

# Shanghai Expo 2010 The Hong Kong Pavilion - The Infinite City

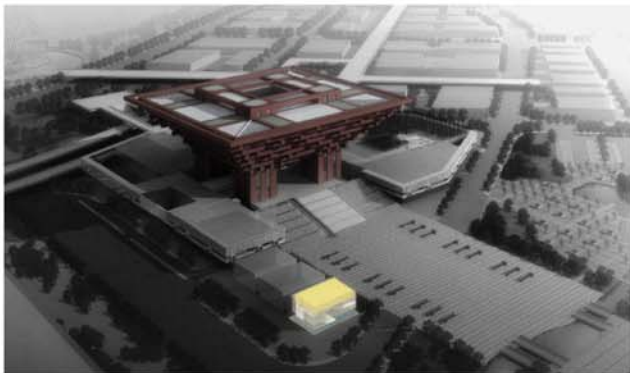
2010上海世界博覽會香港館 - 無限城市

**Introduction:** The design of the Hong Kong Pavilion for the 2010 Shanghai Expo, Hong Kong – The Infinite City, explains and explores the infinite possibilities and potentials that our city enjoys. Hong Kong is a place where we share our dreams, overcome the crises and demonstrate our commitments to our families and our country. And most important of all, this is an ever-revitalising wonderland which promises us a brighter future.

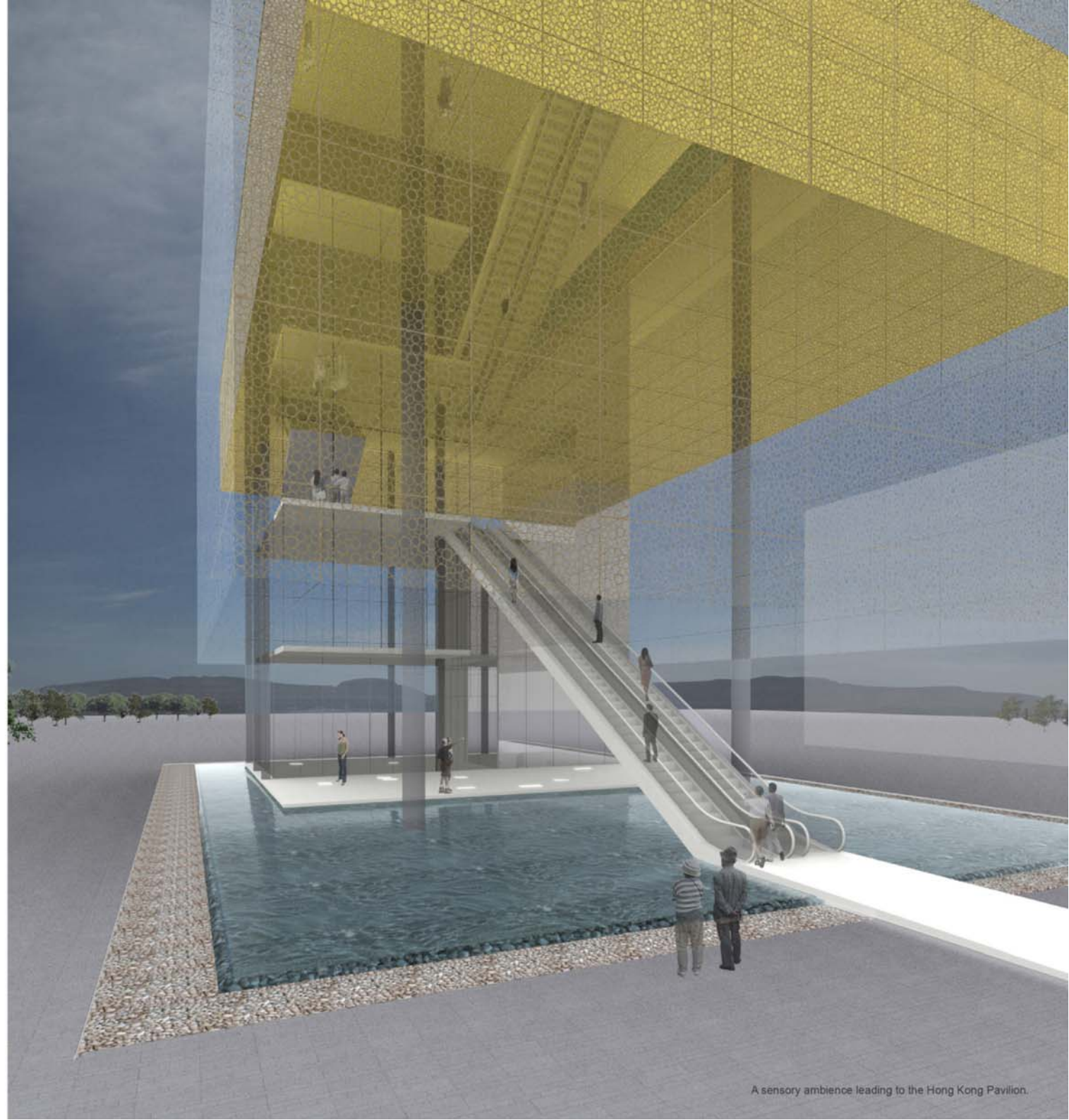
In the Taoist book Zhuangzi says: "The sea can hold the water from thousands of rivers, it's big because of its capacity. A person is great when he can be tolerant and is willing to accept all." The same principle holds true in a city for its prosperity and growth is never confined to its physical dimension, but depends on its power to absorb, digest and refine the crème de la crème of others and eventually making it its own advantage and uniqueness. It is this infinite capacity that allows Hong Kong continue to grow and flourish.

