

我 Building 们 a future 的 countryside 乡村

PAVILION OF CHINA
第16届威尼斯国际建筑双年展中国馆



la Biennale di Venezia

16. Mostra
Internazionale
di Architettura

Partecipazioni Nazionali

Pavilion of China
16th International Architecture Exhibition
La Biennale di Venezia

BUILDING A FUTURE COUNTRYSIDE

May 26–November 25, 2018
Preview Days: May 24–25, 2018

Press Preview: May 25, 2.45pm
Opening Ceremony: May 25, 3.30pm

“The motivation for this exhibition is more than just *xiangchou*, a Chinese term that refers to nostalgia for rural lands. We return to the countryside where Chinese culture originated to recover forgotten values and overlooked possibilities; from there, we will build a future countryside.” - **Li Xiangning** (Curator)

One of the major challenges facing contemporary built environments is the future of rural development. In China, the countryside has become a new frontier for experiments in this area, and the country is developing its countryside at a speed and scale unseen in the West. Drawn by the promise of boundless opportunity, architects, artists, developers—as well as capital flow—are converging in rural areas across the nation.

The return to pastoral life has long been an ideal of Chinese literary tradition. In modern times, living in rural areas typically involves aspects such as policy, capital, infrastructure, and technology. While modernization and technological progress promise us better lives with modern living conditions, they also, to some extent, sever the link between rural life and tradition. **Faced with mass-produced rural housing brought on by urbanization, architects attempt to find a middle ground between tradition and modernization, taking advantage of modern technology in search of a vernacular connection.**

From the great yellow expanse of the Loess Plateau to the water towns south of the Yangtze, from the vast and abundant plains of northeast China to the green and beautiful farmlands of the south, hundreds and thousands of villages have become sites for industrial development, self-building, and cultural creation. These sites enjoy tremendous opportunities offered by technological innovations, including the internet, logistics systems, and sharing economies. The development of the countryside in contemporary China is unprecedented in both its scale and its approaches. More importantly, this development anticipates a new solution grounded in China's unique conditions.

Building a Future Countryside depicts the countryside of contemporary China through six episodes: **poetic dwellings, local production, cultural practices, agricultural tourism, community reconstruction, and future exploration.** This exhibition outlines a freespace for opportunity and anticipates future development.

MAIN PROJECTS

Entering the Pavilion, following the exhibition's route, the main projects are:

Wood Kiln Bing Ding by Zhang Lei, AZL Architects

Xinzhai Coffee Manor by Hua Li, Trace Architecture Office - TAO

An Old-new House by John Lin + Joshua Bolchover, Rural Urban Framework

Cidi Memo, a Town of Memory by Liu Yuyang, Atelier Liu Yuyang Architects

Mountain Dwelling. Waterside Dwelling. Forest Dwelling by Dong Yugan

In Bamboo by Philip F. Yuan, Archi-Union Architects, co. Ltd

Outside the China Pavilion, in the garden:

Cloud Village by Philip F. Yuan, Shanghai Digital Fabrication Engineering Technology Center

LI XIANGNING, CURATOR

Dr. Li Xiangning is Deputy Dean and Full Professor in History, Theory and Criticism at Tongji University College of Architecture and Urban Planning. He is a member of CICA (Comité International des Critiques d'Architecture), he has worked as curator for numerous exhibitions and has published widely on contemporary Chinese architecture and urbanism. He is Chief Editor of Architecture China and President of Architecture China Foundation. Furthermore, he has been working with international museums and institutes and he has been a jury member to many international awards and competitions.

PAVILION OF CHINA - 16TH INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITION LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA

Commissioner: China Arts and Entertainment Group (CAEG)

Organizer: Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the People's Republic of China

Presenter: China International Exhibition Agency

Deputy Commissioner: Li Jinsheng, Wang Chen

Assistant commissioners: Huang Xiaogang, Liu Zhenlin, Li Rui, Yang Xin, Xie Yanyi, Li Yunyun, Zhang Ziwei

Collaborators: Zhu Di, Zheng Hao, Wang Mingxian, Zhu Wenyi, Shi jian, Li Hu

Curator: Li Xiangning

Assistants to the Curator: Yao Weiwei, Mo Wanli, Gao Changjun

Research Team: Zhang Xiaochun, Lin Lin, Deng Yuanye

Display Design: Liu Yuyang, Zhang Ziyue

Graphic Design: Ni Minqing, Li Jixin

Exhibitors: Dong Yugan, Hua Li, Liu Yuyang, Philip F. Yuan, Rural Urban Framework, Zhang Lei, Atelier Archmixing, Atelier Deshaus, Chen Haoru, China New Rural Planning and Design, Dong Gong, Drawing Architecture Studio, Hsieh Ying-Chun, Jin Jiangbo, Li Yikao, Li Xinggang, Seung H-sang, Nishizawa Ryue, Li Zhenyu, Lyu Pinjing, Naturalbuild, O-office Architects, temp architects, Xu Tiantian, Zhang Li, Zhao Yang, Zhu Jingxiang

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