



城市动员  
CITY  
MOBILI-  
ZATION

# OPEN CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

## DEADLINE: 9 SEPT 2009

“09 香港·深圳 城市\建筑\城市\建筑”

“2009 Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture”

### OPEN CALL 1: Bring Your Own Bench

An open call for submissions focused on the design of contemporary alternatives to the typical civic furniture of Hong Kong’s public spaces. The aim of this open call is to rethink public park furniture and posit a new model for the city in the context of the highly-visible West Kowloon site.

The submissions should be designed to act as a catalyst that will ‘kick-start’ and facilitate increased participation among the public in regard to the design of public spaces and how these spaces relate to a mass audience. Additionally the Curatorial Team highly encourages participants to create submissions that educate and alert the general public and users to the potential of using sustainable building materials in public spaces.

[See Appendix 1]

### OPEN CALL 2: Bring Your Own Booth

An open call for submissions focused on designing a contemporary interpretation of the outdoor hawker stalls commonly found in older street markets across Hong Kong.

The proposed Booth should be designed to house displays that relate to the overall “City Mobilization : BYOB” theme and the sub-topic of ‘Consuming / Producing Hong Kong and Shenzhen 2009’.

Submissions are highly encouraged to produce display contents that directly relate to the unique Bi-City relationship of the Biennale. The booth must conform to a 180-200cm wide x 225-250cm high x 100-125cm deep spatial volume, typical of Hong Kong hawker stalls. Further the booth must be conceived as a modular object that could eventually be multiplied.

[See Appendix 2]

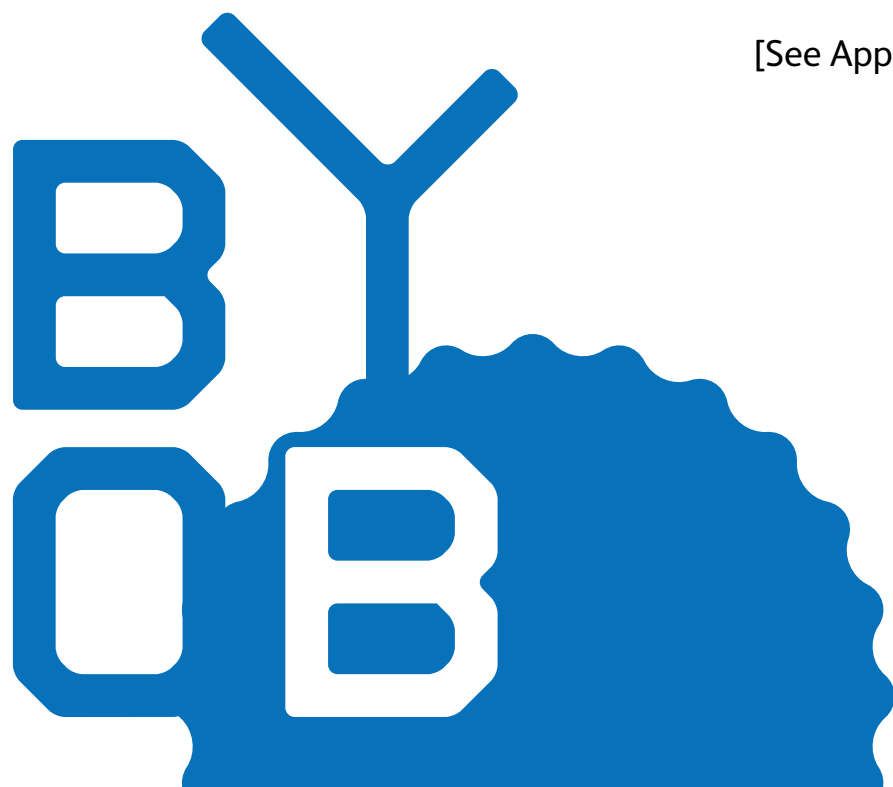
### OPEN CALL 3: Bring Your Own Box (Urban Visions)

An open call for the submission of “Urban Visions” for a future Hong Kong-Shenzhen metropolis. The aim of the open call is to generate ideas, concepts, and projections for the future of the two cities; while also promoting discussions and debate among the public regarding their ideal city.

