



The Feng Shui of ~ Flora & Fauna

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Mysterious. Exotic. Beautiful. Flowers can be all of these and so much more. It's no wonder that flowers—in artwork as well as a fresh bouquet—can bring an abundance of lively yang qi into a room or space.

Flowers have come to represent the many facets of love, joy, and delicate beauty and there are several types that have particular meaning in Feng Shui.

The queen of the Feng Shui flowers, lotus blossoms have a deeply significant meaning. Rising from the murky depths of the muddy swamp, their beauty and purity is untouched. They're believed to bring unending success to every endeavor, an abundance of good fortune and prosperity, and symbolize higher wisdom and enlightenment. In Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), every part of this graceful plant, from its edible roots to its flower blossoms, has medicinal benefit. It is no wonder that the display of the lotus—whether in artwork or as a floral presentation—is powerful Feng Shui.

The many petals of the chrysanthemum symbolize strong yang energy and are considered to symbolize good fortune, prosperity, success, and longevity as well. Their playfully full blooms suggest ease and balance in living, which helps one to live a full long life.

For those looking to attract love into their lives, the fragrant peony is a Chinese and Feng Shui favorite. Delicate reds or pinks symbolize female beauty as well as strong, lasting love, and marital fidelity. Placement is key with the peony; the living room, where lives are lived, is best. In the bedroom, it is believed to bring less than pure love and can encourage straying and infidelity.

The beautifully delicate orchid, with its unique symmetry and balance is perfect for enhancing career opportunities and fulfilling one's calling in life. It also symbolizes the striving for a loving perfection in every aspect of life and the desire to become a better person spiritually. Displayed in the family room or living room, they represent good

fortune and harmony for each family member individually and as a whole. It can also be a symbol of fertility and new life.

Live plants and fresh cut flowers have the most potent qi, but artwork as well as beautiful silk arrangements, can bring significant good qi into a space. Because of their potent yang energy, flowers bring lots of good qi to those who are ill or convalescing. It is beneficial to have flowers in the their room during the day, but is recommended that they be removed at night so the individual has the



Pink Peony

benefit of night yin energy to rest and sleep. This is not as crucial for those who are not ill, and I for one love the scent of fresh flowers in my bedroom as I'm drifting off to sleep, headed for the land of roses and jasmine. ■

To be continued...

Trained in China and the US, Michele Lewis is a Certified Feng Shui Consultant and has been a Feng Shui professional since 1998 and is available for consultations on-site or via phone. By using the timeless principles of the art and science of Feng Shui, Michele can help you bring balance and beauty to every aspect of your life. She is also a Certified Qigong Instructor of Ling Gui Healing Qigong School, Liu Dong's Method. Michele can be reached at (406) 582.5724 or taodesigns@ymail.com.