



LANDSCAPE AS A METAPHOR

D.K. Nalaka Krishantha

A Dissertation presented to the University of Moratuwa for
the Master of Science Degree in Landscape Design 2007.

92932



Abstract

“Dreaming is an act of imagination, attesting in all men a creative power, which, if it were available in waking, would make every man a Dante or, Shakespear”

HF.Hedge

The saying confirms that the dreaming is the way of be born of new talents ...philosophers , scientists designers, artists and architects, including landscape architects who can make the world something better place, new and creative. Dreaming is the language of mind. It nourishes mind with innovative wondering ideas. Personal creativity is greatly increased by utilizing the information gleaned from the subconscious mind in dreaming. The dream experience is perhaps the most creative form of consciousness that some people will ever experience. When recall these dreams upon waking can take symbols, images and adventures experience and discover what is going on at deeper levels of psyche. Interesting thing is each dream is inspired from the Nature and again it brings new outlook of nature's experience. This is incredible valuable information that will improve creative potentials immensely. By these dreams, the designer or artists or writeretc would be able to reinterpret the nature converting their dreams into metaphors that becomes a reality; may be through arts, crafts, science, ...or in other related creation. So why not in landscape !

AKNOWLEDGEMENT

Sincere Thanks extended to.....

- **Archt. Shirani Balasooriya**, Director M.Sc.(Landscape Design) Course who pushed me to do landscaping, who helped me in many ways; for providing access for unreachable resource persons, literature and articles on the subject, for guidance to complete this on time.
- **Archt. Shereen Amendra**, The first who understood my thinking and what I needed to do, show the path and positive ways of doing this dissertation, for knowledge and valuable comments.
- **Eng. Susira Udalamatta**, Coordinator M.Sc.(Landscape Design) Course who encouraged me to continue the same topic

Special thanks and gratitude.....

- For **Prof. Sarath Kotagama**, a treasury of innovative knowledge on many subjects, one who knock my brain down when just heard my topic; awoke me up by asking many questions and show the torch of science to light up my creative thoughts, and for providing me articles on the subject.
- **Archt. Ravin Goonaratne**, ocean of knowledge, who always patiently listened and understood me supported my thoughts and thinking, extended my knowledge on the subject.
- **Prof, Samitha Manawadu**, a walking computer, even his one word of the subject on the way was being a resource and help.
- At last not least, **Archt. Anjalendran**, resource person, who laughed when heard my topic,(I know it is his way of dealing with University students) then calmly recommended the books that I must read and gave me permission to use his invaluable library a rare collection of books on the topic; Without him I never be able to complete this on time.
- Finally, I must remember, **Archt. Vijitha Basnayake**, my teacher and Architect I inspired a lot from him and the way of his living, thinking seeing and interpreting things in architecture and landscape.

- Then I must thank to **Champika**, my batchmate for his encouragement to finish this on time. **Dinesh & Upeksha** for their invaluable support for presentation, finally to **Nilakshi**, colleague and my wife, her unending scolding, arguments, and support for writing this among burdens of troubles.

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|--------|
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENT | p v |
| CONTENTS | p vi |
| LIST OF PLATES & SOURCES | p viii |
| LIST OF FIGURES & SOURCES | p ix |
| ABSTRACT | p xiii |
| INTRODUCTION | p 01 |
| 01. Observation | p 01 |
| 02. Topic Explanation | p 02 |
| 03. Methodology | p 03 |
| 04. Scope of work | p 03 |
| 05. References | p 04 |
| CHAPTER ONE - THE NATURE AS AN ART FORM | p 06 |
| 1.1 Definition and Introduction of Nature, | p 06 |
| 1.2 What is Nature...? . | p 06 |
| 1.3 Philosophy | p 08 |
| 1.4 What is Art...? | p10 |
| CHAPTER TWO - THE ARTS, A FROZEN EXPERIENCE OF NATURE. | p 16 |
| 2.1 Forms and Structures in Nature | p 16 |
| 2.1.1 Power of Line | p 17 |
| 2.2 Operational Principles and Laws in Nature | p 24 |
| 2.3 Sensing, Reasoning and Imagining of Forms in Nature | p 26 |
| CHAPTER THREE - TRANSFORMING NATURE INTO DIFFERENT ART FORMS & LANDCAPING | p 30 |
| 3.1 The Process & Creativity of Human Mind | p 30 |



