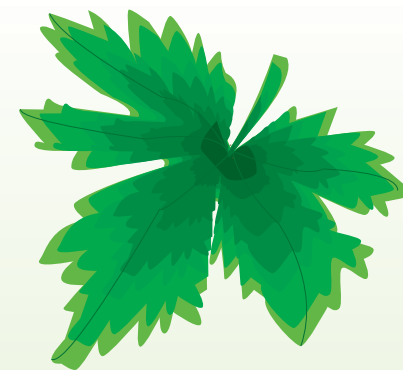


Hong Kong: Best of Both Worlds



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Abstract

Is Hong Kong merely an urban economic phenomenon, or does it also have a rich countryside heritage? And can the enhancement of its urban areas find inspiration in the natural landscape and ecology? This illustrated talk will offer one photographer's emphatic view: that Hong Kong has a superb resource in its natural setting and scenic beauty, a resource that should help inspire green buildings and developments for improving the city districts and life.

Drawing on images from Hong Kong Nature Landscapes, his recent retrospective book of photographs taken between 1993 and 2003, Edward will present an evocative view of Hong Kong's natural setting. More focused on impressions than facts, his talk will urge urban planners and engineers to look out to the countryside, and its valuable aspects, for the inspiration to introduce green features into the urban districts. If this could be done, given its excellent rail and other public transport Hong Kong would have the best of both worlds: pleasing, sustainable urban environs and memorable Country Parks very close to the city.

Speaker

Mr Edward Stokes is a photographer, writer and, in recent years, a publisher. He grew up in Hong Kong and returned in 1993 to work on projects about the natural landscape. This began with Hong Kong's Wild Places, a highly researched account of the evolution of the landscape and ecology, describing the interplay between 'man and land'. Five other Hong Kong books followed, each exploring a different part of the territory's natural landscape. Edward is Founder Director of The Photographic Heritage Foundation, a not-for-profit publisher. He is well-known in Hong Kong as a photographer, author and advocate for the natural landscape and environment.

