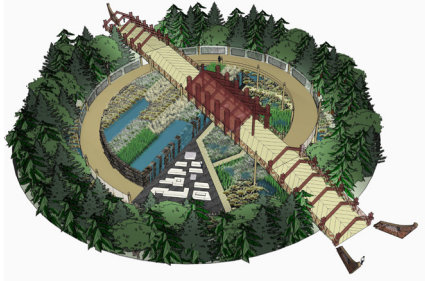


## News Item

# Jinzhou Competition finalist

07 July 2011



Birds-eye view of the 'Wetland Waka' concept design

**Boffa Miskell is amongst 20 finalists, in a world-wide competition, whose designs will be built for the 2013 World Landscape Art Exposition in Jinzhou, China.**

Landscape architects from around the world were invited to submit preliminary concept designs for one of 20 gardens that will be developed for the Expo and the winners will be announced at the Expo's closure. The competition is being run by the International Federation of Landscape Architects in association with Jinzhou City.

The competition entries are required to explore the idea that "landscape architecture and garden arts unite all peoples - world civilizations and world cultures come together in Jinzhou". This sub-theme fits within the overall Expo theme, 'The World is a Garden.'

Chris Bentley, manager of Boffa Miskell's project office in Shanghai, says the Boffa Miskell entry was the result of a company-wide collaborative design exercise.

"It was a great opportunity for the landscape architects in our four New Zealand offices and our Shanghai office to come up with ideas. The inspiration for the initial concept came from Richard Tyler, a landscape architect in our Auckland office and was developed in the Shanghai office."

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The 'Wetland Waka' garden will be centred around a stylised wetland that stores and purifies rainwater to sustain a natural ecosystem, demonstrating the idea that water is the source of life. A boardwalk traversing the garden will evoke the form of a waka (Māori canoe). The waka represents travel, journey and family to Māori, as do boats in Chinese culture. Thus the design references cultural connections in China and New Zealand.

"Being a finalist in this prestigious design competition will assist with strengthening our market presence in China and increase our profile internationally," Chris says.

The selected preliminary design concepts are currently being developed and locally-based Chinese landscape architects will prepare the construction documentation and oversee the construction ready for the Expo in 2013. The constructed designs will remain permanent features in a new 139-hectare public park which is being developed around the Expo site in Jinzhou City.

See more: [Wetland Waka Design Statement](#)

[http://www.boffamiskell.co.nz/news/downloads/Jinzhou\\_Competition\\_Concept\\_20110707.pdf](http://www.boffamiskell.co.nz/news/downloads/Jinzhou_Competition_Concept_20110707.pdf)

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The boardwalk, which evokes a Māori waka, will span a water-purifying wetland

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