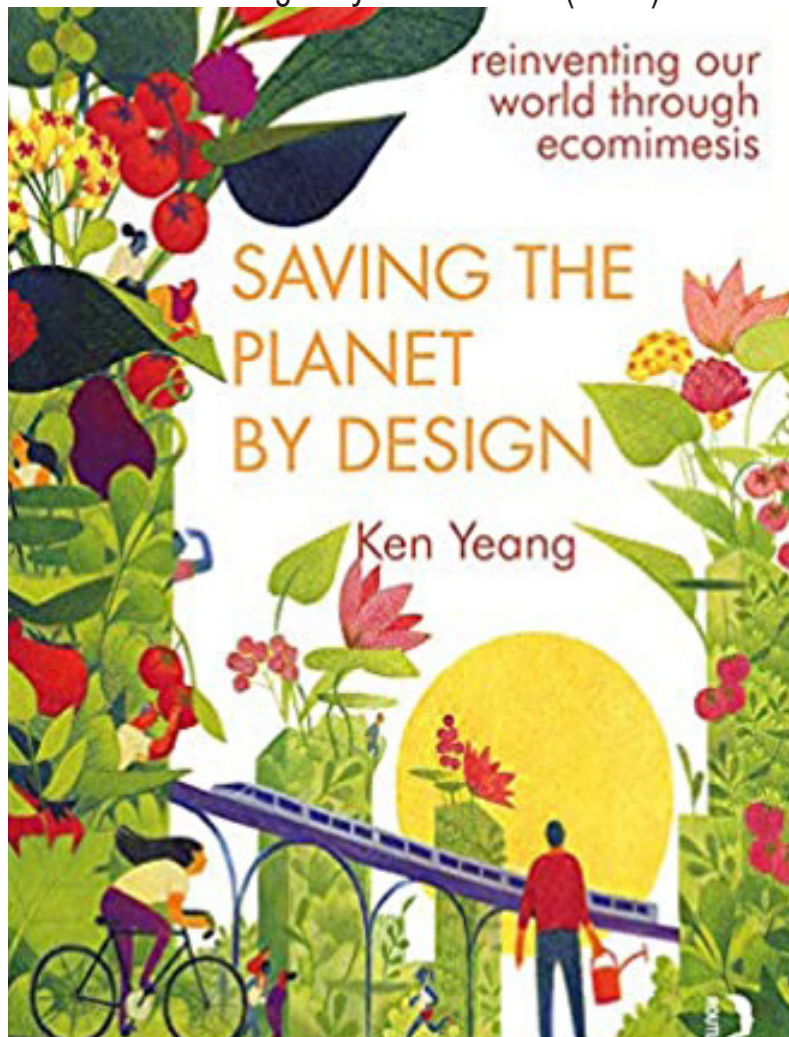


# Saving The Planet By Design

reinventing our world through ecomimesis

By Ken Yeang

Publisher: Routledge Taylor & Francis (2019)



Can we 'save the planet' for a resilient, durable and sustainable future for human society? We need to repurpose, reinvent, redesign and remake our human-made world so that our built environment is benignly and seamlessly biointegrated with Nature to function synergistically with it. These are the multiple tasks that humanity must carry out imminently, if there is to be a future for human society and for all lifeforms and their environments on the Planet. Addressing this is the most compelling question for not just those whose daily work impacts on Nature such as architects, engineers, landscape architects, town planners, environmental policy makers, builders and others, but it is a question that all of humanity needs to urgently address.

Presented here are two key principles as the means to carry out these tasks – 'ecocentricity' being guided by the science of ecology, and 'ecomimesis' as designing and making the built environment including all artefacts based on the emulation and replication of the 'ecosystem' concept and its attributes.

Designing with ecology is contended here as the authentic approach to green design from which the next generation of sustainable design will emerge, going beyond current use of accreditation systems.

For those who subscribe to this principle, this is articulated here showing how it can be implemented by design. The adopting of these principles is fundamental in our endeavor to save our Planet Earth, and changes profoundly and in entirety the way we design, make, manage and operate our built environment.

## About the Author:



**Ken Yeang** is an architect, planner and ecologist, known for his signature ecoarchitecture and ecomasterplans, which are differentiated from other green architects by an authentic ecology-based approach, and by their distinctive green aesthetics, performance and biodiversity, extending beyond conventional rating systems. He was trained at the AA School (Architectural Association) in the UK. He is a pioneer in the field of green design starting from his doctorate in the 70's at Cambridge University on ecological design and planning.

ISBN: | Hardback | pages | Hardback | 208 pages  
ISBN: | Paperback | pages | Hardback | 208 pages

Available via: [www.routledge.com/9780415685818](http://www.routledge.com/9780415685818)

To request a copy for review, please complete our online form:  
[pages.email.taylorandfrancis.com/review-copy-request](mailto:pages.email.taylorandfrancis.com/review-copy-request)

## Endorsements:

"Ken Yeang has been a leader in bioclimatic architecture for decades. His pioneering research and buildings, combining architecture and nature, have provided inspiration for a generation of architects and planners concerned with ecology and the future of the built environment. This publication is an eloquent argument for the role that design, as a form of 'ecomimesis,' can and should play in helping us construct a more resilient and sustainable world."

- **Mohsen Mostafavi, Dean, and Alexander and Victoria Wiley Professor of Design, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, MA.**

"This is a critical time for our planet, and the design of the built environment is essential in addressing these challenges. This book is timely as it centers the debate on the importance of holistic ecological design."

- **Ali Malkawi, Professor of Architectural Technology, Founding Director of Harvard Center for Green Building and Cities, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA**

"... Yeang's goal is to restore the broken link between human and natural systems. His approach of 'biointegration' makes architecture a "prosthetic" to nature. This aligns Yeang with the idea of ecological bio-engineering as the hybridisation of the natural and human-made. His projects, even where they do not reach full potential, are prototypes for subsequent refinements that – for the potency of what they promise – challenge the design profession at a time when the restoration of natural systems has a newfound urgency..."

- **Dr. Nirmal Kishnani, National University Singapore**

"Without wildlife there is no life. Dr. Yeang's concept of 'bio-integration' gifts people with an invitation to survive on the planet. Yeang sits uniquely in the midst of shifting the very concepts of architecture and sustainable design through 'ecomimicry', crucial in showing how humanity can thrive by emulating and replicating the attributes of the ecosystems around us".

- **Dr. James Karl Fischer, Architect and Zoologist**

"Can we save the planet' by reinventing, redesigning and remaking our human-made world to be truly resilient and sustainable? This is arguably the most compelling issue confronting designers given the current state of impairment of the global environment. Ken Yeang maintains that preventive action needs to be replaced by an environmental 'race and rescue' mission..". Yeang's call is to strive for an 'ecotopia'— a world in which human society and its artefacts co-exist with nature in a dynamic and harmonious partnership — and in which net positive social and environmental outcomes are achieved wherever possible.

- **Dr. Michael John Wells Ecologist & Ecourbanist, Biodiversity by Design Ltd.**