**The concept of "in-betweenness":** Inspired by the distinguished porosity nature of a sponge, the design integrates the concept of "in-betweenness" – an infinite state that illustrates the unlimited possibilities and potentials of Hong Kong. Sponge is used as a metaphor, its tightly woven mass of spicules hang together very well and is enormously tough, this living tissue represents the united and never give-up spirit of Hong Kong. The immense penetration capacity between the internal canals and cavities signifies the freedom, dynamism and openness of this cosmopolitan city.

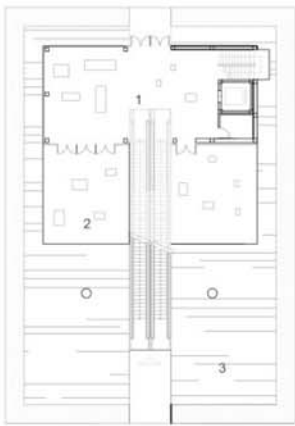
The Pavilion takes the form of a cube structure in double layers with the outer layer converted into as a series of bamboo section modules. Special lightings are deployed to give the golden cube a glowing effect, at night it is transformed into a lantern reminiscent of an exquisite jewel box. The reflective pool and mirror covered around the lift core give a sense of lightness to the building.



Conforming to the master plan, the Hong Kong Pavilion appears as a golden jewel box complementing the China Pavilion.



A sensory ambience leading to the Hong Kong Pavilion.



1. Open Gallery  
2. Souvenir Counter/  
Exhibition Area  
3. Reflective Pool  
Ground Level  
Scale 1:300

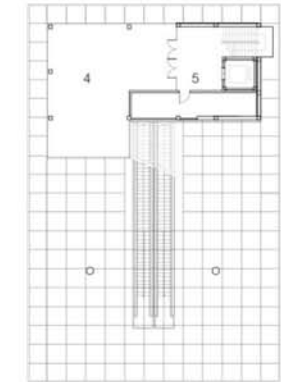


### Sponge as Metaphor

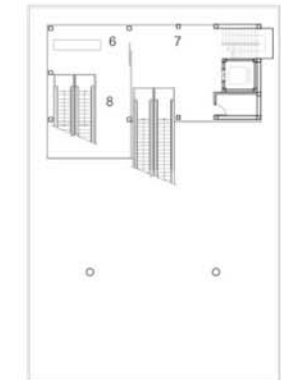
Water contains in the sponge signifies the infinite possibilities in the state of "in-betweenness" — the unique quality of Hong Kong to develop and expand beyond its spatial and physical limitations.

