The Office of Sponsored Programs Presents

Scholars Exchange

A Tuesday Morning Coffee Series Featuring 2014 PSC CUNY Research Awardees

Tuesday, October 14, 2014

8:30 - 9:30 a.m. • Faculty Commons N-227

Esteban Beita, Architecture

Traditional Japanese Architecture: Design Principles and Their Application in Contemporary Architecture

Over a period of centuries, traditional Japanese architecture has developed a clear understanding of design principles for improving the interaction of interior and exterior spaces. When designing traditional spaces immense attention is given to the placement of every piece in relation to the environment. A precise control of light, shadow, views, and ventilation is achieved through paper sliding doors known as "shoji", creating a space that can adapt to every season. Although the size of traditional spaces can vary from small tea rooms to large dwellings, one element they all share is their flexibility to change and adapt. Overall, if we look at the application of traditional design principles in the context of current architecture, we get the makings of spaces that can react and adapt to changing environments.



Photo by Walter Sol Jr.