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

| | | |
|--------------|---|-----|
| 3.1.1 | How The Brain Hemispheres supports for creativity | p32 |
| 3.1.2 | How To Recognize the Meaning and Beauty of Nature | p34 |
| 3.2 | The Applications of Natural Aesthetics into Different Art Forms & Landscape | p35 |
| 3.3 | The Three Principles of capture the nature in to Landscaping | p36 |
| | (i) <i>Imitation</i> | p36 |
| | (ii) <i>Enhancement</i> | p39 |
| | (iii) <i>Re - interpretation</i> | p43 |
| | | |
| CHAPTER FOUR | - RE-INTERPRETAION OF NATURE IN LANDSCAPING | |
| 4.1 | Landscape as Metaphors | p47 |
| 4.2 | Design-Techniques of re-interpreting Nature Using Landscape as Metaphors | p48 |
| 4.2.1 | Use of Geometric Sculptural Forms on Vast Land | p49 |
| 4.2.2 | Use of Pure Natural Naked Hard Landscape Materials | p55 |
| 4.2.3 | New Interpretations – Striking Landscape Techniques to Create Metaphors | p55 |
| | | |
| CONCLUSION | | p70 |
| | | |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | | p76 |




LIST OF PLATES AND SOURCES

| Figure | Description and Source | Page |
|---------------|---|------|
| CHAPTER ONE | | |
| Plate 1. | Author's Graphical presentation of relationship of Art, Architecture and Landscape | p 13 |
| CHAPTER TWO | | |
| Plate 2. | Curve lines the base of many organisms in Nature [Source:Abstraction in Art and Nature by Cobot Nathan,1993, page 18] | p 19 |
| Plate 3. | Three dimensional curve the base of many organisms in Nature [Source:Abstraction in Art and Nature by Cobot Nathan,1993, page 18] | p 20 |
| Plate 4. | Curves and Spiral Forms are base of creating creatures in Nature | p 21 |
| Plate 5. | do [Source:Abstraction in Art and Nature by Cobot Nathan,1993, page 19] | p 22 |
| CHAPTER THREE | | |
| Plate 6. | Left Hemispheres Approach of Problem | p 33 |
| Plate 7. | Right hemispheres Approach of Problem [Source:Graphic Communication as Design Tool by Omar Faruque, page 64,65] | p 33 |
| Plate 8. | Plan Kandalama Hotel [source: B.B. Tailor, <u>Geoffrey Bawa</u> ,1995, page174] | p 40 |
| Plate 9. | Section Kandalama Hotel [source: B.B. Tailor, <u>Geoffrey Bawa</u> ,1995, page176] | p 40 |
| Plate 10. | Plan House and Garden Lunuganga [source: B.B. Tailor, <u>Geoffrey Bawa</u> ,1995, page10] | p 41 |
| Plate 11. | Perspective view overlooking lodgings Lunuganga [source: B.B. Tailor, <u>Geoffrey Bawa</u> ,1995, page10] | p 42 |



