Noguchi Showroom
The Blossoming Akari
Concept Statement

The ‘Blossoming Akari’ showroom is envisioned as an immersive environment of light. Inspired from Akari’s natural bamboo and washi paper materials, the display fixtures are conceived of as an abstract metaphor of blossoming trees. The ceiling and floor mounted fixtures are built of spiraling bamboo frameworks that aim to capture a dynamic gesture of growth and transformation. The Akari sculptures themselves are installed in the bamboo structures to represent blossoming flowers of illumination. The circulation within the showroom incorporates seating to further evoke a simulated natural environment akin to blossoming trees within a park.

“Like the beauty of falling leaves and the cherry blossom, Noguchi wrote, Akari are poetic, ephemeral, and tentative.”
— Noguchi.org
Sculpture Analysis

Light Blossom

It is defined when light shine through the lantern frames to create illuminations. The light beam movement looks like the flower, the blossom of pedals. This system illustrates the light structure as flower petals blossom expands and grows from the center.

Shield Illumination

This softness and warmness of light comes from the paper bamboo cover used to shield direct light from the center. With the paper shield, light comes blurred and soft, the color also increase warmness of the light. The oval lantern cover is not only aesthetically blessing, but also functionally useful to create soft light and warm atmosphere.

Analysis drawings, Systems Derived

https://shop.noguchi.org/collections/akari-light-sculptures
Light Blossom

The system is an integration of akari light and the nature. Structures mimic the growth and movement of flower petals to rotate and surrounds the center. Combining light and flowers together are aesthetic. The system provides an immersed viewing experience of akari light, as surrounded by the blossom of light.
Site Analysis

Materials:
- Concrete
- Brick
- Steel
- Glass
- Dark color tone

Characteristics of Streets and Surroundings:
- Urban
- Historic
- Old
- Quiet, not crowded
- Less developed
- No bodegas or shops nearby
Sections

Section A: exhibition area and education/event area shown.

Section B: exhibition area and sculpture garden shown
Light Distribution

Akari Light Distribution

Illumination effects of the light
Area Distribution: exhibition

Illustration: exhibition area
Area Distribution: cafe, cashier

Illustration: cashier and cafe
Area Distribution: education, event

Illustration: education and event
Area Distribution: sculpture garden

Illustration: sculpture garden with seating
Critical Sections

Section A: exhibition area and education/event area shown.

Section B: exhibition area and sculpture garden shown
Models
Materials

Kirei board: a sustainable wood-finish material

https://www.caragreen.com/brands/kirei-board/

Bamboo ribbon: from akari light documentary

https://shop.noguchi.org/collections/akari-light-sculptures/

Furniture, Light

Illustration showing store cashier, cafe and event area

Color

- E0D8CA
  - 224 216 202

- B8B09B
  - 184 176 155

- CAA472
  - 202 164 114

- BA8C63
  - 186 140 99

https://encycolorpedia.com/
Connection Detail

Step 1: Cut two pieces of kirei board to above shape and punch holes.

Step 2: Connect the two round pieces with aluminum.

Step 3: Connect bamboo ribbon to the two prices as shown through the punched holes. Place wood dowel pin on the other side to secure the bamboo in place.

Step 4: Glue mulberry bark paper onto the bamboo frame.

Step 5: Rotate the two pieces against each other for 90 degree.

Assembly

Installation

Utilize pre-existing beams to set up a suspended ceiling systems where the structure can connects to.