



# The 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Scientific Feng Shui & Built Environment

Conference web: <http://bccw.cityu.edu.hk/fengshui2009/>

**20-21 February 2009 (Friday to Saturday)**

**Wei Hing Theatre, City University of Hong Kong**

**Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon, Hong Kong**

**Chief Organizers**

**Asian Institute of Intelligent Buildings (AIIB)**




**Co-organizer**

**Department of Building & Construction, City University of Hong Kong**



**Supporting Organizations:**





**Proceedings of  
4th International Conference on  
Scientific Feng Shui and Built Environment 2009**

**20th to 21st February 2009 (Friday to Saturday)**

**Wei Hing Theatre, City University of Hong Kong**

**Hong Kong**

**Edited by Michael Mak and Albert So**



## **PREFACE**

Feng Shui is a body of ancient Chinese knowledge that aims at creating a harmony between environment, buildings and people. It represented the most significant set of architectural theory and practice in Chinese history. Feng Shui knowledge reflected the traditional Chinese attitudes towards the natural and built environment. With a desire to improve the relationship between human and the environment, there is an increasing interest for architects, building professionals and other property practitioners to apply the concepts of Feng Shui in building design. As Feng Shui knowledge represents a holistic view in creating harmonized built environment, research into the application of Feng Shui to the built environment needs to be addressed.

*Dr. Albert So*

Chairman, Organizing Committee



# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

## **Members of Organizing Committee**

Dr. Albert So, Chairman of Organizing Committee, City University of Hong Kong  
Mr. Po Chi Lau, AIIB  
Mr. Conson Yu, AIIB  
Dr. Ricky Chan, City University of Hong Kong  
Dr. Michael Mak, Australia  
Mr. Howard Choy, Australia  
Mr. Derek Walters, United Kingdom  
Prof. Wei Dong, United States of America

## **Members of Technical Committee**

Dr. Michael Mak Chairman, University of Newcastle , Australia  
Dr. Albert So, City University of Hong Kong , China  
Dr. Michael Paton, University of Sydney , Australia  
Prof. Hong-key Yoon, University of Auckland , New Zealand  
Dr. Stephen Field, Trinity University , Texas , USA  
Assoc. Prof. Ke-Tsung Han, National Chin-Yi University of Technology, Taiwan

## **Conference Secretaries**

Mr. Wilson Suen  
Mr. Squall Ip

## **Supporting Organizations**

Building Services Operation and Maintenance Executives Society (BSOMES)  
Construction Industry Institute, Hong Kong  
Good Feng Shui Geomantic Research  
Hong Kong Institution of Engineers Building Services Division  
IFMA Hong Kong Chapter  
Interior Design Association Hong Kong  
The Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers-HKB  
The Hong Kong Institute of Architects  
The Hong Kong Institute of Facility Management  
The Hong Kong Institute of Housing  
The Hong Kong Institute of Real Estate Administration  
The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors



## **PEER REVIEW PROCESS**

In order to improve the quality of papers in the proceedings of the 4th International Conference on Scientific Feng Shui and Built Environment 2009, a two-stage system of peer review by no less than two acknowledged experts will be followed. At the first stage, each abstract received will be peer reviewed in terms of:

- Relevance to conference theme and objectives
- Originality of material
- Contribution to knowledge
- Research methodology

Authors whose abstracts were accepted after review will be provided with anonymous reviewers' comments and requested to submit their full papers with a maximum of 12 pages. At the second stage, these papers will be peer reviewed again in terms of:

- Relevance to conference theme and objectives
- Originality of material
- Contribution to knowledge
- Research methodology
- Critical literature review
- Empirical research findings
- Academic rigour

Authors whose papers are accepted after review will be provided with anonymous reviewers' comments and requested to submit their revised full papers. The editors of the proceedings will finally review these papers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Technical Committee for their time and efforts during the peer review process. Their support and contribution to the conference are very much appreciated.

*Dr. Michael Mak*

Chairman, Technical Committee



## **PROGRAMME RUNDOWN**

### **19<sup>th</sup> February 2009 (Thursday)**

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.      **Tea Gathering for Speakers and Invited Guests**  
Venue: Garden Cafe, Alice Cheng Hall, City University of Hong Kong

### **20<sup>th</sup> February 2009 (Friday)**

8:30 am    **Registration**

9:00 am    **Opening Speech**

**Dr Michael Mak**, Chair of Technical Committee

**Welcome Speech by Mr Joe Chan**, Chairman of Executive Committee, AIB

**Welcome Speech by Prof. S. Kitipornchai**, Head of Department of Building and Construction, City University of Hong Kong

Session 1 Chairman: Mr. Howard Choy

9:15 am    **Feng Shui and its Appraisal in Traditional Sinology**

**Keynote Speech by Prof. Florian Reiter**, Professor for Chinese Studies,  
Humboldt-University, Berlin, Germany

10:00 am    **Feng Shui Tuning for Office**

**Peter Jordan**, Vital-Office, Germany

10:20 am    **Good Fortune or Environmental Harmony?**

**Dr Michael Paton**, University of Sydney, Australia

10:40 am    Morning Tea

Session 2 Chairman: Dr. Michael Mak

11:10 am    **Feng Shui and its Place in American Interior Design Education**

**Dr Anubhuti Thakur**, California State University Northridge, USA

11:30 am    **Fundamentals of Feng Shui Effects on an Occupants' Health**

**Dr Simona Mainini**, Feng Shui for Architecture, California, USA

11:50 am    **Shijin Sōō and the Site Selection Process of Chinese-style Capitals in Japan**

**Dr Ellen Van Goethem**, Hosei University, Tokyo, Japan

12:10 pm    **Feng Shui China: A Documentary about Chinese Feng Shui**

**Prof. Wei Dong, Zhang Yikuan, and Liang Ge**, USA & China

12:30 pm    Lunch – Venue: 9/F City Top Restaurant

Session 3 Chairman: Dr. Michael Mak

- 2:00pm **Feng Shui and Harmony**  
**Keynote Speech by Assoc. Prof. Ke-Tsung Han**, Head, Department of Landscape Design and Management, National Chin-Yi University of Technology, Tai Chung, Taiwan
- 2:45 pm **Building Shaped by Feng Shui: hand-on Approach to Living Design**  
**Michael Rapp**, FengshuiPC, Germany
- 3:05 pm **Feng Shui Criteria for Planning and Design Projects**  
**Gyda Anders**, arqitektur.ac Architects, Germany
- 3:25 pm Afternoon Tea

Session 4 Chairman: Dr. Albert So

- 3:50 pm **The San Cai Approach to Feng Shui Analysis and Design**  
**Howard Choy**, Feng Shui Architects, Australia
- 4:10 pm **Feng Shui Villages in Hong Kong**  
**Dr Michael Mak**, University of Newcastle, Australia
- 4:30 pm **The Year of Ox - Predictions of 2009**  
**Raymond Lo**, Professional Feng Shui Researcher and Practitioner, Hong Kong
- 4:50 pm **Closing Speech**  
**Dr Albert So**, Chair of Organizing Committee

21<sup>st</sup> February, 2009 (Saturday)

- 9:00 a.m. **Feng Shui Study Tour – IFC Tower 2, Central and Beverly Hills, Tai Po**  
Depart from U-circle, City University of Hong Kong  
**<<Due to restricted number of visitors are allowed for this study tour, attendants MUST be REGISTERED and PAID on a first come first serve basis>>**
- 12:30 pm **End of Feng Shui Study Tour** and return to City University of Hong Kong

**Disclaimer:** I fully understand that this conference program is confirmed at the date of printing. However, the organizer reserves the right to make any changes to this program at any time as circumstances dictate every effort will be made to provide a program of equivalent standard and value.

**Insurance Disclaimer:** Registration fees do not include insurance of any kind. It is strongly recommended that at the time you register for the conference and book your travel you take out an insurance policy of your choice. The policy should include but not limited to (1) loss of fees/ deposit through cancellation of your participation in the conference; (2) loss through cancellation of the conference; (3) loss of international/ domestic air fares through cancellation for any reason including force majeure, medical expenses, loss or damage to person or property, additional expenses; AND (4) repatriation should travel arrangements have to be altered. The organizers or any parties concerned will NOT be responsible for any participant failing to arrange his or her own insurance.

## LIST OF AUTHORS

### **ANDERS, Gyda**

Ms. Gyda Anders is an Architect in Germany. Her research in architecture was focused on the perception and psychological influence of urban space and built environment in architecture. She studied Feng Shui with Howard Choy in Europe, Prof. Wang Yu De in China and since 2002 she studies Chinese language and Culture at the Humboldt University, Berlin.

Since 2002 Gyda works in an architects association, arqitektur.ac (www.arqitektur.com). Her main emphasis is Feng Shui planning in conjunction with responsive, sustainable architecture and the use of ecological and traditional building methods and materials in redevelopments and new projects.



### **CHOY, Howard**

Mr. Howard Choy (Cai Hong 蔡洪) is a qualified and practicing Feng Shui Architect. He graduated from University of NSW with a B.Sc. (Arch) and a B.Arch. degree.

Howard was born in China and migrated to Australia at an early age, yet managed to keep his language and culture intact through his life long involvement with Tai Chi and Qigong. Feng Shui provided the perfect vehicle for him to combine his passion for Chinese qi energetics with his professional practice. He has written four books on Feng Shui and Qigong and numerous articles for various magazines and journals worldwide.



### **DONG, Wei**

Prof. Wei Dong specializes in study and research in comparing and contrasting Asian architectural with Western Design. He has been awarded many researches funding to study the nearly vanished buildings of the Chinese ethnic group and traditional courtyard and cave houses in China. In the past he received two distinguished professorships from University of Wisconsin – Madison, USA. In addition his knowledge of traditional Chinese Feng Shui has drawn national attention.



### **HAN, Ke-Tsung**

Dr Ke-Tsung Han is the Associate Professor and Department Head, Department of Landscape Architecture, National Chin-Yi University of Technology, Taiwan. His PhD is in Urban and Regional Science from Texas A&M University, USA. Prof Han has published a few books in related to Feng Shui, including Feng Shui and Landscape (1994), Feng Shui: harmonizing your Yin and Yang (1995), and Traditional Chinese Feng Shui community and courtyard house (1996).



### **JORDAN, Peter**

Peter Jordan is the founder of Vital-Office, an umbrella world for a unique and holistic way of designing office environments. His business led him to ergonomics already in the early 1980's when he started producing adjustable computer furniture. In 1989 he was the first in Germany to design anthropometric rounded desk systems. In 2000 he developed the first authentic Feng Shui office system to be endorsed by many Feng Shui masters.

He has lectured on "Vital-Office Ergonomics and Feng Shui" in Germany since 2006. On the subject of "Office Optimization: Ergonomics and Feng Shui," he regularly speaks at several conferences and other events. In 2007 he was a speaker at the International Congress of Facility Management in Frankfurt, at the international Feng Shui conference in Budapest, and at the Conscious Design conference held in New Jersey in the United States.



### **LO, Raymond**

Mr. Raymond Lo is a professional Feng Shui consultant, an internationally renowned author and lecturer on the subject of Chinese metaphysics. Lo has appeared on numerous television shows and interviews in media. He has written many Feng Shui books in Chinese and in English and many have been translated into foreign languages. Lo is the consultant to the Hong Kong Tourist Board for its Feng Shui lectures and tours, as well as consultant to the Peninsula Hotel's Peninsula Academy, and SCMP.com's annual Feng Shui forecasts. His speaking engagements include the World Economic Forum. Lo also conduct the world renowned Feng Shui Practitioners' Diploma Training Programme in many major cities in the world.



### **MAININI, Simona**

With the company she founded in 1997, Feng Shui for Architecture, Simona Mainini, Dr. Arch., has gained worldwide praise and recognition for becoming one of most well-known and respected experts in her field as well as a highly sought-after international speaker and advisor to Hollywood celebrities, business executives (including the producers of the movie *300*), casinos, and real estate developers all over the globe helping them to improve their well-being and achieve their highest success with the use of Feng Shui.

With her first book, *Feng Shui for Architecture*-- the first book in the English language to address the design of a new building using Scientific Feng Shui principles-- was written from her years of knowledge and experience as a former architect who's now working as a Feng Shui Master consultant for architectural projects.



### **MAK, Michael**

Dr. Michael Y. Mak is a Lecturer in the School of Architecture and Built Environment, University of Newcastle, Australia. He has been lecturing in architecture, building, construction and property courses in Australia, Singapore and Hong Kong. Michael is also a Visiting Lecturer with the Department of Building & Construction, City University of Hong Kong. He is the pioneer in developing and lecturing a course on scientific Feng Shui in the MSc programme. Michael is the co-founder of the International Conferences on Scientific Feng Shui and Built Environment, and the Chair of the Technical Committee of the Conference

His PhD is focused on the application of Feng Shui knowledge in building design and built environment using artificial intelligent technique - knowledge-based expert systems approach. His research in Feng Shui is focused on its scientific applications and computer modelling.



### **PATON, Michael**

Dr. Michael Paton is a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Sydney, Australia. He completed his Bachelor of Science (Education) degree in geology at the University of New South Wales and his Bachelor of Arts (honours) and PhD in Chinese studies at the University of Sydney. Michael's major research interest is the history and philosophy of science in China especially focusing on *dili* (the principles of the earth) and *fengshui* (wind & water). His work and research interests in communication skills deal with their relationship to culture, critical thinking and knowledge production. He is a co-founder of the Sustainable Management of Organisations Group (SMOG) and a former Vice President (Asia) of the Australasian Association for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Science.



### **RAPP, Michael**

After receiving the architectural diploma from the Technical University in Munich, Germany, Michael Rapp worked as an architect for 25 years, ten of which in Boston and NYC. Since 1987 he is holding a license in Germany as well as in the US.

Michael started to actually pursue his interest in Feng Shui 15 years ago. He counts many prominent Feng Shui teachers as his guides, notably Masters Yap Cheng Hai, Jes Lim, Raimond Lo and Howard Choy, and in 2005 Michael completed a curriculum in environmental studies at the Normal University in Wuhan, China. Over time his work has increasingly focused on Feng Shui as architect, consultant and public speaker at international Feng Shui conferences such as Budapest in 2007 and Turin in 2008. In the community of Feng Shui consultants Michael Rapp is well known for developing and marketing one of the leading Feng Shui software programs worldwide under the brand "fengshuiPC.de".



### **REITER, Florian**

Prof. Dr. Florian C. Reiter is a full Professor for Chinese Studies (pre-modern Chinese culture) at Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany. He has learnt Chinese language in Taiwan since 1970s. His PhD is in Sinology and traditional Chinese studies. Prof. Reiter has published many books in Chinese studies, in particular related to religious in China and Taoist Thunder Magic. He has been the organizer for the Taoist Conference in Berlin for many years.



### **THAKUR, Anubhuti**

Dr. Anubhuti Thakur currently teaches as assistant professor in the interior design area of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences at California State University Northridge. She has a Bachelor in Architecture from Maharaja SayajiRao University of Baroda, India, a Masters of Science in Interior Design from Florida State University, and a PhD in Art Education from Florida State University. Her research interests include psycho-social concerns in architecture and interior design, architecture and interior design education, and historic sciences of architecture like Vastu-shastra.



### **VAN GOETHEM, Ellen**

Dr. Ellen Van Goethem, Ph.D. (2005) in Oriental Languages and Cultures, Ghent University, is currently an assistant professor in the Department of Global and Interdisciplinary Studies at Hosei University, Tokyo. She is the author of *Nagaoka: Japan's Forgotten Capital* (Brill Academic Publishers, 2008).



# CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS CD

Proceedings CD will be distributed at the reception counter of the conference but attendants may order more copies as they wish. For those who cannot attend the conference, order of proceedings CD alone is also welcome.

Proceedings CD for previous three International Conferences on Scientific Feng Shui and Built Environment (2005, 2006 and 2007) are also available for purchase.

A monograph, Research in Scientific Feng Shui and the Built Environment, published by City University Press consisting of selected articles presented over the past three years can also be purchased on site.

For general Enquiries: Mr Wilson Suen Tel: (852) 2788 7149 Fax: (852) 2784 4176  
Email: [bcwsuen@cityu.edu.hk](mailto:bcwsuen@cityu.edu.hk)

## PROCEEDINGS CD ORDER FORM

### 2009 Proceedings CD

Types	Copies	Sub-Total (HK\$)
On-site Purchase	HK\$150 per copy X _____copy(ies)	
Local Purchase	HK\$200 per copy X _____copy(ies)	
Overseas Purchase	HK\$300 per copy X _____copy(ies)	

### Previous Proceedings CD

	On-site Purchase	Local Purchase	Overseas Purchase	Copies	Sub-Total (HK\$)
2007 (3rd conference)	HK\$100	HK\$150	HK\$200		
2006 (2nd conference)	HK\$100	HK\$150	HK\$200		
2005 (1st conference)	HK\$100	HK\$150	HK\$200		

Total =HK\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**For Overseas purchase, please arrange to TELE-TRANSFER of the above total amount to the following account and send the receipt to us either by e-mail, by fax or by air mail.**

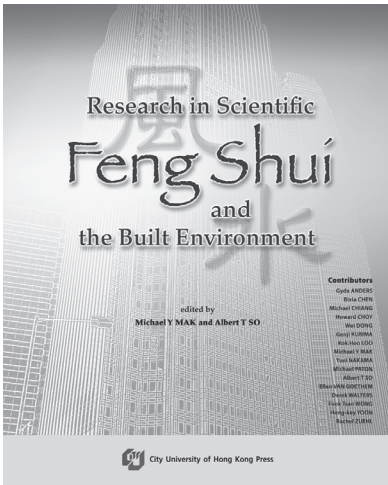
**Beneficiary Bank:** Hang Seng Bank Limited  
**Bank Address:** City University Branch, Level 3 Academic Building  
City University of Hong Kong, Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon, Hong Kong  
**Swift Code:** HASE HKHH; **Bank Code:** 024; **Account No.:** 359-135092-001  
**Account Name:** Asian Institute of Intelligent Buildings Limited.

I order \_\_\_\_\_copies of proceedings with a total cost of HK\$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
Attached herewith please find a copy of the receipt of a completed Tele-Transfer (T/T) to Hang Seng Bank.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_; E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Correspondence address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization: \_\_\_\_\_; Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

To: Mr. Wilson Suen  
Email: [bcwsuen@cityu.edu.hk](mailto:bcwsuen@cityu.edu.hk); Tel: (852) 2788 7149 Fax: (852) 2784 4176  
Correspondence address: Department of Building & Construction, City University of Hong Kong,  
Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

SPECIAL DISCOUNT  
valid until 28 February 2009



# Research in Scientific *Feng Shui* and the Built Environment

## Editors:

Dr. Michael Y. Mak

Lecturer in the School of Architecture and Built Environment,  
University of Newcastle, Australia

Dr. Albert T. SO

Adjunct Professor, Department of Building & Construction,  
City University of Hong Kong

## Contributors:

Gyda ANDERS, Bixia CHEN, Michael CHIANG, Howard CHOY, Wei DONG,  
Genji KURIMA, Kok Hoo LOO, Michael Y MAK, Yuei NAKAMA, Michael PATON,  
Albert T SO, Ellen VAN GOETHEM, Derek WALTERS, Fook Tsan WONG,  
Hong-key YOON, Rachel ZUEHL

### Specification

Paper Back, 304 pages  
190 x 235 mm  
ISBN: 978-962-937-172-2  
Publication Date: Feb 2009

### Information Update...

If you wish to receive information on the publications of City University of Hong Kong Press, simply fill in this form and fax it to City University of Hong Kong Press at (852) 2779-3071.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*Feng Shui* practice has become an important reference for the planning and design of buildings, monuments and even entire cities. In fact *Feng Shui* is an evolved study of the natural and built environment. By utilizing the natural elements and practical environmental changes, we may improve upon our well-being, relationships, prosperity, health and living environment. People in many advanced countries seek to establish a deeper understanding of these relationships between human and natural environment. Architects from around the world also begin to recognize *Feng Shui* as a broad ecologically and architecturally connected paradigm.

To remove the shadow of superstition for *Feng Shui* practice, it is essential to use a scientific approach in the hope of combining and fusing ancient wisdom with modern knowledge in building science. Scientific *Feng Shui* has two meanings, namely (1) the verification of *Feng Shui* principles scientifically and (2) studying *Feng Shui* logically in a scientific way. This volume comprises 13 high-quality essays which were well-organized into four parts to reflect the current trends and the future development of the research undertaken in the built environment.

This book will address the growing demand for architects, building professionals and other property practitioners to apply the concepts of *Feng Shui* in the built environment.



香港城市大學出版社  
City University of Hong Kong Press

Tel: (852) 3442-6818

Fax: (852) 2779-3071

E-mail: [upress@cityu.edu.hk](mailto:upress@cityu.edu.hk)

Website: [www.cityu.edu.hk/upress](http://www.cityu.edu.hk/upress)





Proceedings of 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on  
Scientific Feng Shui and Built Environment 2009

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>Feng Shui Criteria for Planning and Design Projects</b> Gyda ANDERS	1
<b>The San Cai Approach to Feng Shui Analysis and Design</b> Howard CHOY	25
<b>Feng Shui China: A Documentary about Chinese Feng Shui (<i>Asbtract</i>)</b> Wei DONG, Zhang Yikuan, and Liang Ge	34
<b>Feng Shui and Harmony</b> Ke-Tsung HAN	35
<b>Feng Shui Tuning for Office</b> Peter JORDAN	52
<b>The Year of Ox - Predictions of 2009</b> Raymond LO	60
<b>Fundamentals of Feng Shui Effects on an Occupants' Health</b> Simona MAININI	68
<b>Feng Shui Villages in Hong Kong</b> Michael MAK	78
<b>Good Fortune or Environmental Harmony?</b> Michael PATON	94
<b>Building Shaped by Feng Shui: hand-on Approach to Living Design</b> Michael RAPP	103
<b>Feng Shui and its Appraisal in Traditional Sinology</b> Florian REITER	112
<b>Feng Shui and its Place in American Interior Design Education</b> Anubhuti THAKUR	123
<b>Shijin Sōō and the Site Selection Process of Chinese-style Capitals in Japan</b> Ellen VAN GOETHEM	131