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The pace of development in Hong Kong's built environment has been so intensive over the past 50 years that it is recognized as one of the most dramatic urban transformations in modern history. Mr. Rembert Lai who is one of the architects who helped reshape the urban landscape, is himself occasionally bemused by the rapid changes that have taken place. Aware that one of the hundreds of buildings he designed has been redeveloped due to market-driven initiatives, he speculates that it might be difficult to recognize parts of our city ten years from now, given the relentless pace of change.

Now an architect with over 45 years of experience, Mr. Lai joined Lu's Design Studio Ltd. in 1986 and soon became a partner. Upon the founding of Lu Tang Lai Architects Ltd. in 1990, he was instrumental in expanding the firm's reach into the Chinese Mainland, a market then ripe with potential for Hong Kong companies.

The sheer magnitude of the Mainland commissions was extraordinary, often dwarfing their Hong Kong counterparts by ten or even twenty times. At the same time, it provided the spatial freedom to explore architectural concepts on a scale and level that the space limitations and statutory constraints of his home city could hardly accommodate.

His first commission in the Chinese Mainland was Westmin Plaza in Guangzhou in the mid-1990s. Covering a floor area of 1.7 million square feet, it was Mr. Lai's first experience working in an unfamiliar market. The project, which is still standing today, holds a special place in his heart. Revisiting the landmark two decades later, he found it unchanged, which is unusual because residents in the Mainland tend to alter their homes more often than in Hong Kong, and this, to him, was evidence that his design met people's expectations from the outset.

Under Mr. Lai's leadership, the firm grew from a small local practice into one with a large and diverse portfolio across Hong Kong, the Chinese Mainland, and Southeast Asia. In these markets, he and his firm are responsible for architectural design, including office developments, hotels, residential and serviced apartments, schools, institutional buildings, and master-planning projects.

In Hong Kong, Mr. Lai's designs are a familiar presence across a broad range of residential and commercial landmarks, including 208 Johnston in Wan Chai, Crowne Plaza Hotel in Causeway Bay, and 101 Kings Road in North Point, among others. Unlike architects who are celebrated for an iconic design, Mr. Lai will be remembered for a broad portfolio of buildings that meet the everyday needs of the people who live and work within them.

When asked about his philosophy, he mentions that green design should involve more than a set of environmental features bolted onto a building. He states that the ultimate test of sustainability is whether people love a place enough to keep it alive. A building that its users cherish will be maintained, adapted, and preserved across generations.

半世紀以來，香港的城市景觀經歷多番轉變，堪稱現代建築史上一頁壯麗篇章。作為這場城市蛻變的重要貢獻者之一，著名建築師黎紹堅先生面對香港日新月異的發展步伐，仍不禁讚歎。

他曾經歷自己親手設計的百多幢樓宇中其一，因應市場需求而被拆卸重建；這正是香港急速發展的最佳見證。回望十年前的香港，昔日景象已經恍如隔世。然而在不斷更迭的城市風貌中，他始終堅守初心，以建築回應時代洪流。

黎先生縱橫建築界逾四十五年。1986年，他加入呂榮珪設計有限公司，憑藉卓越才幹和專業精神，迅速晉升為合夥人。自1990年創立呂鄧黎建築師事務所後，他更懷著服務國家建設之抱負，率領公司進軍中國內地市場，開闢了一片宏大的建築新天地。

內地項目規模龐大，往往是香港項目的十倍甚至二十倍，賦予他極大的創作空間，探索受香港土地及建築法規所限而無從實踐的建築設計理念。

1990年代中期，他在內地首個大型項目廣州西門口廣場落成，總建築面積逾一百七十萬平方呎，這不僅是他開拓新發展的試金石，也在他心中佔據了獨特地位。二十年後故地重遊，樓宇依然屹立如昔，歷久彌新。在內地居民頻繁翻新家居的風氣下，此等景況實屬難得，恰恰證明了項目從設計之初便深深貼合人民對生活空間的真正需要。

在黎先生掌舵下，公司由一間小型事務所茁壯發展，作品遍及香港、中國內地及東南亞，涵蓋商業及辦公大樓、酒店、住宅及服務式大廈、學府機構及大規模城市總體規劃等。

在香港，黎先生的建築心血隨處可見：灣仔208莊士頓商廈、銅鑼灣皇冠假日酒店，及北角101英皇道商住項目等地標，均出自其手。不少建築師因一些標誌性建築而享譽業界，而黎先生則憑藉一系列貼近民生、回應大眾需求的作品而為人銘記。他用心雕琢每一寸空間，為無數在此生活與工作的市民締造溫暖而實用的理想居所及工作環境。這正是黎先生建築哲學的核心所在。

He cites Baker Circle, one of the largest private-sector urban redevelopment projects in Hong Kong, as an example. He says that when he took on that project, he was not just thinking about erecting towers. He was considering how to mold a community and create a sense of place in a high-density environment where people want to gather and linger.

