

# Interview: Franklin Po, landscape architect



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Mr Franklin Po is chairman of Tierra Design, a landscape architecture practice established in Singapore over 20 years ago. Some of his company's most high-profile works are the vertical indoor gardens in Terminal 3, Changi International Airport; the "hanging gardens" of [PARKROYAL on Pickering](#) hotel; and the concept design for Marina Barrage. DesignSingapore speaks with Franklin about his practice.

**My mission as a landscape architect is** to create holistic, integrated design; and to mentor the next generation of designers.

**The emerging young landscape architects I am excited about are** Jerome Lee (Hongkong), a Master of Architecture student at National University of Singapore; and Boyd Somkiet Chokvijitkul (Thailand), a Master of Landscape Architecture student from Harvard University (US).

**The landscape architecture I am fascinated with are** The High Line in New York City; and the East Coast Parkway with the mature Samanea samans (Rain tree) – the park ought to be considered for a World Heritage designation.

**I re-charge** with a good book; or a great conversation with someone of significance.

**A tree I frequently use in my work is** the *Caesalpinia ferrea* (Ironwood tree) for its resilience, adaptability, elegance, beauty, delicate bipinnate leaves and colourful, textured bark.

**An aspect of my profession that people do not know is** that I am a dreamer and an explorer.

**Accreditation for landscape architecture is necessary because** it legitimizes the professional standing of an important but minority group of people who have contributed so much to the Garden City.

Further details on [Landscape Architects Accreditation Programme](#) [here](#).

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