LIST OF FIGURES AND SOURCES

| Figure | Description and Source | Page |
|---|---|------|
| CHAPTER ONE | | |
| Fig 1.1 | Nature has forms, colours and textures [Source:googlimage.lk] | p 7 |
| Fig 1.2 | do | |
| Fig 1.3 | do | |
| Fig 1.4, | Nature is vast incredible and Mystry [Source: http://ksublogproject.lk | p 8 |
| Fig 1.5 | do | |
| Fig 1.6 | In west Art to resemblance God's Power [Source:Annotated Architecture,by Niel Stevenson, page 44] | p 8 |
| Fig 1.7 | In East art , architecture and landscaping inspired from Nature and blends with Nature. [Source:googlimage.lk] | p 8 |
| Fig 1.8 | Art is in the making of Architecture and Landscape. Architecture is an object of Landscape [Source:googlimage.lk] | p13 |
|  University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. Electronic Theses & Dissertations www.lib.mrt.ac.lk | | |
| CHAPTER TWO | | |
| Fig 2.1 | Power of lines, basic components in nature | |
| Fig 2.2 | do [Source:Abstraction in Art and Nature by Cobot Nathan,1993, page 59] | p17 |
| Fig 2.3 | Branches of Tree are lines which have Volume and form... [Source:Abstraction in Art and Nature by Cobot Nathan,1993, page 30] | p18 |
| Fig 2.4, | Spiral forms in Thorn Structures ex: Skin Cactus [Source:googleimage.lk] | p 21 |
| Fig 2.5 | Curves lines and colours get together in Nature [Source:Zen simple by Bridget Bodoano, 2003, page49] | p 23 |
| Fig 2.6 | Dalice structure in Minerals [Source:googleimage.lk] | p 23 |
| Fig 2.7 | Grid iron pattern in city forms [Source:googleimage.lk] | p 23 |
| Fig 2.8 | Andromeda Nebula [Source:googleimage.lk] | p 23 |
| Fig 2.9 | Ripples of Water [Source:googleimage.lk] | p 23 |
| Fig 2.10 | Tree bark [Source:Abstraction in Art and Nature by Cobot Nathan,1993, page 19] | p 25 |

| | | |
|----------|--|------|
| Fig 2.11 | Weathered Rock [Source:googleimage.lk] | p 25 |
| Fig 2.12 | Glass Shattered [Source:googleimage.lk] | p 26 |
| Fig 2.13 | Scales of reptiles [Source:googleimage.lk] | p 26 |

CHAPTER THREE

| | | |
|---------|---|------|
| Fig 3.1 | Imitation of Nature, Sri Lankan Example [Source:gooleimage.lk] | p 38 |
| Fig 3.2 | do , Japanese Gardens [Source:Y.Kawaguchi, <u>Serene Gardens</u> ,page 4] | p 38 |
| Fig 3.3 | do , Chinese Gardens [Source:gooleimage.lk] | p 39 |
| Fig 3.4 | Kandalama Hotel overlooking Kandalama Tank | p 41 |
| Fig 3.5 | Kandalama Hotel extended towards kandalama Forest [source: B.B. Tailor, <u>Geoffrey Bawa</u> , 1995, page 176] | p 41 |
| Fig 3.6 | Garden of Lunuganga extended towards Nature [source: archnet.org] | p 42 |
| Fig 3.7 | House and Garden of Lunuganga extended towards Nature [source: archnet.org] | p 42 |
| Fig 3.8 | Zen Garden [source: archnet.org] | p 42 |

CHAPTER FOUR

| | | |
|----------|---|------|
| Fig 4.1 | Arizona, USA,Mountains, power places creates metaphors in Nature. [source: archnet.org] | p 47 |
| Fig 4.2 | Ussangoda power places creates metaphors in Nature | p 47 |
| Fig 4.3 | Arid dusty land in Persia before comes paradise gardens [source: <u>Landscape of Man</u> ,1987,page 29] | p 49 |
| Fig 4.4 | Paradise garden of Persia- plan form [source: Gardens of Persia, P. Hobhouse] | p 50 |
| Fig 4.5 | Paradise garden- perspective [googleimage.lk] | p 50 |
| Fig 4.6 | Lay-out Plan of Giza pyramids [source: Landscape of Man, page 111,1987] | p 51 |
| Fig 4.7 | Tri Pyramids in Egypt , [source:googleimage.lk] | p 51 |
| Fig 4.8 | Sphynix in Egypt | p 51 |
| Fig 4.9 | Layout Plan - Stonehenge, UK [source: Stonehenge wikipedia] | p 53 |
| Fig 4.10 | Stonehenge, UK [source: Stonehenge wikipedia] | p 53 |
| Fig 4.11 | Ruwanweliseya Stupa [source: Serendib Magazine 1990] | p 54 |
| Fig 4.12 | Zen garden- Dry landscape technique [source: Roots in Zen , page] | p 55 |
| Fig 4.13 | Zen garden- Dry landscape technique [source: Roots in Zen , page] | p 55 |
| Fig 4.14 | Dry Gardens [source: serene Gardens, page 98] | p 56 |
| Fig 4.15 | Satellite towers- urban landscape [source: Barragan, page 167] | p 58 |

