

**FOR THE FUTURE: PIONEERING WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE FROM JAPAN AND BEYOND**

Women Architects Japan/USA including work from the IAWA

Exhibition: Tokyo, Japan

Donna Dunay, FAIA

Chair, International Archive of Women in Architecture

Justification:

I traveled to Tokyo in February of this year to meet with leading Japanese women architects. The purpose of the trip was to coordinate material for an upcoming exhibition and to review the venue that will feature women architects from Japan and the United States. Much was discussed regarding content and range of the work of these architects with individual exhibition pieces identified. Technical work and the writings for the lectures and catalog continued. Everything was moving according to plan until Japan was hit by three simultaneous disasters.

Though Tokyo did not experience damage or immediate danger, the city was periodically shut down. Most planned events, including this exhibition were placed on hold. Recently it was decided to go ahead with the exhibition.

Though there is much rebuilding to accomplish, our Japanese counterparts have decided to have the exhibition on the original schedule to restore a degree of normalcy. Thus the importance of this exhibition is now magnified. Its original objective was to highlight accomplishments of women in architecture, thus giving a disenfranchised segment of the profession a voice long unacknowledged. In addition, the exhibit and symposium, will promote solidarity of the two countries through the juxtaposition of work from Japan and the United States in an international partnership. The former represented by the Union of Women Architects Japan and the latter represented by the International Archive of Women in Architecture Center at Virginia Tech.