

CHINA CROSSROADS

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Long Live the City: How China is Reshaping How We Plan the Urban Landscape

Neville Mars

Principal at MARS Architects

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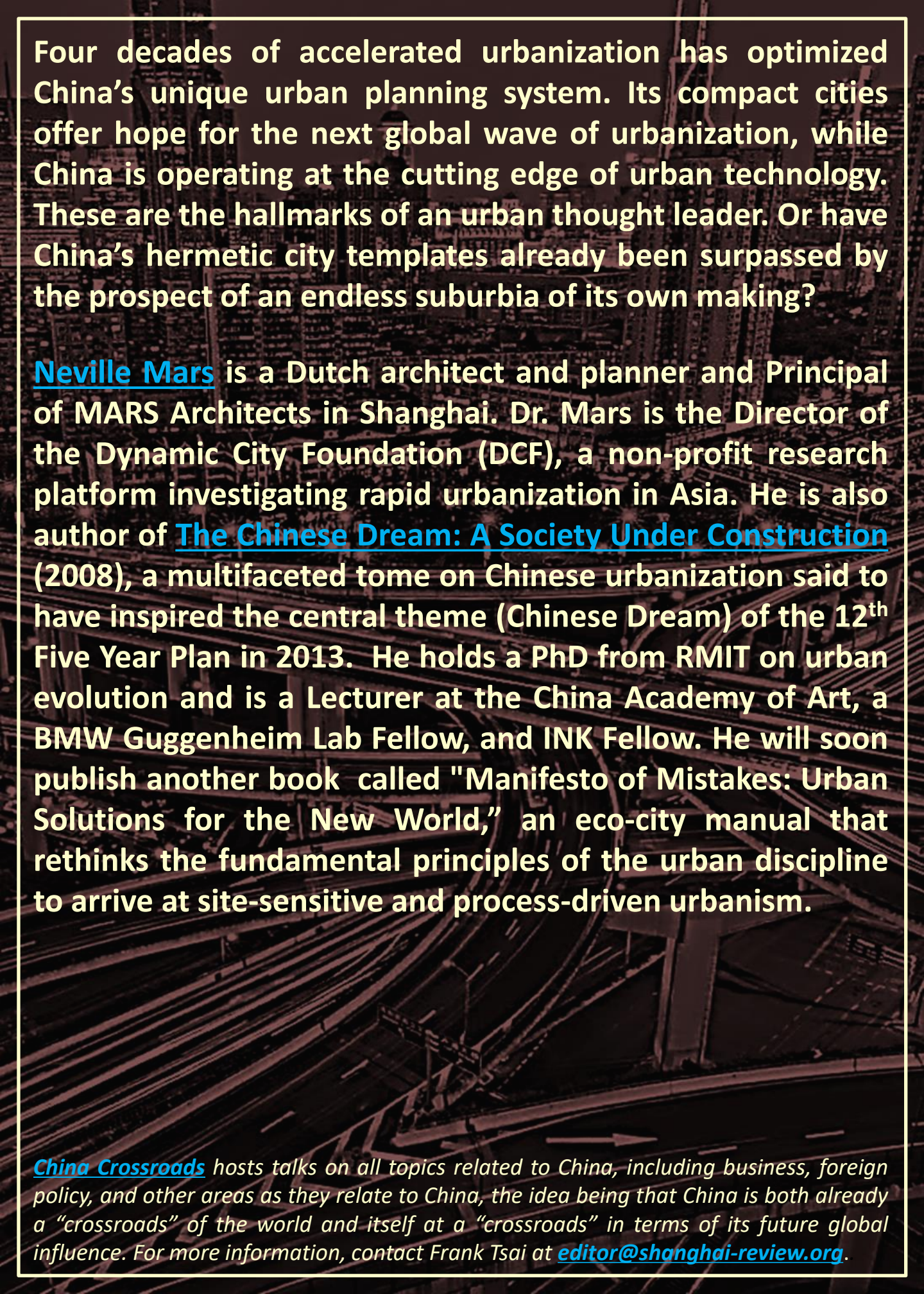


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Four decades of accelerated urbanization has optimized China's unique urban planning system. Its compact cities offer hope for the next global wave of urbanization, while China is operating at the cutting edge of urban technology. These are the hallmarks of an urban thought leader. Or have China's hermetic city templates already been surpassed by the prospect of an endless suburbia of its own making?

[Neville Mars](#) is a Dutch architect and planner and Principal of MARS Architects in Shanghai. Dr. Mars is the Director of the Dynamic City Foundation (DCF), a non-profit research platform investigating rapid urbanization in Asia. He is also author of [The Chinese Dream: A Society Under Construction](#) (2008), a multifaceted tome on Chinese urbanization said to have inspired the central theme (Chinese Dream) of the 12th Five Year Plan in 2013. He holds a PhD from RMIT on urban evolution and is a Lecturer at the China Academy of Art, a BMW Guggenheim Lab Fellow, and INK Fellow. He will soon publish another book called "Manifesto of Mistakes: Urban Solutions for the New World," an eco-city manual that rethinks the fundamental principles of the urban discipline to arrive at site-sensitive and process-driven urbanism.

[China Crossroads](#) hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a "crossroads" of the world and itself at a "crossroads" in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at editor@shanghai-review.org.