How to find the Japanese mossgarden and the two architectural works “Koja”

The Japanese Mossgarden and Koja are two parts of a unique Umeå2014-project run by Svensk Form Västerbotten in close collaboration with Umeå municipality. The project is financed by Komatsu City, the EU Japan fest committee and Umeå2014.

The Japanese moss garden dates back for more than a thousand years. The project The Forest of Wisdom in Komatsu is an inspiring example of how reverence for nature, development of culture and modern businesses can work together in a successful way. The naming of the moss garden in Umeå emphasizes the friendship between the cities: “Umeå - Komatsu Friendship Mossgarden.”

Two talented designers, John Astbury and Kyuhyung Cho, have designed benches for the mossgarden in Umeå, interpreting rest and timelessness both poetically and practically.

Koja and 小屋 are words that sound similar and have the same meaning in Swedish and Japanese: Small house. A Koja can be a small house for tea and thoughts.

Two architects, Marcus Abrahamsson at Nyréns Arkitektkontor and Janek Ozmin, teacher and PhD student at the Umeå School of Architecture, have each created their own interpretation of the term: Origamikoja and The Uninvisible Koja.

Project manager
Anna Sjöberg
070-175 75 40
anna.sjoberg@umea.se