

Playful Sculptures

Naoto Fukasawa

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JAKUETS



OMOCHI
W2000×D2000×H700mm
Material: FRP

Round and smooth form encourages children to hug and embrace it. As they do, they discover the limitless possibilities of its curvatures. Children invent interactions, leaning against the piece stroking it, or sliding along it.



CUBE
W2000×D2000×H1500mm
Material: FRP

Complex of staircase, slope and tunnels created from a single cube. Children hide inside and peep out through holes provided. Multiple spatial scenes are simultaneously possible depending on how it is used.



BANRI
W1800×D1800×H963mm
Material: FRP

Circulating pathway with continuously changing undulations and slopes. As children walk, they experience changing scenery and feel alterations in the pull of gravity. This encourages them to keep moving forward.



HOUSE
W1500×D1300×H1500mm
Material: FRP

Wendy house with pitched roof. Children can climb through it, in and out of the windows, or sit on the bench inside. All-round playful experience.



DONUT
W1800×D1800×H637mm
Material: FRP

Children seated on the bench turn the central handle, which rotates the equipment. Hand motions determine speed of rotation. It is like crewing a boat. Children exchange excited glances as they depart on an adventure.



PICCOLA
2yrs: W310×D302×H298
3yrs: W315×D302×H328
4yrs: W321×D302×H358
5yrs: W327×D302×H388mm
Material: PP

Soft and gentle curving outlines make seated children look charming, but the form also encourages seating in an upright posture. Details are finely tuned to avoid hurt or injury.



PICCOLA TABLE
W700×D700×H490mm
Material: PE

Playful Sculptures by Naoto Fukasawa

Message by Naoto Fukasawa

Even if children lack toys, they still find “affordance” value in other objects. With these they act out their patterns of play. Children tiptoe along the confines of a narrow verge; they hang off fences; they bearhug circular pillars. I want to design things that invite children to come and play with them.

OMOCHI is a good example. Its organic and bulging form welcomes children to come and slide down its curving slope. They can also enjoy clinging to its smooth surfaces, or slipping down while trying to hold on. OMOCHI can be played with in various ways. The glossy shine encourages tactile experiences. How charming and pleasant to watch children as they try to avoid sliding, their fingers stretched across the polished surfaces like suckers on the tips of tree frogs.

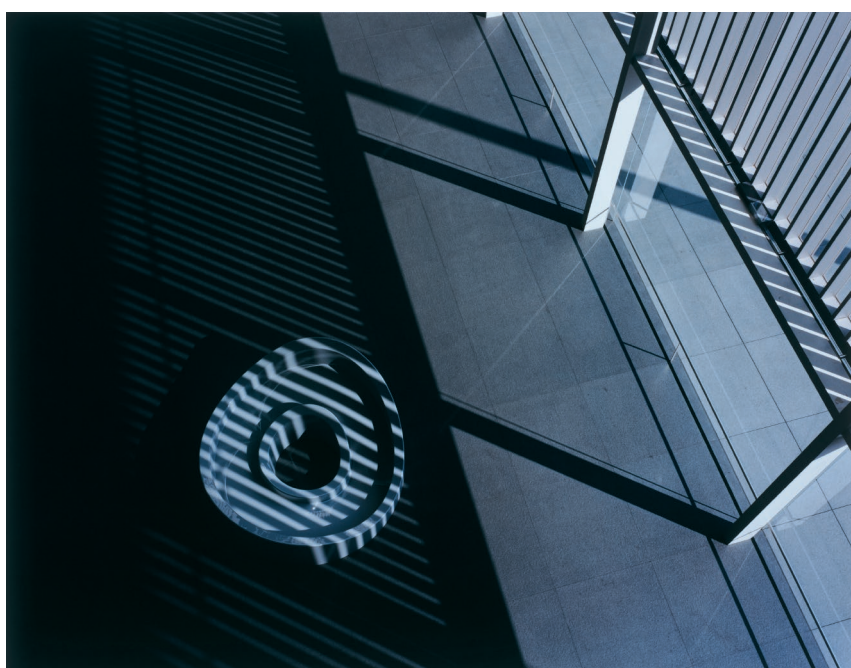
What do I want to design? Things that not only attract children, but which children find impossible not to play with. Children find predictability boring, but they are thrilled to discover creative “affordance.” A designer’s role should be no more than laying out sticks and stones.

Adults are just advanced forms of children. They play, though are more serious about it. This playground equipment is also sculpture. Its existence is ambiguous.



HOUSE Photo by Tamotsu Fujii

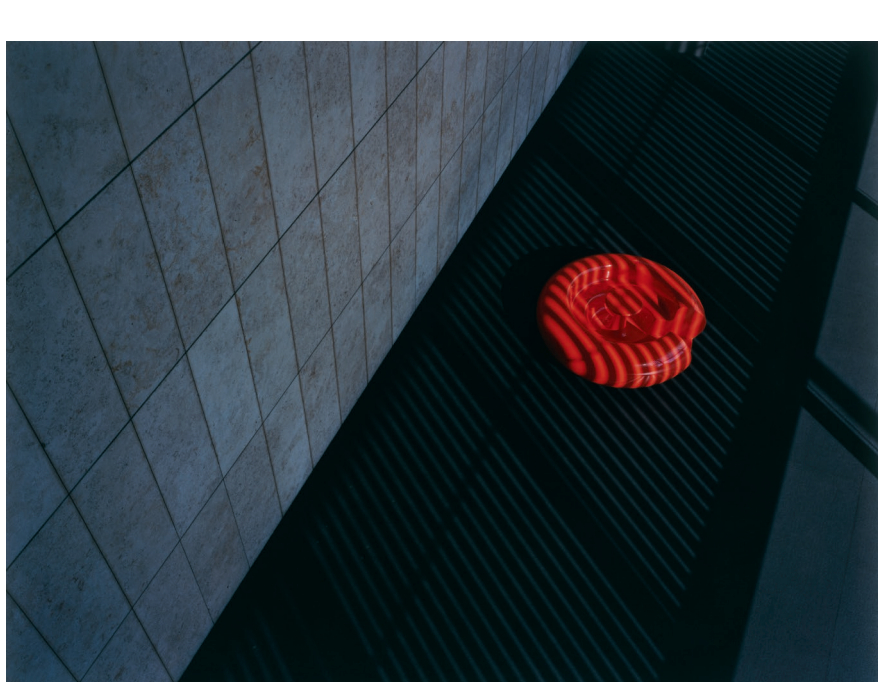
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BANRI Photo by Tamotsu Fujii



DONUT Photo by Tamotsu Fujii



DONUT Photo by Tamotsu Fujii



CUBE Photo by Tamotsu Fujii



CUBE Photo by Tamotsu Fujii



OMOCHI Photo by Tamotsu Fujii



HOUSE Photo by Tamotsu Fujii

About JAKUETS

Since its foundation in 1916, JAKUETS has embraced the idea that the “Future is in Play.” We are a group of play activity specialists engaged in the creation of environments for children. With 70 bases throughout Japan, closely networked with over 40,000 nurseries and preschools, we have produced many ranges of product and space. We make playground equipment, educational material and nursery and preschool buildings.

JAKUETS seeks active engagement from experts in many fields to formulate and launch cultural projects with wide perspectives on education. We promote fine art, welfare support and local community revitalization. We turn fresh ideas into products in our own workshops, and are able to offer high-quality service across all areas, from planning to manufacturing and maintenance.

We intend to pass on all we have learned and cherished over the past 100 years to the next generation. We envisage a future in which people supersede divisions of culture and action.

