaugural Exhibition

After an eight-year hiatus, Japanese design genius Oki Sato returns to Taiwan with his team at nendo to curate the inaugural exhibition at CMP INSPIRATION, OUTLINES IN BETWEEN. Known for their ability to surprise and delight, nendo's work spans architecture, design, and art, and has earned international acclaim and been collected by prestigious institutions such as the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, and the Centre Pompidou in Paris.

OUTLINES IN BETWEEN presents over a hundred works, ranging from sketches to classic pieces and new creations, displayed across five thematic areas: Rain, Clouds, Paper, Lines, and Stone. Notable highlights include the *clustered clouds* series, first unveiled at Milan Design Week in 2024, inspired by stacked clouds and mist. The exhibition also features nendo's latest creation for the museum, the *Softer Than Stone* marble furniture series, and the iconic *50 manga chairs*. Through this exhibition, nendo conveys its core creative philosophy: design should focus on varying degrees of contours to create new virtual realities and offer a fresh perspective within established frameworks.



The clouds in the main visual of the OUTLINES IN BETWEEN exhibition carry nendo's design sketches, symbolizing the rich imagination of the mind. This exhibition is curated to share nendo's creative perspective and design philosophy, hoping to inspire creativity and enrich everyday life. (Photo credit: nendo)

Highlight 5: Little Tree Food, Green Michelin Star Restaurant, Opens at CMP INSPIRATION

Little Tree Food has opened its first location outside of Taipei at CMP INSPIRATION. Featuring an open kitchen and dining space that blends with the museum's environment, the restaurant offers a menu that integrates creative lifestyle concepts with innovative vegetarian dishes, enriching the sensory experience for museum visitors.

From farm to table, Little Tree Food prioritizes food safety and minimizes the use of processed ingredients. In partnership with small-scale local farmers practicing sustainable agriculture and trusted suppliers favored by five-star hotels, Little Tree Food ensures full control over ingredient sourcing and dietary health. Signature dishes such as *Spicy Century Egg Tofu Dumplings* and the *Avocado Veggie Buddha Bowl* are complemented by seasonal offerings such as Russian kale, Kyoto mizuna, red oak

lettuce, cherry radishes, zucchini flowers, and Mexican peppers. Exclusive exhibition-themed meals will also be offered for a unique culinary museum experience.

Believing in the power of food to influence culture, society, and the natural environment, Little Tree Food at CMP INSPIRATION strives to make every diner feel happy and healthy. With a focus on sustainable, plant-based dining, the restaurant seeks to promote conscious, eco-friendly eating habits. Experiencing this culinary journey is a must during a visit to the museum.



The Michelin Green Star restaurant Little Tree Food will open at CMP INSPIRATION in Taichung, serving meticulously prepared vegetarian dishes that nourish both the body and mind while promoting healthy diets and environmental sustainability. (Photo credit: Little Tree Food)

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