

PRESS RELEASE

10. International Architecture Exhibition - La Biennale di Venezia

## Paradise Revisited: Micro Cities & Non-Meta Architecture in Taiwan

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: 10<sup>th</sup> September - 19<sup>th</sup> November 2006 - Daily opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.**

**VENUE: Palazzo delle Prigioni, Castello 4209 - 30122 Venice**

**SUPERVISOR:** Kun-liang Chiu, Council for Cultural Affairs - Executive Yuan - R.O.C., Taiwan  
(<http://www.cca.gov.tw>)

**ORGANIZER:** National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts (<http://www.tmoa.gov.tw>)

**COMMISSIONER:** Pao-shia Hsueh, Director of National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts

**CO-COMMISSIONERS:** Paolo De Grandis, Wan-ju Wang, Shu ping Shih

**CURATOR:** Ching-Yueh Roan

**CURATOR ASSISTANT:** Enta Yang

**COORDINATOR:** Arte Communications, Venice

**LIST OF THE EXHIBITORS:** Hsieh Ying-Chun, Huang Sheng-Yuan, Liu Kuo-Chang and Casagrande Laboratory, 3RW Architects

Taiwan's modern cities demonstrate the contrast of large metropolises and small townships formed during the industrialization over the last century. Traditions, beliefs and social systems that people relied on in agricultural societies collapsed along with the industrial growth, farming villages were evacuated, and cities swelled. Imbalance has become the destiny of modern civilization; high-rise buildings symbolize not only our worship of technology but also the consequence of large systems annexing small systems.

The magnetism of metropolises and desertion of rustic villages are the results of the relationship between capital and labour in the industrial age. Self sufficient country living with a complete cycle of production-consumption-decomposition in a community with a population in the thousands no longer exists. Instead, the forming hyper cities are universalizing diversity.

A small, self sufficient city with a complete cycle of food, energy, waste and information will be able to face the individual needs of its people; will be able to develop an autonomous organic entity with a sustainable



metabolism. Such a city shall also be able to co-exist inside or outside any Meta-city. We call such a city a Micro City.

A Micro City is also an adapted city. While many developing countries are blindly pursuing huge cities, we should rethink the connotation of living in a city, the inequality between upper and lower structures, and how disadvantageous, exploited cities can break away from their destiny. Furthermore, how can a city find its real position for the difficult ecological, social and ethical situation?

The objective of our exhibition is to reflect upon the price our environment has paid for our comfort and convenience. What the conventional cultural, social, moral and religious structures are losing to the emergence of a global, universal, singular giant system.

**INFORMATION:**

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