

Press Release

WKCD A announces the results of the Arts Pavilion Design Competition

(23 January 2014, Hong Kong) The West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (“WKCD”) announced today that VPANG architects ltd + JET Architecture Inc + Lisa Cheung, have been appointed to design the Arts Pavilion (the “Pavilion”) in the West Kowloon Cultural District (“WKCD”), after achieving first prize in the single stage international design competition.

VPANG architects ltd + JET Architecture Inc + Lisa Cheung will work with the WKCD A to design and deliver an exhibition and event space for artists, designers and organisations to stage independent small-scale exhibitions and events in the Park at WKCD.

In the run-up to the completion of M+, a future museum for 20th and 21st century visual culture designed by Herzog & de Meuron, in late 2017, the Pavilion will also serve as the museum’s primary site for its exhibitions to further extend the museum’s mission into the Park and public sphere. The Pavilion is planned to be completed in 2015.

The winning pavilion is designed to offer a respite from hectic city life, and impressed the judges with a smart simplistic approach, which allows the Pavilion to blend into its surroundings. Mirrored external walls camouflage the architecture, reflecting the surrounding expanses of greenery and immersing the building within its Park setting. To further this experience, the pavilion’s main exhibition space is elevated, allowing it to float above the foliage, creating the opportunity for artwork to be appreciated against a backdrop of the Hong Kong Island skyline with spectacular views out over Victoria Harbour. The building is designed to be surrounded by natural light, away from noise. Inside, gallery spaces are created by polished concrete floors and white walls – a flexible backdrop for multidisciplinary art exhibitions and performances.

Announcing the results of the Arts Pavilion Design Competition today, Co-chairman of the Jury Panel and Executive Director of M+, Dr. Lars Nittve said, “The way the first prize winning design fitted into the landscape and frames the views of Hong Kong, creating an outdoor space, which easily flows into a well proportioned space, are merits of the design. It also allows for certain design flexibility and consideration, essential for a small-scale exhibition space like this.”

Mr Michael Lynch, Chief Executive Officer, added, “I am delighted that the winning design team is formed by three Hong Kong-born, young and energetic architects, and will look

forward to seeing them make a significant contribution to the development of the WKCD site.”

Architects of the winning design team said, “The Arts Pavilion in West Kowloon Cultural District is a wonderful opportunity for emerging talents and the public to participate and enjoy arts, architecture and culture. Foreseeing WKCD development is the cultural limelight to come, we as local architects are honoured and delighted to contribute our design effort to create a truly unique place for people of Hong Kong.”

The three winning entries and six commendations were chosen out of 100 submission entries received, anonymously selected by a panel of seven jurors co-chaired by Mr. Rocco YIM, a renowned Hong Kong architect and Dr. Lars NITTVE, Executive Director of M+. The results for the design competition are as follows:

Three winning entries

1st Prize: VPANG architects ltd + JET Architecture Inc + Lisa Cheung

2nd Prize: ROGERSPARTNERS and Arthur C. S. Kwok Architects & Associates

3rd Prize: Hestia & Vish Limited

Six commendation entries

- Matheson Whiteley and Andrew Lee King Fun & Associates Architects Ltd
- ESKYIU and LEAD
- O Studio Architects Limited with ARCA Limited
- Jägnefält Milton with Leigh & Orange Ltd
- David Kohn Architects with TFP Farrells
- Nina Lesser, Michel Chung, Man Hok Wai, Nic Banks, Glory Wang

The prizes of the winning entries and commendation entries are:

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| 3 Winning Entries | HK\$500,000 Cash Cheque and Prize Certificate for the 1st prize |
| | HK\$200,000 Cash Cheque and Prize Certificate for the 2nd prize |
| | HK\$100,000 Cash Cheque and Prize Certificate for the 3rd prize |
| 6 Commendation Entries | Prize Certificate each |

For details of the first prize winning design and profile of the design team, please refer to **Annex 1** and **Annex 2** respectively.

Ends

**Winning design by VPANG architects ltd + JET Architecture Inc + Lisa Cheung
“Floating Art Platform”**

Background + Concept

Space felt bigger when we were young. Perhaps from a child’s perspective, everything seemed bigger and taller. However the blatant reality remains that our living space has indeed shrunk. Simple happiness has been taken away by stressful and hectic lifestyles – we yearn for a release outlet; we yearn to regain a sense of balance.

