

'Witty, poignant, startling, How the City Moved to Mr Sun provides a unique insight into one of the essential stories of our age.'

- Duncan Hewitt, former BBC Beijing and Shanghai correspondent

'...telling the greatest urbanisation story in history quite literally from the deep foundations up.'

- Nick Mackie, China correspondent for World Business on CNBC

'In the Western academic world, no one else is currently doing the same type of work on these cities in the interior of China, combining architecture and journalism.'

- Liu Yuyang, principal architect, ALYA, and co-author of Great Leap Forward



Over the next two decades around 300 million Chinese villagers will move to the city, creating the largest urban society the world has ever seen. Small towns in Central and Western China are transforming at breakneck pace into huge metropolises with many millions of inhabitants. In size they rival global cities like Rio de Janeiro, London and Moscow, but their names are unknown in the rest of the world.

How the City moved to Mr Sun lifts the veil from these unexplored megacities in the heart of China. It lays bare the ruthless logic behind this incredible growth, and presents in loving detail the mass of humanity washed up in this unstoppable process: farmers who demolish their homes and build their own high-rise apartment blocks, torn down again by city authorities in the name of progress. Architects, complaining that the cities grow faster than they can design them. Chinese officials, surprisingly frank about the darker sides to this story of success.

Highly readable, full of insightful analysis and deeply human stories of modern city life, this book challenges assumptions about the nature of Chinese society, and asks the question: can China transform its triumph of brick and concrete into a model that will conquer the world?

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Journalist **Michiel Hulshof** and architect **Daan Roggeveen** founded and coordinate the Go West Project, a multidisciplinary research lab focusing on the development of China's emerging megacities. Michiel Hulshof is China correspondent for the Dutch weekly Vrij Nederland. Daan Roggeveen is an architect working on architectural and urban projects in China and Europe. As part of the Go West Project, they produced articles and photo essays for Chinese and international media, and organised events and exhibitions in Amsterdam, Beijing, London, Shanghai and Shenzhen. They lecture at Chinese universities on a regular basis.

For more information on the Go West Project, see www.gowestproject.com

CONTACT

For more information, images, review copies and interview requests, please contact SUN Publishers, Marlies Dijkstra, +31.20.5244512, m.dijkstra@sunarchitecture.nl

If you want to attend the event 'Exploding China' in Stadsschouwburg Amsterdam on 13 September, for a press card please contact Karin Sommerer, +3120-523 77 70, Karin.Sommerer@ssba.nl

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