

An Interview with JODI BRUNNER

Jodi Brunner, 38, runs Chinatown tours from a shop at Victoria Market and reckons Steve Bracks won the 1999 election because of Feng Shui.
She spoke to **Dani Valent**.

You're not Chinese. How come you got into Feng Shui?

I've always been interested in houses. I came from a very chaotic house, with three generations living together on the corner of two streets. There was a hill to the north and a hill to the south and all the qi (energy) accumulated at our house. All the kids used to meet on our corner and hang out. Even the milk-horse used to stop at our house, then do a U-turn and go back into the dairy. After having studied the forms and shapes of nature, I could relate to my family home and see why we had so much chaos and why so many people accumulated at our house.

Have you had other jobs?

I've done a lot of different things. I built ski races in Canada, I was a company secretary at a painting and decorating company and I worked in internal communications for Telstra. I started studying Feng Shui in 1992. I lived in a lovely place in Toorak and made it so nice with such good Feng Shui. But I made the mistake of telling the landlords how good the Feng Shui was and they decided that they wanted their house back. I quit my job at Telstra and went to live on the banks of the Murray in a tent. It was very pure you can feel the energy better. In a city it's a little bit more obscure.

Do you keep moving around to find better Feng Shui?

Since I've been doing Feng Shui I've lived in seven different places so I've got a really good idea of what's good and what isn't. I'm a bit of a gypsy anyway but Feng Shui made me choose a house for different reasons. I moved around looking for the perfect place and also I wanted to experience different environments. One time, I moved up to Mt. Dandenong and the bedroom had beams across the ceiling. In Feng Shui they say it's not good to sleep under beams but these beams didn't have an impact so I didn't really believe it. But then I moved the bed around the other way and slept with my head underneath the beams. Within two days I had the worst toothache. I moved the bed back straightaway but the damage had been done; I had to go and have dental work done.

Have you found the perfect place yet?

What's worked for me is having water at the front and mountains at the back. If water is correctly positioned, it can bring prosperity to your home. I chose the place where we're living in now in North Melbourne solely for Feng Shui reasons. In the City we see virtual rivers and mountains: roads are treated like water and buildings are treated like mountains. At my house, the water is the road and the building at the back is a mountain. It's been great for my business. I'm so busy now I don't have time to scratch myself.

Maybe you're too close to your water?

I think I just need a holiday.

Does Melbourne have good Feng Shui?

Yes, because there's water at the front - Port Phillip Bay - and mountains at the back, the ranges in the distance. And we have a green dragon in Mount Dandenong, which gives us support and protection. When we're standing in the CBD facing Port Phillip Bay, the right hand side is the tiger side and the left hand side is the dragon side. The dragon should be more prominent than the tiger but since Colonial Stadium has been built, the tiger has been activated and more unpredictable things are happening. Colonial is giving power to the tiger because it's round and it's metal and it's a large structure, like a mountain.

Jodi Brunner is a Master of Feng Shui with Master Joseph Yu, Feng Shui Research Center, Canada. She is primarily a Feng Shui practitioner and trainer, also an accredited speaking member of the National Speakers Association of Australia and the founder of the FENG SHUI network. Contact Jodi at 0408 173 710 or visit her website www.fengshuimaster.com.au for more info.