The proposals should directly address the great challenges and opportunities of closer integration between the two ‘model’ cities and the greater Pearl River Delta (PRD) region as whole, in addition to issues of ecology, globalization, transportation, infrastructure, manufacturing, and responsible growth and development.

The selected “Urban Visions” will be displayed in custom “Boxes” designed specifically for the Biennale. Exact method of display for the “Urban Visions” proposal e.g. video projection, models, drawings, installations, will be determined in collaboration with the Curatorial Team after selection.

[See Appendix 3]



## BRIEFING SESSION

Date : 26 August 2009 (Wed)  
Time : 7.30 pm  
Venue : HKIA premises,  
19/F, One Hysan Avenue, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

Enquiries : info@hkszbiennale.org / tara@hkia.net



December 04  
2009  
–  
February,  
2010

Exhibition Venue:  
West Kowloon  
Waterfront  
Promenade

# City Mobilization : BYOB (Bring Your Own Biennale)

Marisa Yiu, Chief Curator (Hong Kong) 2009

'Bring Your Own Biennale' (BYOB) is a catchphrase, framework, and approach envisioned to stimulate our collective role in the creation of an innovative Bi-City Biennale between Hong Kong and Shenzhen. It calls for individual participation and networked collaboration – working within and outside boundaries to generate unexpected results. BYOB makes the process of cultural production transparent, an approach that relies on the citizens and the city's infrastructure for our Bi-City engagement. It is at once contextual but also reflective, a unique opportunity to speculate on what our impact on the metropolis could be. As such, we warmly invite everyone to make an imprint on the public cultural landscape of Hong Kong.

Our Biennale's central location in the future West Kowloon Cultural District provides an open platform for dialogue. By inviting inventive practices into the site, we will build upon people's interest and their participation to formulate this Biennale. Our Biennale is not a frozen, definitive statement comprised of vacant representations of architecture – but alive with debate, events, and activity inspired from performative practices. As Ou Ning states, 'It can be a city-wide carnival, an entertainment gala that engages all citizens. It doesn't have to happen in a certain museum or be limited to one place, rather, it can turn the whole city into an exhibition venue...' "City Mobilization" is an accessible and engaging event aiming at investigating the possibility of bottom-up mobilization and the organization of social life.' Our Biennale is about creating new tools, new ways of working, designing intelligence, and appropriating mechanisms that deal with direct feedback to engage the public. This 'public' is diverse and we embrace this diversity in the ownership of space- where public good, public space and the public domain can be re-conceptualized. Diversity within cities and the creation of cultural capital is complex, as exemplified by Sharon Zukin's critique on the 'representations of culture in public space' in parks, art museums, and city streets. Thus BYOB asks: how is public culture defined? Who has the right to experience, conceptualize and control culture? In essence we are publishing a real-time 'Users Manual' for this diversity, where the West Kowloon promenade site becomes a backdrop for creative speculation and dynamic ingenuity. We learn from people, from nature, from our daily interactions, and we are inspired by everyday practices,

appreciate the informality and spontaneity that rubs up against the rigid, the formal and the planned. Here we create ephemera and use weblogs as social levellers to share and exchange information in order to generate new models and paradigms which fully embraces the creative cultural practice of architecture, art and urbanism.

We seek to examine the issue of sustainability not only from a material vantage point but also from a social one. Respecting sensitive ecologies we not only look towards the organic farm, the wind farm, the solar farm, and the compost heap, but we intend to utilize our modest gains appropriately by generating socially sustainable practices of working. Construction for Shigeru Ban's paper tube shelters involves his overseas students teaching local students, spreading the knowledge laterally – but we then encourage the local students to invite their own professors, to teach them in order to ensure the continued distribution of the knowledge. Onsite mobility is supplied by way of an organic lunch for the energy source and a bicycle to provide a slight mechanical advantage. Once we have generated modest amounts of electricity we utilize energy-saving LED lights to power the art and illuminate the paths. Interdisciplinary design competitions seek out enduring self-sufficient systems which develop architectural prototypes as instruments to drive further engagement with a renewed focus on socially progressive models. By dynamically engaging the public we hope to learn directly from our own community, discover conscientious models of design, and showcase the collection of exemplars.