While Mr. Lai's professional achievements are considerable, his contributions to higher education, and to The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) in particular, are equally deserving of recognition. He speaks of his HKUST involvement with pride, saying that his years with the University were, without exaggeration, the most rewarding chapter of his life in public service.

His contribution to HKUST has been both extensive and impactful. As a former Member of the HKUST Council and its Standing Committee, he has taken on increasingly significant leadership roles on the Campus Development Committee, first as Vice-Chair in 2019, culminating in his appointment as Chair in 2021. In these capacities, he has provided invaluable guidance on the University's physical expansion and long-term planning, spanning learning and teaching spaces, research facilities, student accommodation, and campus amenities. During this period, he also served as a Member of the Committee on HKUST(GZ) under the Council, playing a key role in the advancement of the HKUST(GZ) campus from its overall planning through to Phase II development and offering invaluable and professional advice.

Perhaps most notably, as an advisor on the development of the new campus in Guangzhou, he helped with the appointment of the master-planning firm, and offered his architectural advice as the project progressed from concept to completion in a remarkable two-and-a-half year building cycle. His expertise and judgment have left a lasting imprint on a campus that will serve generations of students and scholars to come.

Today, rather than stepping back from his practice, Mr. Lai takes an active interest in educating the next generation of architects. In discussing what he looks for in a prospective recruit for his firm, Mr. Lai says that while aesthetic sense and a technical background are important, they can be developed through learning. Rather than dwelling on his own talents, he looks for people who are reliable, who have a sense of responsibility and integrity, quietly acknowledging that talent alone is not enough.

An accomplished architect with a genuine concern for people's well-being and a humane vision for how the built environment should serve communities, Mr. Lai has had a lasting and beneficial impact on the urban landscape in Asia. Yet it is perhaps his dedication to nurturing future generations, through both his professional practice and his service to HKUST, that gives his work its deepest meaning. In recognition of the remarkable contributions of Mr. Rembert Lai, HKUST is delighted to confer an Honorary Fellowship on him. We look forward to his continued advice and to a future in which the places he has helped shape continue to be cherished by those who live and work in them.

當代建築推崇綠色設計，他深信可持續建築不只流於堆砌各種環保元素，真正的考驗在於能否讓人對其建築空間產生感情和歸屬感。唯有為人珍視的建築，方能獲得人民悉心維護與持續活化，跨越時代變遷。他引述必嘉坊為例，該建築是香港近年最大型的私人城市重建項目之一。黎先生接手此項目時，思考的不是如何拔地建樓，而是如何在寸金尺土的高密度環境，營造一個令人駐足流連的社區空間，為城市森林注入一份人文溫暖。

黎先生的專業成就固然卓著，而他對高等教育，尤其對香港科技大學（科大）的貢獻，亦同受肯定。他與科大情誼深厚，更坦言服務科大是他畢生最引以為傲、亦最感充實的一章。

他曾任科大校董會及其常務委員會成員，並在校園發展委員會肩負重任，2019年出任該委員會副主席，後於2021年接任主席。在這些崗位上，他為大學的實體擴建及長遠規劃，當中涵蓋教學、研究、住宿及校園配套設施，提供了不可或缺的專業視角。期間，他亦全心投入校董會轄下的科大（廣州）委員會工作，參與科大（廣州）校園由整體規劃至二期發展的推進，並提供精準而關鍵的專業意見。

尤其值得一提的是，在科大（廣州）校園籌建過程中，他以委員身份協助遴選負責總體規劃的建築事務所，並對校園設計進行優化，項目從概念構思到落成啟用，歷時僅兩年半，令人矚目。他的專業判斷在大學的發展歷程中留下了深遠的印記，將惠及未來一代又一代的師生。

時至今日，黎先生仍活躍於建築一線，並以無私襟懷提携後學。他慧眼識才，選拔新人時看重的不只是美學觸覺與技術背景，更重視誠信正直、嚴謹可靠的品格。他從不矜誇自身的才華，反而認為技術可以後天磨練，知識可以持續累積，而專業修養與操守卻尤為難能可貴。

黎先生乃建築界之翹楚，畢生致力將人文關懷融入建築實踐，以設計服務社群、滋養人心。其匠心獨運的作品為亞洲城市添上光彩的風貌；而他對培育後進的熱誠，無論是透過建築設計還是服務科大，無疑賦予了他的工作更廣闊的意義。科大謹此向黎紹堅先生頒授榮譽大學院士銜，以表揚其惠澤深遠的卓著建樹及傑出貢獻，並期待他繼續不吝指導，讓他所參與構建的地方，世代相傳，為人所珍視。