

SAKIKO NODA

Architect | Doctoral student | Berlin, GERMANY
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I am a national licensed first-class architect from Japan and doctoral student at TU Berlin [\[link\]](#).
My research focuses on interlocking joints to advance architectural practices with digital fabrication.

EDUCATION

- 10/2023 - present **Technische Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany**
- PhD in Engineering. Advisor: Prof. Inka Mai [\[link\]](#)
My research focuses on designing & fabricating with non-standard materials (onsite clay, infested wood, and unprocessed wood) using the concept of interlocking joinery.
- 04/2019 - 03/2021 **The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan**
- Master of Engineering in Architecture. GPA: 3.8/4.0. Advisor: Prof. Tomonari Yashiro
Design advisor: Prof. Kengo Kuma and Prof. Toshiki Hirano
- 04/2019 - 03/2021 **The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan**
- Master of Engineering in Architecture. GPA: 3.8/4.0. Advisor: Prof. Tomonari Yashiro
Design advisor: Prof. Gramazio, Prof. Kohler, Prof. Girot [\[link\]](#) and Prof. Holtrop [\[link\]](#)
- 04/2019 - 03/2021 **The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan**
- Bachelor of Engineering in Architecture. GPA: 3.9/4.0.
Awarded with distinction [\[link\]](#)

AWARDS & GRANTS

- 10/2024 - 09/2027 **Research Grants - Doctoral Programmes in Germany, DAAD, Germany**
- Granted 3 years of research allowance and travel costs
- 10/2024 - 09/2026 **Graduate Scholarship for Degree Seeking Students, JASSO, Japan**
- Granted 2 years of stipend and travel costs
- 04/2026 - 05/2026 **Kongressreisenprogramm 2026, DAAD, Germany**
- Granted stipend and travel costs to attend CAADRIA 2026 in Taiwan
- 12/2022 **First Prize, Team Design Competition, Takenaka Corporation, Japan**
- 06/2021 **Honorable Mention, Design Competition, Takenaka Corporation, Japan**
- 09/2019 - 08/2020 **TOBITATE National Scholarship [\[link\]](#), Japan**
- Granted 1 year of stipend and travel costs
- 03/2019 **Distinction [\[link\]](#), The University of Tokyo, Japan**
- 03/2015 **Nagano Prize (Valedictorian), Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin, Japan**

PUBLICATIONS

- [Noda, S.](#), Mai, I. (2026). *Robotic Dowel Joints for Irregularly Shaped Wood: A performance-driven design-to-fabrication workflow with insertion angles and gaps as design parameters for lightweight structures*. In: Proceedings of CAADRIA 2026 conference. (Accepted)
- Asa, P., Blümle, C., Dobler, J., Fratzl, P., Huber, J., Kubelik, A., Krauthausen, K., Mai, I., [Noda, S.](#), Neuhäuser, S., Stock, R., Wolff, K., Dörfler, K., Dierichs, K. (2025). *SYMBIOTIC WOOD*. able, vol 27. [\[link\]](#)

- Esmaili Charkhab, M., [Noda, S.](#), Mai, I. (2024). *Extruding Earth-based Materials – Controlling Geometrical Strand Properties by Material and Process Parameters in 3D Printing*. In: Proceedings of the RILEM SMS 2024.
- Asa, P., Neuhäuser, S., [Noda, S.](#), Mai, I. Wolff, K. (2024). *Designing with Alternative Resources: An Educational Practice Review*. In: Proceedings of the EAAE Annual Conference Münster 2024. [[link](#)]
- He, Y., Robens-Radermacher, A., [Noda, S.](#), Wolf, C., Unger, J.F., Mai, I. (2024). *Automated Workflows for Concrete Additive Manufacturing for Design, Optimization, and Fabrication of Parametrized Elements*. In: Ferrara, L., Muciaccia, G., di Summa, D. (eds) Proceedings of the RILEM Spring Convention and Conference 2024. RSCC 2024. RILEM Bookseries, vol 56. Springer, Cham. [[link](#)]

