



ASIAN
FLAVOURS

CREATING
ARCHITECTURE
FOR CULINARY
CULTURE

Edition **DETAIL**



In this business district, dominated by offices, supermarkets and warehouses and a TGV railway station, Tran developed a new concept for an existing sales hall together with the architect Olivier Fremont. They integrated a restaurant and shop into the eight hundred square-metre space, which also offers plenty of space for cooking courses. In his courses Tran Van Ba intro-

duces participants to the art of preparing sashimi and the fundamentals of the art of Japanese cuisine. Its opulence and freshness can be experienced to the fullest extent here because all the fish served by Tran Van Ba's restaurants is processed centrally in the same building. A major role in the concept Olivier Fremont developed is played by steel-framed pergolas that divide the huge

space into zones like a market hall, without detracting from its authentic warehouse character. These pergolas provide a roof over different areas of the restaurant: its groups of tables, counter and sales areas are variously designed according to their function. The restaurant area ceiling is lined with rough timber slats that create a pleasant dining atmosphere. The ceiling

YOJISU

DELICATESSEN, RESTAURANT | AIX-EN-PROVENCE (F)

Design: Studio Fremont, www.studio-fremont.com

Materials: concrete, wood, steel, textiles | **Completion:** 2012

Contact: 130 Rue Bastide de Verdaches, 13290 Aix-En-Provence (F), www.yoji.fr | **Owner:** Tran Van Ba

It seems impossible to tell the story of the Yojisu delicatessen and restaurant without also mentioning its Vietnamese proprietor, Tran Van Ba. A professional cook, Tran discovered his enthusiasm for Japanese cuisine at an early age. Thirty years ago he brought his passion for Japan's culinary temptations to the southern French town of Aix-en-Provence, opening the Yoji restaurant in the town's historic centre. It soon became one of southern France's top addresses for Japanese food lovers. Motivated by his success, Tran Van Ba decided to open another restaurant, Yojisu, in what initially seemed the less attractive commercial district of Aix-les-Milles.

