



## JA 115 Autumn, 2019

**Manabu Chiba**

**Edited by The Japan Architect**

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- After starting his firm in 2001, Manabu Chiba has produced a wide range of works including residences, housing complexes, commercial facilities, schools, and town halls. Additionally, after starting out as an assistant to Tadao Ando at the University of Tokyo, he is now a professor in the Department of Architecture
- His practice has continually focused on distilling the special characteristics of each building site into the project design
- Chiba's work on public housing and civic projects are particularly noted for integrating the local community and fostering relationships between workers and visitors

**JA 115** is dedicated to the Japanese architect Manabu Chiba and features 24 projects since his firm was established in 2001. Included are completed projects, works in progress, and future proposals. Working through a wide range of building types, he focuses on the special characteristics of the location as well as the people who live and work there. His designs try to build human relationships and communal social situations that are connected to these specific environments.

Chiba's work is presented in 3 chapters that correspond to his design methods: floor plans, studies, and photographs. He pays close attention to floor plans as a starting point for his design concepts, while studies represent numerous, different explorations of ideas that unfold through the use of sketches and models. Photographs, on the other hand, are snapshot references of Chiba's buildings as they currently exist.

Text in English and Japanese.

JA - the **Japan Architect** - was first published in June 1956 and was the only English language periodical that introduced Japanese architecture to an overseas audience. Since 1991 it has been published as a quarterly journal in both Japanese and English, expanding its readership both inside and outside of Japan. Today's JA showcases contemporary Japanese architecture with in-depth commentary on the theoretical history and context of the projects. It is organized with an emphasis on developments originating in Japan. The magazine surveys the country's diverse, ever-changing architectural scene, identifies important trends to convey to a wider audience outside Japan, takes up current, compelling issues and considers the latest architectural trends.