### Sustainable Design:

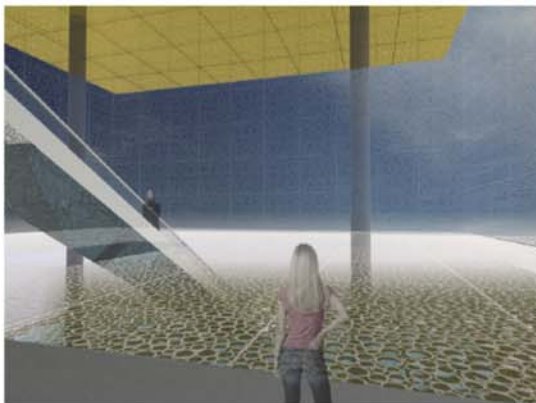
The external façade of the Pavilion is built by square modules made up of bamboo sections. This environmental friendly material, when being cut into sections, allows sunlight and breeze to penetrate into the building. In addition to the advantage of energy saving, the bamboo modules can also be easily disassembled and recycled for other use. Combined with the water feature and modern courtyard design that open up the ground level for communal use and natural cooling, the Pavilion presents a simple yet cost-effective green building concept.



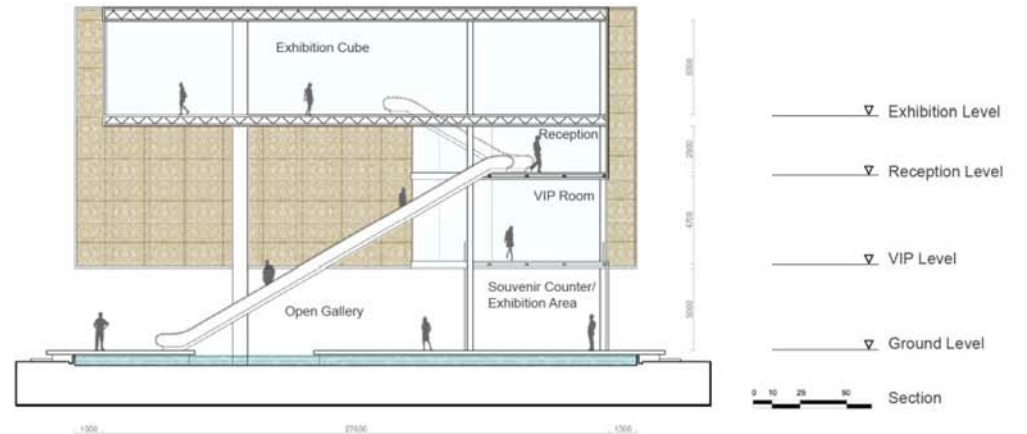
4. VIP Room  
5. Lift Lobby  
VIP Level  
Scale 1:300

