

# **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

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## **Description**

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 Qurâ€™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.

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## **Industry Expertise**

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

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## **Topics**

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

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## **Affiliations**

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

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## **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.

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## **Past Talks**

### **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,

## **Itâ€™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

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## **Education**

University of New South Wales, Australia

B.L.Arch Landscape Architecture

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## **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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