

Marc Peter Keane CURRICULUM VITAE

Marc Peter Keane is a landscape architect and writer based in Ithaca, NY. Born in New York City (1958), Keane graduated from Cornell University's department of Landscape Architecture in 1979 and spent the next six years working as a landscape architect and graphic designer in Burlington, Vermont, with an interval during that time as an assistant to Paul Friedberg at M. Paul Friedberg and Partners in New York City. In 1985, he traveled to Japan and entered Kyoto University's department of Landscape Architecture as a research fellow, and spent the following two years studying various aspects of Japanese gardens and culture. From 1988 to 1994, he worked as a landscape architect specializing in garden design at the office of Ryoichi Kinoshita, an architect specializing in traditional wooden structures. From 1994, to 2002 he worked out of his own design office in Kyoto. In 2002-2003, Keane taught at Cornell University as a visiting fellow, and now runs his own design office in Ithaca.

As a **landscape architect**, Keane's work focuses on gardens, not only as aesthetic compositions but also (like poetry, sculpture, and painting) as allegorical compositions. Over the past 15 years, he has designed and built numerous private gardens for individuals, companies, and temples ranging from a 115 square meter (1200 square foot) tea garden for Hidenin Temple in Kyoto, to a 2.4 hectare (6 acre) park, called Awanosato, for a private company in Tokushima. His interest in historic preservation lead to work master-planning the redesign of an historic district in Nagano, Japan, which has since become the recipient of five design awards. His installation art-work for the year 2000 Kyoto Arts Festival, called Omega Point, won the Grand Prize for that year. He also consults on the restoration of historic Japanese gardens outside Japan, such the Japanese garden at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden (the restoration of which won an award from the New York Landmarks Conservancy in 2001).

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As a **writer**, Keane's work focuses primarily on gardens but ranges in style from poetic reflections on their meaning to academic investigations of their development. *Japanese Garden Design* (Charles E. Tuttle), an introduction to Japanese gardens in their cultural and design context, was published in 1996, and an English-language translation of the *Sakuteiki* (Japan's most ancient gardening text), written jointly with Prof. Jiro Takei, was published in the fall of 2001. A collection of essays on gardens under the title *The Art of Setting Stones*, was published by Stone Bridge Press in 2002. In addition, he has written numerous articles on gardens and related subjects in professional journals and newsletters as well as in the popular press.

As an **educator**, Keane has worked in a variety of venues. He was a lecturer in the department of Environmental Design of the Kyoto University of Art and Design from 1993 to 2002, during which time he taught a design studio focused on a variety of projects ranging from gardens (wherein the aesthetic and poetic aspects are forwarded) to public parks (raising issues of user safety and public amenity). In the 2002-2003 academic year, Keane taught at Cornell University as the Lawrence Halprin Fellow in the department of Landscape Architecture. He has also lectured widely, including the following:

- 1994 national tour for U.S. Japan Societies; focused on Japanese garden history and design (Utah, Seattle, Dallas, Philadelphia, New York, Honolulu)
- 1995 Cornell University
- 1996 Urasenke School of Tea, Kyoto
- 1996 and afterward, annual lectures for the Stanford Japan Center, Kyoto
- 1997 national tour for U.S. Japan Societies; focused on Japanese garden history and design (Los Gatos, Portland, Seattle, Houston, Dallas, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Purdue Univ., Philadelphia, Boston, New York)
- 1998 international tour for U.S. Japan Societies; focused on historic preservation in Kyoto (New York, Toronto, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia)
- 1998 Tatton Park, England

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- 2000 The Urban Center, NYC; as part of the New York Botanical Garden's Portfolio Series
- 2002-03 Cornell University; a one-year fellowship appointment to the department of landscape architecture.
- 2004 Kampo Museum, Kyoto (as part of one-man show)
- 2005 national tour for Horticulture Magazine (San Francisco, Portland, Denver, Chicago, Richmond)

Keane also manages an annual, two-week intensive seminar about Japanese gardens run through the Research Center for Japanese Garden Art, Kyoto, of which he is a Guest Researcher.

As a **preservationist**, Keane was the Chairman of Kyoto Mitate, an international NPO working to revitalize Kyoto's traditional environments and its unique cultural heritage (formerly: International Society to Save Kyoto), from 1996 until 2002. For more on that organization, please see the Kyoto Mitate website at www.mitate.org.

LICENSES and AWARDS

License to practice Landscape Architecture -- State of Rhode Island, USA

Daimoncho Historic District Redesign, Nagano — Five awards including the 1997 Architectural Culture Award, Architectural Institute of Japan (Hokuriku branch); the 10th Nagano City Townscape Prize; Nagano City Hall; and the 1998 Urban Townscape Grand Prize (District Level), Ministry of Construction

Omega Point, Art installation at Daigoji Temple — Grand Prize of the year 2000 Kyoto Arts Festival, awarded by Kyoto City

Japanese Hill and Pond Garden at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden — Award of excellence by the New York Landmarks Conservancy in 2001

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RELATED WEBSITES

MARC PETER KEANE, DESIGN OFFICE

<http://www.mpkeane.com>

TEAHOUSE PROJECT

<http://t-house.com>

RESEARCH CENTER FOR JAPANESE ART

<http://www.kyoto-art.ac.jp/~j-gar>

KYOTO MITATE

<http://www.mitate.org>