



# Ideal Landscapes and the Deep Meaning of Feng-Shui

## Patterns of Biological and Cultural Genes

### Kongjian Yu

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- Reveals the essence and deep meaning of the ancient Chinese mystery of Feng-Shui
- Includes comparative research on the difference between the East and West in landscape preferences
- Explores why Chinese people have a different view from Westerners on discerning places for living
- Decodes the Chinese ideal landscape and environmental aesthetics through anthropology, cultural and historical geography, and ecology
- Provides professionals of architecture, landscape architects and urbanists with a logical understanding of Feng-Shui and good design without violating its core principle

This is a book about ideal landscapes and Feng-Shui. Using evolutionary and anthropological approaches, Peking University professor Kongjian Yu – who holds a doctorate degree in Design from Harvard – explores the origin, structure, and meanings of Feng-Shui in juxtaposition to the ideal landscape models in Chinese culture. Using illustrative site observations and literature, Yu argues that Feng-Shui landscapes share similar structures with other Chinese ideal landscapes – the implications of which are deconstructed into terms of geography, anthropology, ecology, and philosophy.

As a landscape architect and urbanist, Professor Yu respects the role of Feng-Shui in the making of places, yet still is in opposition to its superstitious nature. Well illustrated and poetically written, this book is a must-read for those who are interested in Feng-Shui, as well as those who care about their daily living environment – especially those who practice architecture, landscape architecture, and urbanism.

**Kongjian Yu**, Doctor of Design at Harvard GSD, Professor at Peking University College of Architecture and Landscape, Turenscape Founder and design principal. Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects; Foreign Honorary Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

