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## Hakokaidan or Kaidan-dansu

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By Karel Bos

GRIN Verlag Gmbh Okt 2014, 2014. Taschenbuch. Book  
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- Print on Demand Neuware - Essay from the year 2012 in the  
subject Art - Architecture / History of Construction, , language:  
English, abstract: The Japanese step-chest (kaidan-dansu or  
hakokaidan) is inextricably linked with the traditional  
'machiya' in Kyoto. In contrast to the 'minka', which are  
farmhouses, fishermen's houses and mountain dwellings, the  
'machiya' is a merchants' and craftsmen's town-house,  
specifically in Kyoto, also often called 'kyo-machiya'. Kyoto  
'machiya' are traditional townhouses with distinctive Kyoto-  
style latticework doors and slatted second-story windows (fig.  
1+2). Machiya are already depicted on 17th century screens  
and they were still built during the Taisho period and beyond  
until about 1936. These wooden houses, where merchants and  
artisans both lived and worked, provided a space in front for a  
store, in the middle for family quarters with small garden, and  
in the rear for workshops and warehouses. Many of them can  
still be seen in the Gion district and they came to be regarded  
as one of the typical traditional structures which characterise  
the ancient city of Kyoto. Kyoto, Japan s capital of traditional  
culture, is one...



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