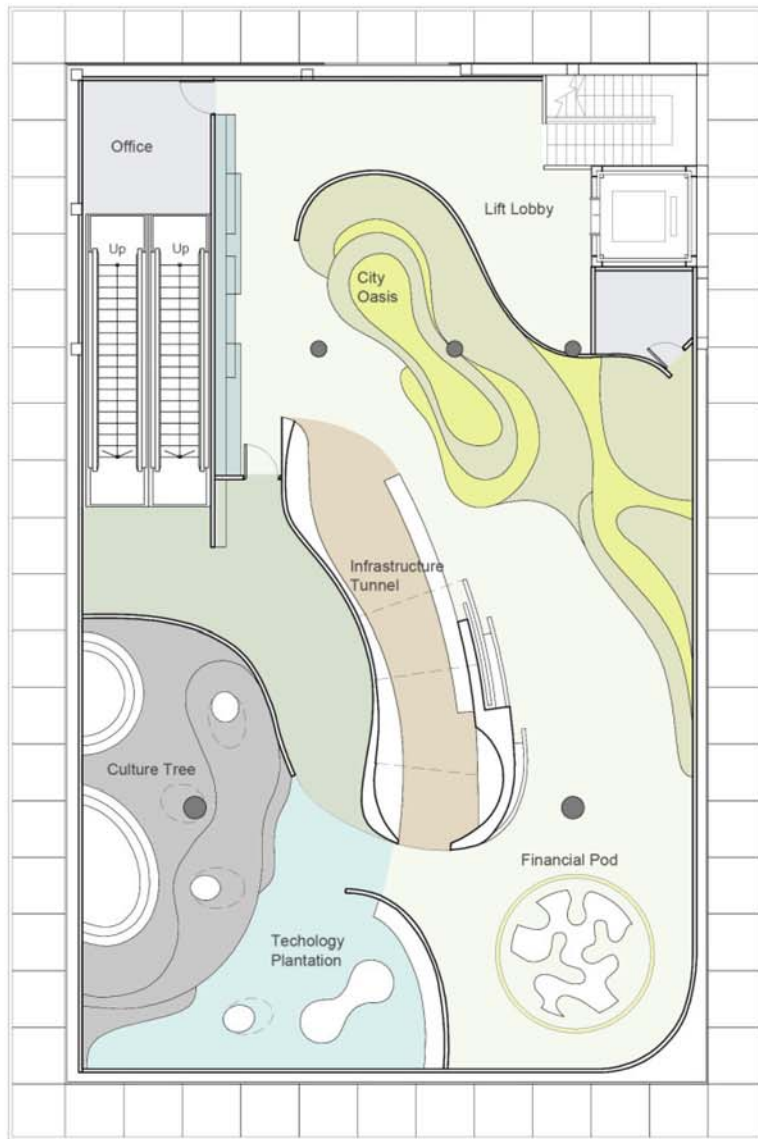


6. Reception  
7. Lift Lobby  
8. Observation Deck  
Reception Level  
Scale 1:300



Flowing in between the pool and the exhibition cube, the observation deck presents an intriguing view which goes beyond the fascinating façade.





Exhibition Level  
Scale 1:100

### The exhibition areas:

While the Pavilion's outlook appears to be relatively restrained and calm, the interior surprises visitors with a stunning impact through various interactive and vibrant design approaches. Following the same building tissue that echoes with the external bamboo façade, each of the five zones: Culture Tree, Technology Plantation, Infrastructure Tunnel, Financial Pod and City Oasis, carries its own uniqueness, the fluidity and dynamic tension of space enrich the sensational experience.

#### Culture Tree

Culture is the root of a city and the basis of its future. By planting the 'Culture Trees' we emphasise on the importance to seek common in a spirit of equality and tolerance, and carry on extensive inter-civilization dialogue and closer cultural exchanges for building a harmonious community.

#### Technology Plantation

Today technology has made us all virtual neighbours. Ideas, information and money cross the planet at the stroke of a computer key. The technology plantation presents Hong Kong's position as a fertile ground for nurturing different species of 'technology'. It also tries to predict the future technology development as if it is an ever-growing life form.

#### Infrastructure Tunnel

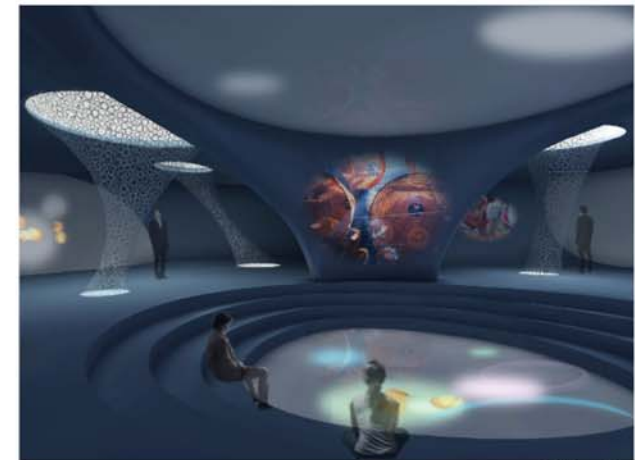
A free-form tunnel showcases the excellent infrastructure and connectivity that Hong Kong enjoys with the Mainland and the World. The multi-media devices further enhance visitors' traveling experience with fascinating sound and visual impacts.

#### Financial Pod

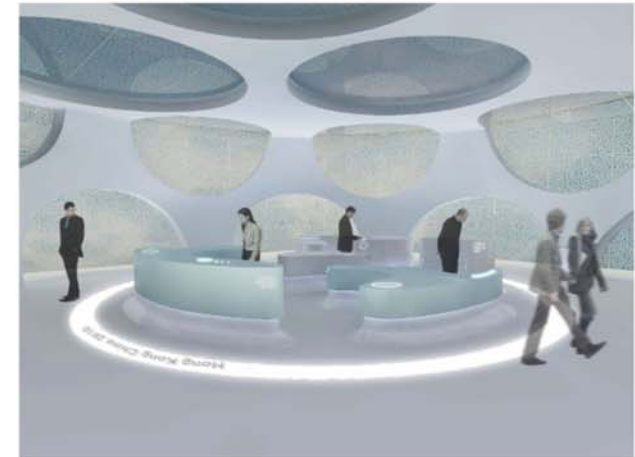
Hong Kong enjoys its position as gateway to China and benefits from increased trade after China enters the WTO. Taking a circular form of the global village, the Financial Pod creates an open platform for discussion and exchange of ideas, which is a key factor to Hong Kong's economic prosperity.