WORKING EXPERIENCE

- 11/2023 - present **Technische Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany**
 - Research Fellow at the Chair of Robot-Assisted Manufacturing of Built Environment [[link](#)]
 - Working on clay printing (funded by BMBF [[link](#)]) and wood milling with robots.
- 04/2021 - 08/2023 **Takenaka Corporation, Osaka & Tokyo, Japan**
 - Architect at Advanced Design Group (Tokyo) and Architect/Siteforman (Osaka)
 - Designed a cafe (75 m²) and an office (4000 m²) applying 3D scanning of trees onsite.
- 02/2020 - 08/2020 **ETH Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland**
 - Student Assistant at Gramazio Kohler Research [[link](#)]
 - Contributed to Collaborative Constructions [[link](#)] through Grasshopper programming and visualization of the robotically built timber structure.
- 07/2017 - 08/2017 **Mandai Architects, Tokyo, Japan**
 - Intern
- 02/2017 - 03/2017 **Sou Fujimoto Architects, Tokyo, Japan**
 - Intern

BUILT WORKS

- 04/2024 - 06/2025 **Symbiotic Wood Pavilion (timber, new, temporal, 20 m²)** [[link](#)] [[link](#)]
 - TU Berlin. Collaboration with the Cluster of Excellence "Matters of Activity"
 - Led robotic milling of infested wood to fabricate interlocking joints as assembly guides for unskilled manual construction.
- 04/2024 - 06/2025 **Toyocho green + (timber, new, cafe, 75 m²)** [[link](#)] [[link](#)]
 - Takenaka Co. [Wood Design Award 2024](#) [[link](#)], [Featured on Shinkenchiku Journal](#) [[link](#)]
 - Designed a tree-aware cafe by parametrically integrating 3D scanned onsite trees.
- 04/2024 - 06/2025 **Toyocho green + (RC, renovation, office, 4000 m²)** [[link](#)] [[link](#)]
 - Takenaka Co. [Featured on Shinkenchiku Journal](#) [[link](#)]
 - Designed a sustainable renovation of an existing building, ensuring seismic performance while integrating with the surrounding environment.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

- 08/2019 **OMOTENASHI / Street Furniture for Tokyo 2020, SBE19 Conference, Japan**
 - Team design presentation with Fathina Izmi, Hoang Phuc, Fiw Panuvich Srisuttha
- 05/2019 **Odaiba Third Island, Japan Institute of Architects, Japan**
 - Presentation on behalf of The University of Tokyo
 - Chosen to be a semifinalist out of 50 by the jury including Ryuei Nishizawa of SANAA.

- 01/2018 Farmlands + Hotsprings, Kodaira City Hall, Japan
- Presentation on behalf of The University of Tokyo. Advisor: Prof. Akiko Okabe
- 01/2018 Heterogeneous City Nihombashi, Waseda University, Japan
- Presentation on behalf of The University of Tokyo. Advisor: Prof. Kengo Kuma
- 09/2017 PRISTUP ZA SVE / ACCESS FOR ALL, 6th "Anatomy of Islands", Croatia
- With Neda Medic, Hikaru Ando, Tomoaki Sakaguchi, Yukie Takasu, Carlos Lopez

EXHIBITIONS

- 07/2020 Material Gesture, ETH Zürich, Switzerland
My project was chosen to be exhibited and archived. Advisor: Prof. Anne Holtrop
- 03/2019 Sendai Design League 2019 [\[link\]](#), Sendai Mediatheque, Japan
My diploma work was exhibited (5th most voted out of 333 competitors)
- 02/2019 Diploma Exhibition [\[link\]](#), The University of Tokyo, Japan

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 10/2025 - present
07/2024 - 11/2024 Master Thesis/Project Report Supervision
- Supervised 2 students
- 01/2025 - 05/2025 Bachelor Thesis Supervision
- Supervised 1 student
- 01/2025 - 05/2025 Digital Design and Fabrication of Timber [\[link\]](#), TU Berlin
- Lecturer. Collaboration with the Cluster of Excellence "Matters of Activity"
- 06/2024, 06/2025 Robotic Fabrication: Technology that expands manufacturing, TU Berlin
- Lecturer
- 06/2024, 06/2025 Digital in Architecture [\[link\]](#), The University of Tokyo
- Lecturer
Organized a workshop of Rhino and Grasshopper to 40 students as a founder of Around Architecture (architectural teaching group) with my colleagues.
- 07/2016 - 08/2016 Tokyo Innovation Summer Program 2016 [\[link\]](#), The University of Tokyo
- Mentor
Organized an innovative design thinking workshop and mentored high school students in Iwate, Japan.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 04/2024, 04/2025 Girl's Day [\[link\]](#), TU Berlin
- STEM outreach for teenage girls in Berlin
- 08/2017 - 12/2018 Urban planning research for a book [\[link\]](#), Harvard University
- Supplementary research with Kayoko Ota from the Japan Research Initiative at Harvard GSD