

The Hopkins China Forum cordially invites you to:



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China's Flash Urbanization

race between eco-hope and eco-hazard

Neville Mars
MARS Architects
Dynamic City Foundation

About Hopkins China Forum: Hopkins China Forum events are organized by The Johns Hopkins University and its affiliated alumni associations worldwide. For more information on events in Shanghai, please contact the Johns Hopkins University Alumni Association - Shanghai at franktsai@technomicasia.com.

China's rise over the last three decades has elevated hundreds of millions of people out of poverty. This remarkable economic miracle has foremost been an urban miracle. Entirely new urban landscapes have mushroomed practically overnight for a new middle-class occupying new architectural and urban typologies. The speed and scale of these developments have instilled in Chinese planners a sense of control over China's spatial future - a laboratory of urban experimentation. The on-the-ground reality, however, is both more pragmatic and less predictable.

Built as quickly as they are designed, these cities prove to be entirely static environments, often outdated upon completion. After three decades of top-down planning, localized organic forces manifest themselves in unintended emerging urban patterns. As the world looks at China's impressive ecocity ambitions, the carbon copy of outdated Western planning models seems increasingly out of touch with the muddled hybrid of high-speed market-driven mega-projects and below the radar rural urbanization that defines its cityscapes. The question now is can China reinvent urbanisation itself in order to embrace this new organic reality?



Neville Mars (何新城) is director at MARS architects and founder of Dynamic City Foundation (动态城市基金会) in Shanghai; two halves of a design and research combination looking into progressive solutions for ecocities in China. He is author of 'The Chinese Dream - a Society Under Construction' (Mars and Hornsby, 010 Publishers 2008). <http://BURB.TV>

The Wooden Box - Tuesday, Aug 2nd, 19:00pm - 20:30pm

9 Qinghai Lu (just to the South of Nanjing West Road)
青海路9号, 近南京西路, 地铁二号线南京西路站

19:00 - 19:45 Presentation
19:45 - 20:15 Q&A
20:15 - Mixer/Drinks/Dinner
21:30 - Live Jazz/Folk

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