

Mr. Grant A Donald

Creative Director at Silktree Group

Shanghai, , CN

Global ageing needs designers who understand the phenomenon and who can create environments that promote Active Ageing

Biography

Grant is a Shanghai based prize-winning Australian Urban designer/ Landscape Architect focused on creating nurturing environments for the elderly. He has 35 years experience in the design & development of urban, suburban & rural projects around the world, with 20 years work experience in Australia the Asia Pacific Region & 10 years in the Middle East. He has worked and/or lectured in 40 cities globally including lecturing at Universities in Abu Dhabi, Ankara, Beijing, Dubai, Edinburgh, Hong Kong, Mumbai, Nairobi, Perth, Prague, St.Petersburg and Shanghai.

His experience covers large-scale strategic and master plan designs as well as recreation and open space strategies and policies.

His design experience includes working on projects such as "The Palm" in Dubai, Durrat Al Bahrain and Expo Shanghai as well as working as an advisor on iconic projects such as Shanghai Disneyland and the Presidential Palace Abu Dhabi.

Grant also had a roving ambassadorial role with the International Federation of Landscape Architects which entailed working globally with students and governments to further the cause of the federation. In this role Grant was one of the initial coordinators for the development of the profession in Africa. He also assisted UNESCO for the development of world heritage sites in China (Da Zou & Suzhou) as well as providing advisory assistance to them for the development of Qur'anic gardens in the Middle east.

Along with his experience as a landscape architect and designer he is considered a renown keynote speaker and champion of the profession of landscape architecture.

In his current role as Creative Director of Silk Tree International he is championing the use of open space and parks to promote Active Ageing. His theories on the development of open space systems for the elderly has seen him lecture on the subject in Beijing, Shanghai, San Francisco, Washington, and the UK. His approach to aged care and open spaces see him as one of the worlds most innovative designers.

Industry Expertise

Health Care - Facilities, Elder Care, Training and Development, Program Development, Architecture and Planning, Design

Areas of Expertise

Active Ageing, Age Care workshops, Education and Training, Landscape Design, Outdoor Spaces, Policy Development, Urban Design

Affiliations

Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, Shanghai Society of Landscape Architects, International Federation of Landscape Architects, Previous Chair of the Africa Committee for IFLA

Sample Talks

Active Ageing

The principles of Active Ageing and the impacts it has on design

Parks and Open Spaces - redefining the users and uses

As the population ages the uses and user patterns of parks and open spaces will change. The change in demographics will have an impact on what type of open spaces we design and build.

Planning for a new demographic

As we become older and Urbanization is happening more rapidly how should the future of our cities cope with a larger older population.

RECLAIMED, a modern design approach to the issue of the Ageing population

RECLAIMED is an acronym to describe the nine processes we need to go through to when we design for the elderly.

Event Appearances

Central Region Conference of the International Federation of Parks and Recreation, Prague, Czech Republic

New for old landscapes and new structures in old landscapes

China Landscape Design Forum

Multidisciplinary design

The future of Landscape Architecture in China

Landscape Design Forum

Ecology, culture; place and image in the landscape

Asian Congress - IFLA

Cultural and Environmental Design

World Congress IFLA

Cultural Design

Annual Congress Kenya Architecture Association

Paradise Found, Identity Lost

Russian Landscape Architecture Annual Congress

Landscape and Site Planning

Green Buildings Conference

Cultural design environmental problems

Water Wise Conference,

It's not just about the buildings

Green Buildings Conference

Buildings aren't Green

Green Buildings Conference

Sustainable Development

Urban Development Conference

The importance of water

Landscape Conference

Programming for the New Demographics

Greater & Greener, Innovation in Park Design

Longevity Park

International Making Cities liveable

District Redevelopment Driven by Park for the Elderly

International Association of Architects

District Redevelopment Driven by Park for the Elderly

Ageing and Society

Longevity Park

EFA Environments for Aging

Education

University of New South Wales, Australia

B.L.Arch Landscape Architecture

The University of Melbourne

Grad Certificate in Ageing

Accomplishments

First Landscape Architect to be employed by Local Government in rural Australia

Employed by Orange City Council for the Redevelopment of Summer Street, Orange. Winner of various clean City awards.

Orange Botanic Gardens, Orange, NSW, Australia

Landscape Architect in charge of Gardens redevelopment and expansion

Streetscape redevelopment, Perth, Western Australia

Design, documentation and Site supervision of City of Stirling's Western Australia, streetscape programme.

Scarborough Beach Redevelopment, Perth, Western Australia

Master planner, client manager and design review

Project 501 - Riyadh, Al Kharjh, Jeddah, KSA

Lead landscape Consultant for the Landscape design of air force bases in Saudi Arabia using the principals of CCD. Camouflage, Concealment and Deception.

Health Care facilities - Perth, Western Australia

Master Planning, Landscape Design various Health care facilities

Consultant Principal - Northbridge Urban Renewal, Perth, Western Australia

Principal in charge of the Landscape and Urban Design

Consultant Principal - Subiaco Urban Renewal, Perth, Western Australia

Principal in charge of the Landscape and Urban Design

Consultant Principal - Northam Urban Renewal, Perth, Western Australia

Principal in charge of the Landscape and Urban Design

Consultant Principal - Al Barari, Dubai UAE

Lead designer, Principal in charge of documentation and delivery of master plan at World's premier residential development.

Disneyland Hong Kong

Design Director for Hotel Landscape construction

Various Residential Project PRC, HK

Design Director for Belt Collins HK in charge of Design, documentation and Site Service

Principal Landscape Architect - RTA - Dubai UAE

Landscape design, documentation and Site Service for the Dubai light rail project.

Master Planner - Designer Frond F - Palm Dubai, Dubai UAE

Master Plan for Open Space development on Frond F for the Palm Dubai

Presidential Palace - Abu Dhabi, UAE

Master Plan, landscape design for Presidential Palace Abu Dhabi

Eighth Gate - Damascus, Syria

Mixed Use development, lead consultant

Sheikh Zayed Development - Damascus, Syria

Lead Consultant

Sharjah Botanic Gardens - UNESCO - Sharjah, UAE

Design consultant to UNESCO for the development of a Quranic Botanic Garden.

Doha Botanic Gardens - UNESCO - Doha, Qatar

Design consultant to UNESCO for the development of a Quranic Botanic Garden.

Success with Design - Landscape Workshops

Awarded certificate for the training of Saudi Arabian middle managers.

Shanghai EXPO - Shanghai, PRC

Master Planning

Shanghai Botanic Garden - Shanghai, PRC

Winner International Competition for the development of a Master Plan for Shanghai Botanic Gardens

Taizhou Botanic Garden, Taizhou, PRC

Master Plan

Disneyland Shanghai

Adviser to Disney for the development of Shanghai Disneyland

Lingan Aged Care development

Master Plan review, design appraisal

Finalist Australia- China Business Awards

2013 Finalist

Wanshou Park, Beijing, PRC

Design, consultant for one of the worlds fully integrated Elderly focused Parks

Advisor to China National Committee on Ageing

Assigned to assist the Chinese National Committee on Ageing with regard to Masterplanning, site design, Urban design and Site specific design.

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