



On a balmy evening late in summer, I met Mark Sakautzky, Imperial Feng Shui Master Consultant for an interview in his loft in Ahrensburg. There, the spheres for living and working are just as close to each other as living and working are linked to each other in reality. As was to be expected, they merge, in rather smooth transition.

By Viera Schleidt
National PR Officer EUMA Germany

V: Do you have to believe in Feng Shui to make it work?

S: No. Feng Shui is the art of recognising the movement of energy and how to make it flow in the best possible way. This is done with the help of special calculation and measuring methods. Feng Shui is acupuncture in space. It is possible to put the "needles" in a certain spot where they steer energy in a defined direction. Feng Shui is basically quite simple.

V: I can't really believe you.

S (laughs): Good Feng Shui will work *with* and not *against* the energy and therefore brings about solutions and a certain lightness. Feng Shui is the art of living in harmony with the environment

(house, nature, people). It is also the awareness that life means movement, never ending change. However, I am pleased to admit that even I am still quite often surprised positively by the fortitude of Feng Shui although the principles are explicable and the effect is measurable. Certainly this charm accounts for the attraction of my job...

V: When did Feng Shui become an "in" thing in Europe?

S: In the 90s, Feng Shui moved from the US to Europe where it was popular in England and France at first. Today, Germany and England are the "centres". In Germany, there are more than 6,000 Feng Shui consultants and most of the training centres.

V: Who are your students?

S: Approximately 40 % want to combine Feng Shui with their profession (i.e. architects), another 40 % intend a career change und learn the new profession systematically in parallel to their job. Some 20 % take on the education just because they have a pronounced interest in the subjects.

V: How much of your consultancy is intuition?

S: At the beginning of a consultation my work is very much based on intuition because I first have to outline the problems and questions and define them. Quite often the root of the problem does not lie in the sphere of life, as it may seem at first glance. This is where the Feng Shui consultant has a heavy responsibility. He benefits from his experience of life as well as from his professional experience. This clarification process provides clues for extensive measurements and calculations.

V: What do your customers take away from the consultation?

S: It is important to have wishes and to express them precisely. One should stay bound to these aims. Nevertheless, one should not think that the goal can only be reached by following the planned route. If one lets the Qi (= energy) flow freely, one will reach the goals probably not without detours and quickly but on a healthy path. Feng Shui is strongly process oriented but also always claims a solution.

V: Not all people are free of prejudices towards Feng Shui. Are people also "suited" differently?

S: People who have lasting wealth in a good, economically stable position and who feel a basic contentedness are the people most likely to live their lives according to the Feng Shui theory. However, they do it intuitively and unconsciously. They are ready to accept things the way they are. They are in harmony with themselves and their environment and they let energy flow.

V: What are your wishes for the future?

S: The quality standards for the education were determined in cooperation with the "Berufsverband für Feng Shui und Geomantie e.V." (Professional association for Feng Shui and Geomancy) in Würzburg. I hope that someday our pupils can take an IHK (=Chamber of Commerce and Industry) certified exam or may even qualify for an MBA.

V: EUMA wish you plenty of good Qi for your future.



Internationale Feng Shui Akademie

The "Internationale Feng Shui Akademie" (www.ifsa.info) was founded in 2004. The academy is the first school in Germany offering a certified basic education that will directly lead to Feng Shui's elite training, the Imperial Feng Shui. The diploma awarded after the basic education taking one year is the prerequisite for the "Emperors' Feng Shui". The biennial Imperial Training imparts highly specialised secret knowledge, that was reserved exclusively to the imperial court until 1912.

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