We ask you to help envision a new model metropolis that uses social capital as the main driving force. Whilst celebrating the 60th National anniversary, the 30th anniversary of Shenzhen as a Special Economic Zone, and the dynamic of the East Asian games this December, we seek more interaction. We believe the Pearl River Delta is a potential 'model', always testing and speculating its future. Hong Kong operates with efficiency,

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mediates, connects, it is at once global yet local. Yet, as a Biennale we will provoke and question our past to aspire for a unique future. How can Hong Kong develop further as a 'model' city - what is the 'next' Hong Kong after 2046? What happens when the border of the Frontier Closed Area reopens again next year? How will the relationship between Hong Kong and Shenzhen alter the entire region? Will Hong Kong's uniqueness accelerate further and be redefined once more? What visions can we produce that embrace the individual and the greater metropolis?

Our mode of operation is to condense information instead of only dispersing it. We want YOU to bring the qualities of Hong Kong and Shenzhen on to the site, to highlight the power of creative activism. We want YOU to contribute, speak-out and make your future cultural metropolis between Hong Kong and Shenzhen what you want it to be. This Biennale will form this speculation and use chatter, online 'twitter', exchange and dialogue to bring more to the site and more to the contemporary discourse of architecture, art and urbanism in the making of our cultural and social landscape. Most significant is the critical role of the individual, our voice and our independence as designers, curators, pedagogues and creative citizens. This biennale is about observing the subtle details in our urban environment: rediscovering the harbour's edge, redesigning the park, encouraging more street activity, recalling the significance of the sidewalk and the growth of grass. How does the individual and the collective relate to each other? How can we debate the social and cultural value of the 'city', the 'urban plan', 'architecture', 'artefacts' and 'product' in this complex negotiation? How can architecture and the making of cities highlight the nuances of elitism and populism? Can low and high culture be used proactively? Architecture must communicate openness, transparency and perform as active social register. This Biennale aspires to celebrate ownership and make oneself accountable in the design of your very own Biennale.

2009 Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism/Architecture

Hong Kong Curatorial Team:

Marisa Yiu (Chief Curator), Co-founder eskyiu Ltd., New York, Hong Kong

Alan Lo (Curator for Arts, Events and City Integration), Co-founder Press Room Group, Hong Kong

Joshua Roberts (Curator for Urbanism, Press and Publications) Hong Kong

Eric Schuldenfrei (Curator for Education, Film and Media), Co-founder eskyiu Ltd., New York, Hong Kong

Frank Yu (Curator for Architecture and Landscape), Director of Gravity Partnership Ltd., Hong Kong

Architectural/Planning team:

Claude Wong, Solomon Fong, Wang Ho (Gravity Partnership Ltd.)

Curatorial Team Project Manager: Mei Tam

Curatorial Coordinator: Chow Kayan

[www.hkszbiennale.org](http://www.hkszbiennale.org)

[Appendix 1]

## OPEN CALL 1: Bring Your Own Bench

An open call for submissions focused on the design of contemporary alternatives to the typical civic furniture of Hong Kong's public spaces. The aim of this open call is to rethink public park furniture and posit a new model for the city in the context of the highly-visible West Kowloon site. The submissions should be designed to act as a catalyst that will 'kick-start' and facilitate increased participation among the public in regard to the design of public spaces and how these spaces relate to a mass audience. Additionally the Curatorial Team highly encourages participants to create submissions that educate and alert the general public and users to the potential of using sustainable building materials in public spaces.

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES:

- Potential exhibitors are not limited to a specific type of public furniture, but design submissions for the following items are highly encouraged:
  - a. A 'Play Set' (open to interpretation and could be for children, adults, or the elderly.)
  - b. A park bench
  - c. A recycling bin
  - d. A new version of an existing signage type (e.g. stop sign, park sign, or other environmental graphics)
- Educational ideas and concepts of sustainability/ recyclability should be incorporated into the design
- The design should anticipate its use as a prototype and can be adaptable to locations across Hong Kong.

### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Statement of design intent, detailed scale drawings (1:10), concept sketches and renderings, photo collage of furniture demonstrating its use, material samples and mock ups, timeline for construction/deployment, detailed information of outside sponsorship, and a 1 page curriculum vitae. Please format submitted items to fit a bound A3 booklet; competition boards will not be accepted.

Each submission shall be sealed in an envelope labelled "Exhibitor Submission for 2009 HKSZ Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture – Bring Your Own Bench"

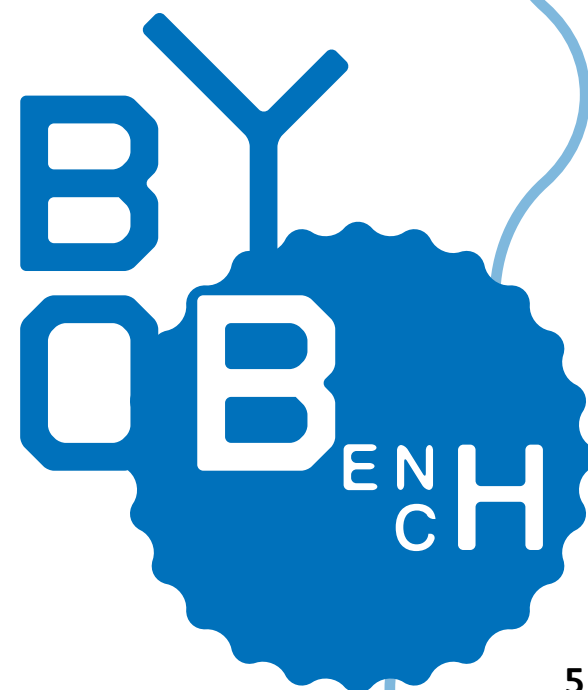
Email and Fax submissions will NOT be accepted.

### DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

**TIME (5:00 pm) 9 September, 2009**

A3 Submission booklets compiling the requirements above, full names (as stated in HKID/passport) and complete contact details of prospective exhibitor(s) should be delivered via post to:

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects  
ATTN: 2009 HKSZ Bi-city Biennale  
19/F, One Hysan Avenue  
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong



[Appendix 2]

## OPEN CALL 2: **Bring Your Own Booth** (\*\*Professionals only)

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(\*\*Professionals must hold full membership / fellowship of HKIA, HKIP, HKDA, or other equivalent accredited professional organizations.)

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES:

- Each booth should contain display content related to the above-mentioned themes and also describe the conceptual design process of the booth and how these concepts were implemented in the final realization of the booth. Each booth should have at least one source of illumination and be able to accommodate the sitting of at least one person inside.
- Exhibitors must collaborate with at least one other person(s) to form an interdisciplinary team, preferably from a discipline not directly related to the primary exhibitors own field. For example, if you are an architect you could partner with a writer; as an artist with a gardener; or perhaps as graphic designer with a medical doctor, engineer, etc. The possibilities are endless and partnerships that involve more than the required two participants and disciplines are highly encouraged.
- The booth must have an open and closed, or locked-down, position for safety considerations and to avoid theft.
- Selected exhibitors will be expected to construct and/or manufacture their booth for use on site for the duration of the Biennale.

### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Statement of design intent, detailed scale drawings (1:10), concept sketches and renderings, photo collage of the booth demonstrating its use, material samples and mock ups, timeline for construction/deployment, detailed information of outside sponsorship, and a 1 page curriculum vitae. Please format submitted items to fit a bound A3 booklet; competition boards will not be accepted.

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### **SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:**

Statement of “Urban Vision”, concept sketches, renderings, photo collages, and any other visual material, as needed to detail and explain the proposal, and a 1 page curriculum vitae. Please format submitted items to fit a bound A3 booklet; competition boards will not be accepted.

Each submission shall be sealed in an envelope labelled “Exhibitor Submission for 2009 HKSZ Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture – Bring Your Own Box – Urban Visions”

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