



News+FLASH is the digital offspring of INTERSECTION. It is published digitally each fortnight for the foreseeable future, until we run out of ideas, articles or money.

## PAMSC Year-End Dinner 2021



**I**t is our tradition to invite Past Chairmen of PAMSC and volunteers to our Year-End Dinner as a reward for their endless contribution to the institution. This year, we are glad to be able to host the dinner at Zoro Kuching on 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021. Thank you very much for Ar. Ng Chee Wee & industry partner, Nippon Paint for making this year-end dinner happening.

The year 2021 is an important year for us as many events were slowly recovered from the pandemic. You might not see us very often this year but many good efforts had been working continuously at the back of the stage, trying to keep our community consistently relevant. We hope to bring back the spirit of PAMSC fellowship with members soonest possible.

### 50% Reduction for 2022 PAM Membership Subscription

**A**ll PAM members are reminded to renew their Membership Subscription Fee for the Year 2022 soonest possible. Find out more on the renewal [HERE](#).



## Discussion with SHEDA

**P**AMSC was invited by Sarawak Real Estate & Developers' Association (SHEDA) Kuching Branch for a discussion on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 about the recent SPA Circular 1/2021 issued by MUDeNR.

The concerns raised by SHEDA are as follows:

- Min. ceiling height of 3.6m for single-storey terraced houses as requested by SPA
- SHEDA proposing to increase the max. selling price for affordable housing to mitigate the impact of increment in construction cost.

## Happy 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to UNIMAS

**P**AMSC, being one of the industry partners for Unimas, attended the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Launching Event on 21<sup>st</sup> Dec 2021 at Dataran Canselori Unimas.



## Discussion on SBO 1994

**P**AMSC SBO Sub-Committee had a discussion on 27<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021 to review some feedback received from MLGH on the amendment of SBO 1994. The sub-committee also took the initiative to plan for a courtesy call with the Minister for Local Government & Housing for an update on this matter.



## Construction starts for the new home!

**T**he renovation works for the new PAMSC Centre at Saradise is commencing soon! The tender had been finalized and endorsed by the Main Committee. The works are expected to be finished by April 2022, ready for our AGM. Thank you for the hard work from our Building Sub-Committee headed by Ar. Noraini. Well done!





*Budgie and his jumping stool*

*I read this article by Christopher Alexander while at uni, perhaps it guided me to make a stool for Budgie.*

### **BEDSIDE TABLE, 1971**

This little table was made for love. I made it for Ingrid. One Saturday morning between nine in the morning and lunchtime - and gave her that afternoon as a surprise.

I made a drawing of it on a piece of old wood, went to buy the planks - ordinary pine - came back home and started to cut them at once. It is only glued and nailed, so I put it together almost as fast as I am writing this.

It was made as a gift, a private thing - for her to have beside her bed - and she still has it there to this day.

One of the things I like about this table is its extreme simplicity of construction. It is made entirely out of three-quarter inch planks, nailed and glued to form a box-like structure which becomes rigid because of three dimensions.

In this case, more than almost anything else in these sketches, I made the table without any idea in my mind that anyone would ever look at it except Ingrid - so I had literally no fear, no idea of what people would think, no desire at all, to impress anyone. I only wanted her to like it.



## **Trace of the hand (or the Act of making)**

When Budgie our cat got too old to jump from our bedroom window sill to the floor, we made a stool for him and put it next to the window. Budgie took one look at the stool and figured out our plan for him. He could then jump from the sill to the stool and then from the stool to the floor, usually with a soft grunt. The same process is repeated in reverse when he wanted to go out the window. We could have used one we already had in the house, or bought a new one which is nicer than the one we made. But the act of making the stool ourselves gave it special meaning; it was made to address a specific situation for a particular end-user. And it was made with love.

I recall this story because students continue to ask why their universities continue to focus so much on manual drawing and modelling, when much of the work produced in practice are digital?

I would like to remind them about the emotional quality of drawing and making things by hand - each line on paper, each smudge carries with it the DNA of its creator. Over time, it develops its own identity - it is like a signature; unique and often hard to replicate.

This is why in the earlier years of architecture school, students are asked to make cardboard models, and prototypes and scale models of their furniture designs. Schools understand the value in the fabrication of these physical entities; they have presence, they can sit on a table in the studio to encourage a passing comment. They also have gravity; like the physical building or structure they represent in real life. These features are less possible with a digital model or rendering.

It is easier to have a design discussion with colleagues, lecturers and students using pencil on paper - it is more spontaneous than booting up the laptop. (I used to tease my juniors in the office that the hand has a closer connection to the brain compared to the laptop's mouse. I tease but I mean it.)

I am not against digital drawing and modelling, I make use of software to model, test and edit. It is so much easier to edit using digital software. But to start a project, start by drawing on paper, a large piece of paper with a fat marker or pencil and let the mind (and the hand) wander.

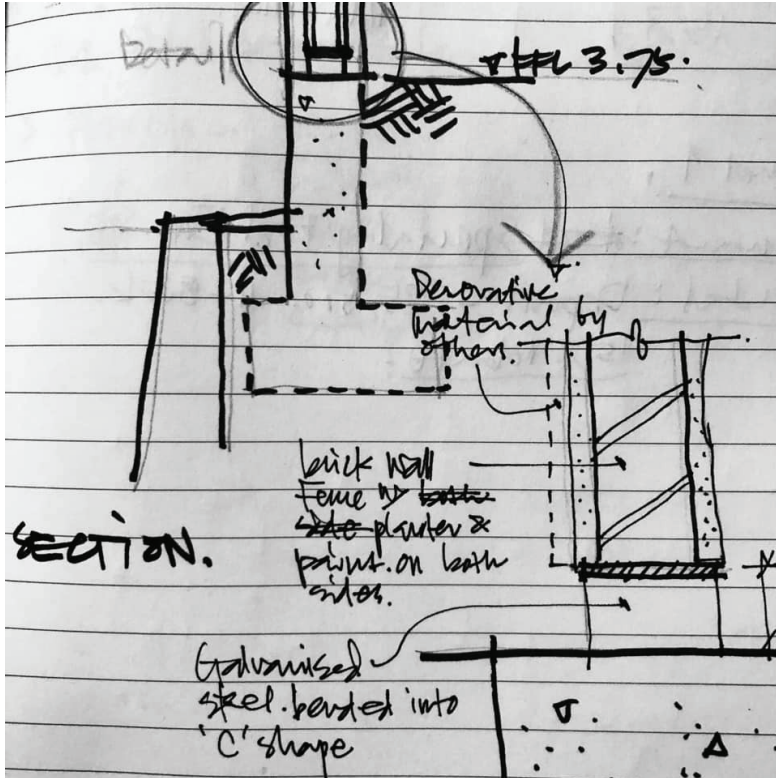
To reinforce my point, when we use our hands to carry out mundane tasks, the act can take on special meaning - eating is given an extra sensory experience, washing a child's hair or wiping away a tear conveys care and affection, making bread or pots from clay leaves the trace of the hand that made them.

Revisit hand drawings years later and you are often still able to chart the course of their creation; the deeper imprint where the pen hesitated, the rubbed out lines when you changed your mind. And if you wanted to, you could continue the drawing - but only you.

END

# #talkingdrawings

Architects and designers sketches drawn on scraps of paper, cardboard and back of envelopes with the primary intention of conveying an idea to a colleague or a builder.



"Talking to Dominic on options to do opening at bottom of fence without a lintol." - **Chai Si Yong**



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