Culture brings us edification, leading us away from the chaos of the commercial world. The park, besides serving an important role to uplift and cleanse the city, also provides visitors a platform for observing and appreciating Hong Kong through fresh eyes.

As such, we felt that the Arts Pavilion should be simple, pure and clean space. A space situated away from city noise and pollution, a space that gives us a chance to open our hearts, relax our minds, and appreciate artwork amidst the backdrop of Hong Kong. An open platform where art could be displayed, promoted, shared and embraced. It would belong to the city, near and dear to the heart of Hong Kong.

Space Planning and Context

In order to distance away from the waterfront promenade and neighbouring architecture, the main exhibition space has been elevated, allowing for an unobstructed view to the Victoria Harbour. The building floats amongst trees and foliage; it appears almost as a sacred space, surrounded by natural light, hidden away from noise.

This lifted art platform is carefully designed to intertwine with its surroundings - the northeast approach is a simple and welcoming connection to the Park in the direction of M+ Museum. The waterfront-facing connection is in the form of a ramp, which wraps around the central green berm, gradually bringing the visitor from the vibrant waterfront promenade to the pavilion platform. The adjacent emergency vehicular access facing connection is reserved for staff and services.

Structure, Material, Environment

Reinforced concrete, monolithic without complicated connection detail, alludes to the memories of the early days in Hong Kong, when life was simple. Situated next to the sea, it is also a good material choice against the humid climate.

To further immerse the design within surrounding forestry, external walls are composed of mirror finish stainless steel, camouflaging the architecture by reflecting the surrounding greenery on its exterior, blending into the landscape. The interior faces are composed of white walls and polished concrete floor, a clean backdrop for art exhibits and events.

Our design explored the notion of ecology with the same smart simplistic approach as our overall concept, where the building, topographic landscape, wide spreading tree canopies works together forming a continuous whole, to further delineate the boundary between the pavilion and the surrounding environment. The main exhibition space is enclosed by a light weight envelope with operable walls to create various lighting and open air settings. Our ecology approach is the balance of passive design work in harmony with the environment, and selective deployment of simple, smart technology.

VPANG architects ltd + JET Architecture Inc + Lisa Cheung

Vincent, Tynnon and Lisa met in New York in 1999 and have since developed their architecture career independently. West Kowloon competition is a good opportunity for them to team up and produce a design meaningful to Hong Kong.

VPANG architects ltd

VPANG architects ltd is founded by Vincent Pang in 2007. VPANG's design methodology is innovative, thorough, and nothing short of being immersed in exploring ideas from concept down to the smallest detail while being aware of the uniqueness and balance of the people and place it serves. VPANG has produced cutting-edge design works and a range of highly recognized projects in various scales - residential, commercial, health, hotel, institutional and community projects in Hong Kong, Macau and China, as well as flagship store design for retails.

Vincent Pang, graduated from Columbia University, has previously worked in SOM's New York office. In 2009, Vincent was named by Perspective Magazine as "40 under 40 Design Talents" in Asia.

Vincent is also passionate in the arts sector. Since 2002, he has taught at the Hong Kong Arts Centre. Vincent is presently the Director of Chinese Contemporary Art Promotion Centre (CCAP), actively promoting art and culture to the community.

JET Architecture Inc

JET envision architecture begin with elements of nature: light, wind, earth, living beings. Through open-minded hypothesis, JET approach design without preconceptions. By our faith and deployment of cross industries technologies, JET actively reshape the environment and the realm of architecture.

JET's works has received international recognitions. Our Openair concept for Kaohsiung Port Terminal international competition was shortlisted in 2010. In 2011, JET in collaboration with REX was invited for Shenzhen Two Towers Competition. Currently base in both China and Canada, JET continue to make bold assumptions and design that push and redefines existing conditions.

Tynnon Chow, a founding partner of JET since 2009, began his career at offices like Steven Holl Architects (NYC), OMA Asia (HK), Gehry technologies (Beijing &

Seoul). Parallel to professional practice, Tynnon also taught at CUHK and Hong Kong Arts Centre as adjunct assistant professor and part-time lecturer.

Lisa Cheung

Lisa has been working in architecture firms in Hong Kong and New York since 1998. Projects she has undertaken include themed park, sports and entertainment, commercial, transport, columbarium, correctional facilities and tertiary institution. She is recently working as a freelance architect and teaching architecture studio in HKU Space.