#### City Oasis

This indoor garden demonstrates an ideal rural-urban relationship. The free-form garden with audio-visual devices scattering around the area shows people how a balance development contributes to harmonious community and a better living.



Culture Tree



Financial Pod



City Oasis

## SHANGHAI EXPO 2010-THE HONG KONG PAVILION: HONG KONG—THE INFINITE CITY

### 2010上海世界博覽會香港館 「無限城市—香港」

**Introduction:** The design of the Hong Kong Pavilion for the 2010 Shanghai Expo, Hong Kong – The Infinite City, explains and explores the infinite possibilities and potentials that our city enjoys. Hong Kong is a place where we share our dreams, overcome the crises and demonstrate our commitments to our families and our country. And most important of all, this is an ever-revitalising wonderland which promises us a brighter future.

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A concept of “in-betweenness” has been incorporated into the programme of the Pavilion, aiming to demonstrate the unique quality of Hong Kong, which allows her to develop and expand beyond its spatial and physical limitations.

**簡介：**2010上海世界博覽會香港館「無限城市—香港」的設計，嘗試在空間和高度的限制下，透過文化、藝術、經濟、科技以至社區生活等多個範疇去表達出香港令人難以置信的「無限容量」。香港是一個擁有無限可能與潛力的地方，在這片土地上我們分享彼此的夢想，共同渡過一個又一個的難關，顯示出我們對家庭、對社會對國家的承擔。憑著這種有限之中的無限精神，香港才能擁有生生不息的生命，迎接更美好的明天。

中華文明歷來注重親仁善鄰，提倡「海納百川，有容乃大」，這種豁達大度、胸懷寬闊的個人修養，成爲了中國人崇尚的胸襟和思維方法，也成爲香港維繫社區和諧、推動城市向前邁進的重要一大原動力。莊子《秋水篇》裡論述的「有容乃大」，其中的「容」字含有包容、容納和容量的意思，既表達了包容和吸納天下人才，寬容和學習各種先進文化的城市風格，也宣導容納世界的宏大氣量和向外開拓的進取精神。若以「有容」作爲香港城市精神來弘揚，定能使這個城市緊隨祖國的脈搏，在經濟、民主、科教、文化和社會民生各方面都得以蓬勃發展。

香港館的設計嘗試捕捉這種潛藏在香港的獨特素質，以一種能夠無限延伸的「中介」概念，作爲香港館建築與室內設計的主題，向訪客展示這個如何城市能夠超越空間與物理的限制，成就一個又一個輝煌故事。

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**中介的概念：**香港館的設計靈感源自海綿的多孔特性，海綿的容量遠超過它的體積，這種可無限延伸的「中介」概念，正好顯示出香港的無限可能和潛力。海綿強韌而緊密的有機組織，代表香港人不屈不撓和團結的精神，這種「中介」的狀態正好用來比喻「君子有容」，反映出香港兼容並蓄和自由開放的獨特氣質。

香港館取立方體的結構，並以兩層覆面包圍，外立面的四方形模件以竹棚的切割面砌成，增加建築物的通透性和空間深度。特別的燈光效果使金色的匣子在夜間如同一個發光的寶箱，地面水池和升降機槽周圍的鏡面鋪飾，讓建築物產生輕盈、漂浮的視覺效果。

**環保設計：**展館外立面所用的四方形模件以竹棚的切割面砌成，能讓陽光與微風滲透室內。除節省耗電量外這種竹製模件更可輕易拆除和循環再用，結合地面的水池和庭院設計，以簡單而符合成本效益的方法體現綠色建築的可行性。

**展覽場地：**展館外貌靜謐簡約，室內卻以互動和生動的設計手法營造震撼的效果，給訪客帶來多重驚喜。室內設計延續建築結構的肌理，與竹製的外立面呼應。展覽場地共分成五個區域，分別是文化森林、科技園、基建走廊、金融圈和城市綠洲，流暢與動感的佈局加以多媒體的輔助，為訪客帶來豐富和刺激的觀感體驗。