

## Taichung's New Cultural Landmark: CMP INSPIRATION Set to Open in Late 2024

Designed by Kengo Kuma, this unique landscape-inspired museum will redefine Taiwan's cultural scene.

After six years of construction and over a hundred concept sketches, the new-generation CMP INSPIRATION museum is set to open on December 13. Designed by renowned Japanese architect Kengo Kuma, the museum blends Japanese architectural aesthetics with Taiwanese construction expertise. It features a 410-ping curved rooftop that embodies the concept of “unfolding the earth” and serves as “a venue of greenery, creativity, and inspiration that sparks imagination.” As Kuma’s first museum project in Taiwan, the structure introduces a distinctive, landscape-inspired design that enhances the CMP Park Lane neighborhood and sets a new benchmark in the local cultural landscape.



The architecture of CMP INSPIRATION embodies visual dynamism and transparency, aspiring to establish the museum as a place of inspiration fueled by imagination and curatorial creativity. (Photo Credit: Kengo Kuma and Associates)

## From Temporary Venue to Permanent Museum: A Decade-long Transformation

The evolution of CMP INSPIRATION represents a journey of creative reinvention, beginning in 2012 with a white, open-air museum set against blue skies and lush landscapes. Transformed from an old elementary school, this temporary museum integrated both indoor and outdoor spaces while challenging the notion that art should reside in elevated, often distant museum settings. In 2019, CMP took on another bold venture, repurposing a construction site into a temporary art venue—the Kong-Ke Museum. This project broke spatial boundaries, reimagining a construction site as a dynamic cultural space for daily life, interaction, and experiential learning.

Anchored by the CMP PUJEN Foundation for Arts and Culture's holistic vision, CMP INSPIRATION connects design with people, neighborhoods, and everyday life, expanding its social impact and cultivating cultural awareness. The evolution from 2012 to 2019 has propelled CMP INSPIRATION's development forward. Now a permanent institution, this landscape-inspired museum champions the belief that "imagination is the foundation of all innovation" and seeks to foster a sustainable and creative lifestyle that will shape the next decade and beyond.



From the initial design stages, Kuma and his team recognized CMP INSPIRATION's strong connection to its neighborhood. Embracing this essence, they crafted a structure that integrates the environment, nature, and art.

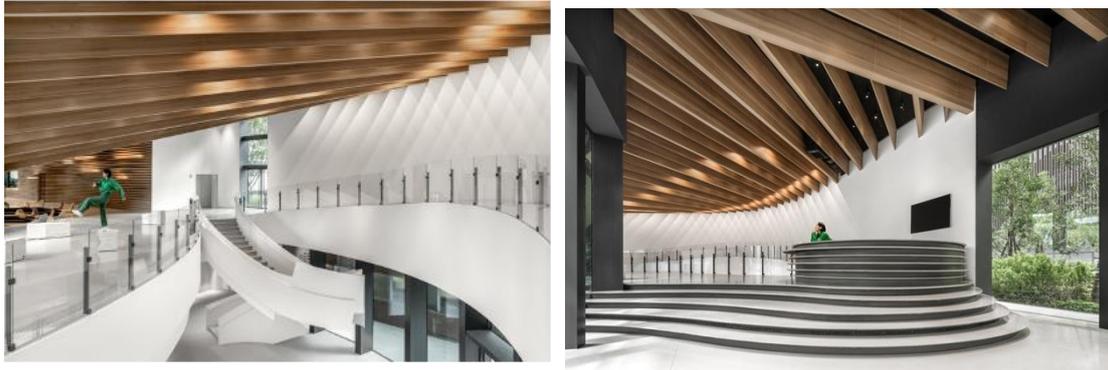
## Nature-Inspired Design: Integrating the Museum with Its Environment

In designing CMP INSPIRATION, Kengo Kuma's team sought to enhance the museum's deep connection to its surroundings. The resulting structure forms a cohesive landscape that completes the nearly 10,000-ping CMP Park Lane—an area that includes hotels, residences, retail, and a chapel. Set within this unique setting, the design team envisioned a building that appears to “unfold the earth” with a light, transparent presence. Inspired by arabesque patterns, the building's fluid and intertwining curves connect it to nearby forested pathways and water features. This green oasis, nestled between high-rises and forested areas, bridges neighborhood, nature, and art.

The museum's steel framework provides lightweight flexibility and reduces carbon emissions compared to traditional concrete structures. Spanning one floor above ground and one below, its expansive 410-ping green roof is supported by stable portal frames. This curved roof, constructed from thousands of small triangular steel plates, creates undulating lines reminiscent of natural hill contours. A total of 1,282 wood-patterned slats of various shapes bring warmth and mirror the textures of the Calligraphy Greenway. Large floor-to-ceiling windows enhance the sense of openness and provide expansive views of both the interior and exterior landscapes.

One ingenious design feature is the transition between the green roof and ground. Instead of a defined edge, the roof gently transitions into steps that merge with the landscape. This careful integration minimizes the steel's visual impact and allows the roofline to blend seamlessly with the terrain. The green roof also incorporates a water recycling system to sustain the plants. Visitors can walk along the roof for a view of the urban ecosystem. All these details give the museum a subtle visual presence that blends naturally into its lush surroundings and enhances the distinctive atmosphere of Calligraphy Greenway.





The interior design features a layered design of wood slats, sintered stone slab walls, and undulating floors that evoke natural landscapes, providing a dynamic setting for future cultural events and art exhibitions. (Photo Credit: CMP INSPIRATION, Photography by Chen Yang)

## Stepping Inside: A Museum Evoking a Mountain-like Experience

While the exterior celebrates the museum's integration with its surroundings, the interior emphasizes the interaction between people and space. Kengo Kuma and his team used layered wood slats, sintered stone slab walls, and varied floor elevations to simulate natural topographies, resonating with the wave-like beams on the ceiling. This approach creates a visitor journey reminiscent of a mountain forest hike. As visitors experience the artwork, the gently sloping floors elevate their sightlines and offer multidimensional views.

From the circular reception desk, visitors are led to the skywalk gallery, a spiral staircase, and an underground exhibition hall. The arabesque-inspired lines draw fresh visual interest both horizontally and vertically, while the carefully finished edges and layered textures imbue the space with warmth and a natural ambience. The wood slats capture shifting light, casting evolving shadows that enrich the museum's atmosphere throughout the day. Launching on December 13 with public facilities, an opening exhibition, and cultural events, CMP INSPIRATION opens its doors to inspire deeper artistic exploration, marking the beginning of a new chapter.

### 【Public Relations】

CMP PUJEN Foundation for Arts and Culture

Julie Chen

[julie.chen@cmp.com.tw](mailto:julie.chen@cmp.com.tw)

### 【INFO】

CMP INSPIRATION

Phone: +886 4 2328-5000

Address: No. 79, Guanqian Rd., West Dist., Taichung City, Taiwan