

Architecture Exhibition Explores Hong Kong's Iconic Cityscape from Different Perspectives

Bold architecture is the hallmark of modern progressive cities such as Hong Kong and Tokyo. And behind the glistening skyscrapers and iconic cityscape lies a story of architectural design and engineering excellence that enriches the lives of people who work and live in the high-energy urban environment.

During the Hong Kong Week promotion in Tokyo, an exhibition entitled "More Than High-Rise – Exploring Hong Kong through Architecture", reveals the relationship between architectural design and high-quality city living.

Organised by The Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA) at Ginza Six (Nov 1-11), the exhibition features a variety of physical models, videos and multi-media displays.

"Hong Kong has more to offer than high-rise buildings!," says Prof. Paul Chu, Honourary Secretary of the HKIA. "Sixteen teams of Hong Kong young architects will introduce visitors to the other side of Hong Kong through their exhibits, with an exhibition objective to arouse visitors' interest to explore the notion of what Hong Kong can offer besides high-rise buildings: is it our giant country park? Is it the vernacular livelihood that still prevails? Is it our local culture? Or collective memory?"

The 16 exhibits are grouped under three main categories: Architecture as a creative hub; Architecture as a social vehicle; and Architecture as a temporality construct. A multi-media feature of the exhibition also explores the thinking behind architectural design.

"Departing from the conventional aerial perception of 'high-rise city', the exhibition assembles a collection of works that explore Hong Kong in different scales," said Prof. Chu. "The exhibits stretch from citywide strategy down to building materials, as revealed in the projects of 'PMQ' and 'Material Cuisine'; they also depict a variety of living styles in Hong Kong in the 'Blue House' and 'Lai Chi Wo Village' projects."

The Japan Institute of Architects is a supporting organisation of the exhibition, which also includes a forum (Nov 10) on the topic of "Opportunities and Challenges for Hong Kong and Japanese Young Architects". The forum aims to encourage architectural, cultural and intellectual dialogue between architects, scholars and the public from both Hong Kong and Japan.

"During the forum, young Hong Kong and Japanese architects would present, discuss and analyse issues of building tradition, cultural identity and sustainability," said Prof. Chu.

Hong Kong is known for being the “tallest” city in the world, with more than 300 buildings exceeding 150 metres in height, with the tallest being the International Commerce Centre standing 484 metres high. At the same time, the government is encouraging the revitalisation of the city’s historic buildings so that people can enjoy the environment of iconic build heritage alongside architectural marvels of the modern era.

The results are testament not only to visionary urban planning but also to the creative talent and quest for design excellence amongst architects. The “More Than High-Rise – Exploring Hong Kong through Architecture” exhibition is a chance to promote Hong Kong’s architectural services expertise in an international arena.

Ends/

Most tall buildings:

<http://www.skyscrapercenter.com/cities?list=buildings-150>

HKIA exhibition website

<http://www.hkia.net/tokyo2018/>

1 Blue House. Kenneth Tse and team



2 . Hong Kong House at **Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale 2018**. Hang Yip and team



3 - Architecture without architects – Sustainable Living Style in the Village (Lai Chi Wo Village). Lau Wing-yip, Yip Shuk-yan and Lui Kar-yee



4 - Material Cuisine. Tsoi Wai-kuen, Angus Yip and Javian Tang



5 – Backbone of the Highrises. Wong Wai-hou, Justin Law, Alvin Kung

