

Architect's excursion  
November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008.

Landhuis

A warm welcome in these fresh days to you, colleagues and friends of Uchino-san and  
-of course- a word of welcome to the master himself.

**What you see here.....**

....is not only the result of intensive thinking and reflecting,  
also using common sense, but also the outcome of sparring  
with the architect  
[; yes he got some bruises during the process.....],  
now being in full use by us, Fumika-san, the remains of  
Setsuko-san, her mother in the very center of this house and  
me (in the side line.....).

....is a spacious, somewhat theatrical and comfortable house for  
an international loving couple, a house with insulation at 6  
sides, simple floors, attractive materials and pretty many  
details. The house refused the ugly, tasteless and  
unimaginative title of 'residence', a house that is already  
connected to and responsible for many stories.

NARRO, ERGO SUMMUS [I narrate, so I exist]

....is rhythm. True quality does not exist without rhythm. What  
you see here is a rhapsody of squares combined with curved  
lines, different heights [of floors and ceilings], single,  
naughty, playful small notes next to a big *bang* on a taiko

[the 50 ton rock in the center of the living room], a pipe-*matsuri* in the kitchen, floating lights, the contrasts of hard and soft, fire and water, wide and cosy, altogether united through an appreciation of quite some differences, like life itself.

The architect as a composer.

....is a 'Landhuis', a house on the land [of a countryside], on and amidst old culture-terraced-rice-fields, it's destination being to 'disappear' in the natural landscape.

We kept as much of the original terrace-forms as possible, however, contrary to the mono-culture which actually rice-growing is, we changed this mono-culture into a large variety of plants and [young] trees, from lemon trees to eucalyptus, from cacti to water-plants, from olives to peach, from camellia to rosemary and laurel.

Water, essential for rice-growing, is an element we kept through the creation of several ponds which also play a center role in our water management, controlling chronic and ad random floods from higher fields. Last but not least we gratefully drink the natural and truly delicious mountain water.

....is a couple standing side-by-side at the very entrance in the form of sleepers with the letters of both our names spread all over our bodies. We stand there most visible as a welcome for trustful guests and friends, at the same time -if necessary- as a guard against evil.

As I said before, please feel welcome.

Dolf van Graas

Fumika Kuninori