



“2009 香港·深圳城市\建筑双城年展”

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

Curatorial Team

Marisa Yiu (Chief Curator)
Alan Lo (Curator for Arts, City Integration and Events)
Eric Schuldenfrei (Curator for Education, Film and Media)
Frank Yu (Curator for Urbanism, Architecture and Landscape)

Hong Kong Organizers

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects
Hong Kong Institute of Planners
Hong Kong Designers Association

International Advisory Group

Mr. Shigeru Ban
Dean Wowo Ding
Mr. Joseph Grima
Mr. Brett Steele
Dean Mark Wigley

Hong Kong Committee

Ms. Margaret Brooke
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Ms. Nicole Garnaut
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World Class Biennale Reaffirms Hong Kong's Status as a Regional Creative Hub

Calling out to our City: Bring Your Own Biennale

Hong Kong, 9 September, 2009 – Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism and Architecture 2009 (referred to as “the Biennale” thereafter) will mark the first cultural event of international magnitude to take place in the West Kowloon Cultural District from 4 December 2009 to 27 February 2010. The site of West Kowloon will be filled with 46000 square metres of exhibitions and events, showcasing an open platform composed of inventive works and thought-provoking installations, workshops and performances that aim to engage the public in rethinking the society they are an integral part of.

Hong Kong's role in this novel Bi-City Biennale will be guided by the theme of “**City Mobilization: BYOB**” (Bring Your Own Biennale), a catchphrase and framework designed to inspire individual participation and networked collaboration among the citizens of Hong Kong. Through the Biennale's many scheduled exhibitions and events, the public will be presented with the opportunity to have an active hand in evaluating Hong Kong's cultural production and to speculate on what society's impact on the metropolis could be.

The Biennale team has launched three **Open Calls** requesting the public as well as Hong Kong's design professionals to ‘Bring Your Own Bench,’ ‘Bring Your Own Booth’ (professionals only) and ‘Bring Your Own Box (Urban Visions).’ These calls to action will involve Hong Kong in the building and evolving of a Biennale that is all their own.

In the driving seat of Hong Kong's Biennale is the Curatorial Team, an international legion of designers, architects, educators, arts supporters and creative innovators. The Curatorial Team is led by Marisa Yiu (Chief Curator), and also composed of Alan Lo (Curator for Arts, City Integration and Events), Eric Schuldenfrei (Curator for Education, Film and Media), and Frank Yu (Curator for Architecture, Urbanism and Landscape). “It's so amazing how we brought all these different people from diverse backgrounds together to create something that will be meaningful to Hong Kong,” Marisa Yiu commented. “With unlike skills and similar passions, the Curatorial Team hopes to attract and engage a similarly diverse group of Hong Kong and international citizens and make the Biennale an event that's made for everyone in Hong Kong.”

¹ **Biennale:** The Biennale phenomenon originated in Venice a hundred years ago. In the past one hundred years, radical changes within human history and society have helped to propagate biennales; there are more than 300 taking place across the world. Biennales draw upon the expertise of architects and urbanism specialists as well as the participation of the public to reconstruct ideas related to the concept of ‘city’ itself.



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The Hong Kong - Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale 2009, is organized by The Hong Kong Institute of Architects, Hong Kong Institute of Planners, and Hong Kong Designers Association. The Home Affairs Bureau is the principal sponsor of the event. The Bi-City Biennale is one of the celebration programmes of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the People Republic of China. It is the hope of the Home Affairs Bureau that the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale, to be held at the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) site, will help establishing the WKCD as an exchange platform between overseas partners and Hong Kong, and help bringing Hong Kong arts and cultural talents out of Hong Kong to connect with the world. It is also a hope that the Biennale will help familiarize local citizens and tourists with the WKCD site and frequent the place for arts and cultural enjoyment.

Hong Kong's portion of the Bi-City Biennale draws upon the exhibitions and contributions of international architects and cultural innovators as well as students from institutes local and abroad. The Main Pavilion on the West Kowloon Waterfront site will feature an enormous paper tube construction designed by world renowned architecture firm, Shigeru Ban Architects. The site will also challenge concepts of eco-sustainability with the Gardening Society (BYOBotany), Eco Farm (BYOBirds), and Ka-doorie Farm (BYOBeetroot) as well as bicycles and Segways (BYOBike). Hong Kong's Douglas Young of G.O.D. will present a 'BYOBuilding Block,' and Daniel Wu, Edward Huang and Teddy Lo will be involved in an interactive installation that will host a series of performances with their Outdoor Stage. With Aaron Kwok's participation as the Biennale's good-will supporter of the 'environments' and many other exciting Biennale friends, and upcoming programs and events, the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale is destined to become one of the city's most monumental cultural events from 4 December 2009 to 27 February 2010, fueling creative conversations that focus on how Hong Kong's society can make an imprint on their city's future.

-Ends/ more



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Notes to Editor:

About the 2009 Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism\ Architecture

2009 Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture is a cooperative cultural event that is shared by the two cities under a “Two Cities, One Biennale” approach. Completely non-profit and funded by the Home Affairs Bureau, HKSAR Government, the Hong Kong portion of the Bi-City Biennale is aimed at promoting education and public discussion around architecture, urbanism, design and culture in a dynamic exhibition that is free and open to the public, and encourages the active participation of local Hong Kong citizens. This is a great opportunity for companies, the youth, institutions, our local community, the general public, and the entire city to participate. ‘CITY MOBILIZATION: BYOB’ invites you to bring your OWN to engage and help us join hands to make this Biennale successful.

For more information on City Mobilization: BYOB, the concept, the curators or the exhibit, please visit: www.hkszbiennale.org



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60th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China
中華人民共和國成立六十周年

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