| | | | |
|----------|---|-------------------------------------|------|
| Fig 4.16 | Island | [source: Christo and Jeanne Claud] | p 58 |
| Fig 4.17 | Valley | [source: Christo and Jeanne Claud] | p 58 |
| Fig 4.18 | Terrain in summer, Mushrooms bloom up | [source: Christo and Jeanne Claud] | p 59 |
| Fig 4.19 | Water fall | [source: Christo and Jeanne Claud] | p 59 |
| Fig 4.20 | Grizdale park "Seven Spires" | [source: Song of the Earthpage 62] | p 59 |
| Fig 4.21 | do | [source: Song of the Earthpage 66] | p 60 |
| Fig 4.22 | Coloured Boulders | [source: Song of the Earthpage 66] | p 60 |
| Fig 4.23 | Coloured Boulders | [source: Song of the Earthpage 66] | p 60 |
| Fig 4.24 | Damp Patches on boulders | [source: Song of the Earthpage 66] | p 60 |
| Fig 4.25 | Serpentine Wall | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 60 |
| Fig 4.26 | Boulder Sculpture | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 61 |
| Fig 4.27 | Serpentine in the tree | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 61 |
| Fig 4.28 | Highlighting the Countours | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 61 |
| Fig 4.29 | Tree trunk | [source: Song of the Earthp34] | p 62 |
| Fig 4.30 | Rippen leaves on water, reminds seasonal change | [source: Song of the Earthp35] | p 62 |
| Fig 4.31 | Path | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 63 |
| Fig 4.32 | Whirlpool | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 63 |
| Fig 4.33 | Inspired landscape and Planning designs from whirlpool | | |
| Fig 4.34 | do | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 63 |
| Fig 4.35 | Clouds in the wood | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 63 |
| Fig 4.36 | Snowy tree trunk | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 63 |
| Fig 4.37 | Island sculptures in Planted shallow water | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 64 |
| Fig 4.38 | do | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 64 |
| Fig 4.39 | living tree sculptures | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 64 |
| Fig 4.40 | do | [source: Song of the Earth] | p 64 |
| Fig 4.41 | Added geographical qualities on cityscape | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 65 |
| Fig 4.42 | Scale make city striking, Human body to generate emotions | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 65 |
| Fig 4.43 | Sculptures to make water bubble effect | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 65 |
| Fig 4.44 | Soil ramp / waterbody to feel the motion of Nature | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 66 |
| Fig 4.45 | Night sky effect to feel the distinct incidents in Nature | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 66 |
| Fig 4.46 | Nature in motion | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 66 |
| Fig 4.47 | Remind the Seasonal Changes | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 66 |
| Fig 4.48 | Emphasize the growth of plants in rejuvenation | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 66 |
| Fig 4.49 | Like spakling quartz , wander in Nature | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 66 |



| | | | |
|----------|---|--------------------------|------|
| Fig 4.50 | Effect of mosses grown on walls | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 67 |
| Fig 4.51 | It Feels us Blooming, Rejuvenation or fresh quality | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 67 |
| Fig 4.52 | Create lightning effects, incidents in Nature | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 67 |
| Fig 4.53 | Screening effects/ Transparent effect | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 67 |
| Fig 4.54 | Clouds fallen down, wander in Nature | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 67 |
| | | | |
| Fig 4.55 | Cool countryside effect | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 67 |
| Fig 4.56 | Rejuvenation | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 68 |
| Fig 4.57 | New dawn,when spring comes creatures get activates | | |
| | To enjoy the season | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 68 |
| Fig 4.58 | Sunset reminds the decay , destruction | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 68 |
| Fig 4.59 | Mystery, and adventurous and scared effects | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 68 |
| Fig 4.60 | Under water effects | [source: googleimage.lk] | p 68 |



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
 Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk