

FAT FAT ISSUE

This issue of INTERSECTION is a compilation of the last 23 issues.





"Each issue is small but significant sense of achievement; another chapter filed away, another foster child set free into the community." - Min

"This shows how a small dedicated team is forged through teamwork, efficiency and commitment to ensure every issue is consistently on time." - SY

"I'll have TehO, eh no, a warm barley lemon." - PS

"People who eat together, stay together. Invaluable friendship is the great reward of hardwork." - HJ

> The Notorious Four Photographed by Sean Wee

In this compilation issue of INTERSECTION, we have selected several projects as a way to re-cap the year's work, and also to thank our regular contributors for their continual support. The full feature articles can be seen in past issues of NEWS and Flash, easily available at www.pamsc.org (REFER TO THE BOTTOM OF EACH PAGE FOR THE EXACT ISSUE NUMBER)



BORNEO INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ KUCHING

by PDC Design Group Sdn Bhd

ARCHITECT'S STATEMENT

nitially, the heart of the Borneo International School's architectural innovation lies in the concept of the 'Living Street', which combines structured, focused learning with casual, physical and social development. This approach enhances the connection between indoor and outdoor spaces; offering a wide range of spaces for creative interactions, active participation, quiet observation and contemplation. This inclusive approach ensures that the school is not just a place for education, but also for personal growth, creativity, and social development

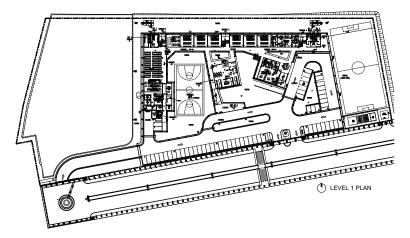
The school's design takes a simple and costeffective approach by considering the local weather conditions. This design strategy promotes energy efficiency with features such as verandas, courtyards, large roof overhangs, screens, and landscaping further enhance the school's functionality and comfort.

The Borneo International School is strategically situated in Saradise, Kuching; a new landmark in the Saradise neighbourhood. It aims to become an integral part centre of the community, setting a compelling example of how school design can depart from conventions and serve as a catalyst for positive change.

It is our hope that the school management would continue to embrace these creative elements, and develop the school into an even more vibrant learning environment.

Text by: Tay Tze Yong





Architect	: Borneo Convenant Sdn. Bhd. : Saradise Sdn. Bhd. : PDC Design Group Sdn Bhd : Ar. Wong Siew Ling
Project Team	: Ar. Lau Chun Leong, Lai Yun Heong, Jong Pik Sien, Tay Tze Yong
C&S Engineer	: KTA (Sarawak) Sdn. Bhd.
M&E Engineer	: APK Engineering Consult Sdn. Bhd.
Quantity Surveyor	: PUBM Quantity Surveyors Sdn. Bhd.
Photographer	: Lance Vun

THE NORTHBANK CLUB @ KUCHING

by SML Architects

ARCHITECT'S STATEMENT

he Northbank Club is located on a long and narrow piece of land of about 1.7 acres, at the confluence of Sungai Niada and a linear park. The main role of the clubhouse is to serve the recreational needs of future residents in the vicinity.

The brief called for various F&B, recreational and sports facilities, i.e. a 50 m lap pool, badminton courts, and a multicourt to be fitted into a very tight site. Hence, the design solution was to lift the main bulk of the sports facilities, i.e. the multi-court and badminton courts off the ground. This frees up Level 1 to be a series of free-flowing public spaces in between glazed recreational facilities and a series of staggered facing brick walls. These create a sense of movement while helping to define vistas and blur the distinction between the inside and outside.

The multi-court forms the roof over two floors of recreational, administrative and F&B facilities at the front block, and has the appearance of being perched lightly on the facing brick walls below. Nearby, a more solid rectilinear block which houses the badminton courts echoes the main steel frame and completes the cubist architectural composition of the scheme.



Physical model showing the rooftop multi-court.



Main entrance and lobby

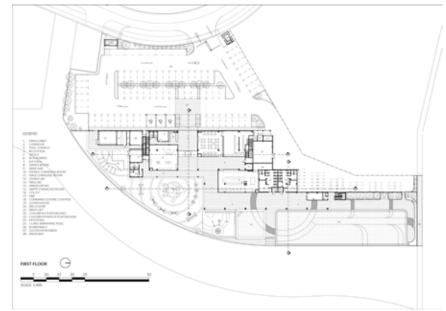
Client Architect **C&S Engineer** M&E Engineer

: Ibraco Berhad SML Architects : Jurutera Perunding Sedia Perunding WES Sdn. Bhd. Landscape Architect : Earthscape Inhabitant Sdn. Bhd.

Screens constructed of steel frames with irrigation mat and versatile fencing infills form the enclosure of the rooftop outdoor multi-court; they also shield the facilities on Level 2 from the western sun.



The facilities are expressed as two rectilinear blocks perched lightly on a series of linear fair-faced brick walls.



Quantity Surveyor Interior Designer Design Team Photography

: FCH Quantity Surveyors Sdn. Bhd.

- Motto Designs Sdn. Bhd. : Leong Gian Wen, Arlene Chew, Mark Eng
- : Mark Eng, Sean Wee, Melvin Chan

THE SALVATION ARMY COMMUNITY COMPLEX – A NEW HOME

by Atelier Timur Sdn. Bhd.

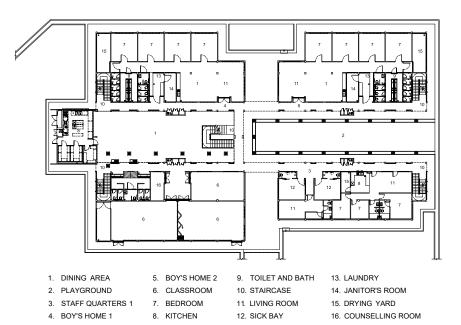
ARCHITECT'S STATEMENT

The site is strategically located next to SJK Chung Hua Sungai Jernang; a primary school along Kuching-Samarahan Expressway. The project brief called for a design to provide a chapel cum multipurpose hall with auxiliary facilities, an administrative office and a boys' and children's home with staff quarters and supporting facilities. In order to minimize construction cost, the building and infrastructure footprint are sited on the first 2 acres portion of the land to minimize earth filling due to the existing undulating site.

The building complex is designed in simple forms with play of layering of screen designs resulting in interesting shadow and light effects to give the spaces a new dimension. With consideration for ease of future maintenance as well as ensuring that the building cost is kept within budget, the buildings are passively designed.

Patterned exposed brick screening along the verandahs provide screening and gives depth to the space when shadows are cast. The earthy tones of the exposed brick also exudes a sense of rustic charm. Finishes are generally rudimentary in nature, of cement screed and tiles due to cost constraints. However, with the play of shadows and patterns from the brick screening, it conveys a certain charm.

Client	: The Salvation Army
Architect	: Atelier Timur Sdn. Bhd.
	(Ar. Sia Peh Swee, Alvin Choo H.P. & Liew S.H)
C&S Engineers	: Jurutera ADDA Sdn. Bhd.
M&E Engineers	: Perunding CHL Sdn. Bhd.
Quantity Surveyo	: FCH Quantity Surveyors Sdn. Bhd.
Contractor	: R&D Construction Sdn. Bhd.



Level 1 Floor Plan (Boys and Children Home)



Exposed brick screening.



View of communal dining hall.



Aerial view of The Salvation Army Home with SJK Chung Hua Sungai Jernang next door.



SAN SENG TONG CENTRE OF BUDDHISM CULTURE & EDUCATION

by PDC Design Group Sdn. Bhd.

ARCHITECT'S STATEMENT

he San Seng Tong Centre of Buddhism Culture & Education (三圣堂文教中心) stands as a beacon of serenity and enlightenment. Designed with a deep understanding of its community, the four-storey structure serves as a hub for cultural and educational events, fostering a sense of unity and mindfulness.

Salient features

Community-Centric Design

The architectural design revolves around the Centre's role as a community hub.

Flexible Spaces for Cultural and Educational Events

Recognizing the diverse needs of the community, the centre provides flexible spaces across its four floors.

Open Corridor Approach

The architectural emphasises on an open corridor approach ensures that natural lighting and ventilation permeate the building.

Striking Facade and Thermal Efficiency

The main facade captivates passers-by with a huge opening on the third floor, adorned with fin walls painted in the colors of the Buddhist flag (佛教五色 旗).

Overcoming Construction Challenges

Tight site access problems were overcome by casting of the superstructure into two stages.

Community Commitment

The contractor's initiative to complete the project in a shorter time not only reduced unnecessary costs but also kept the local workforce active.

This project is a testament to the harmony between architectural design, community needs, and cultural significance.



Top floor terrace can serve semi-open function area when the sliding doors at the corridor are fully opened.





: PDC Design Group Sdn. Bhd.

Architect

Team: Chai Si Yong, Tan Tze Khi, David Wee, Chai Hou Qin, Choong Jun Jie Civil & Structural : TW EngCoSa Sdn. Bhd.

 Mechanical & Electrical : Per

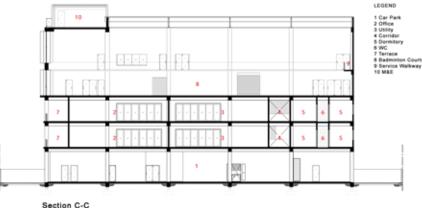
 Quantity Surveyor
 : FCH

 Main Contractor
 : Lee

Mechanical & Electrical : Perunding Elecmec Sdn. Bhd.

- : FCH Quantity Surveyors Sdn. Bhd.
- : Lee Onn Construction Sdn. Bhd.





Flash 38 Jan 2024

ROXY IMPIANA HOTEL

by MWA Architects Sdn. Bhd.

ARCHITECT'S STATEMENT

his formerly derelict building has cast away its reputation of being haunted, and will soon become the haunt of local hipsters and trendsetters.

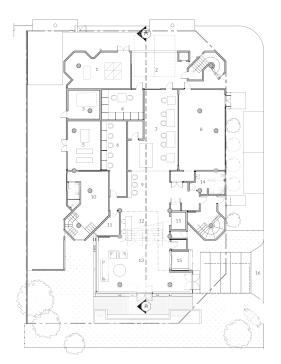
Background

The Country View Hotel was believed to have been built in 1973; already part of Kuching's skyline some ten years before Wisma Saberkas. It was left vacant and derelict for more than 20 years until the 2nd of April 2022, when we arrived with plans for its refurbishment and revival as a hotel.

Feedback and Response

During the partial demolition phase of this project, there were many in the local community who wondered if we were demolishing the entire building - because it was old, because it was ugly, because it had a reputation of being haunted. This thought never crossed our minds. By adding new elements and functions within its existing structure, we were able to extend the building's personal history.

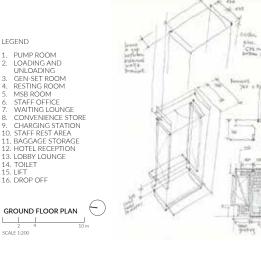
This building has remained in this state of decay for so long that it has etched itself into local history and folklore. We felt that the refurbishments need to manifest themselves externally, to change its outlook so that a new chapter of its personal history can start.





The additional elements such as the new lifes, garden terraces, guest room pods are expressed boldly to demonstrate the building's new role and express its new identity.





Architect MWA Architects Sdn. Bhd. Jurutera Minsar Sdn. Bhd. C&S Engineer : Jurutera JSW Sdn. Bhd. M&E Engineer Landscape Architect WM Koncepto Company Limited ٠ CLOUD9 Interior Designer : MNSC Architects **Client and Builder** Rimba Hartawan Sdn. Bhd. Design Team Wee Hii Min, Freddie Lo, Louis Ting, Melvin Chan Photography Freddy Chong, Melvin Chan, Sean Wee, Wong Qin Kae, Jenny Chow, Peggy Chai, Grace Teoh :

8.



The front 'cage' is the hive of outdoor activity punctuated by artwork and hotel guests. greenery,



The 'pods' were added to give the guest rooms an outdoor component, as well as farcade treatment.



Guest room pods are constructed out of steel mesh for lightness and strength.



A suspension steel bridge is an art installation that serves as the life lobby for the mezzanine.

ROXY SEMATAN SERVICE APARTMENT

by AkiEdge Sdn. Bhd.

ARCHITECT'S STATEMENT

his project is part of the newest two phases of this beach-front development: a hotel block and a service apartment complex overlooking the Talang-Talang islands and South China Sea beyond.

The structure consists of three 7-storey blocks, connected by a link bridge on the first floor. The centre block houses the complex's main drop-off point, which acts as a central hub. The three blocks comprises 186 units. 2-bedroom apartments are situated on the left and right of each floor, while all the units in between are the studio apartments

Penthouses can be found on each block's top level, each housing several bedrooms and a large, sweeping living space. The immensely wide balconies give their occupants one of the best views Sematan has to offer.



South Facade of Roxy Beach Resort Apartments.





Roxy Sematan facing the South China Sea with Gunung Rumput as its backdrop.

Architect	:	AkiEdge Sdn. Bhd.
C&S	:	Jurutera Minsar Consult Sdn. Bhd.
M&E	:	Perunding CH Engineering Sdn. Bhd.
Landscape Architect	:	WMKoncepto
Client	:	Tecktonic & Sons Holdings Sdn. Bhd.
Design Team	:	Lau Ming Ngi, Kong Yean Wei ,Hii Wei Sheng & Tiong Cheong Kei
Photography	:	Hii Wei Sheng, Caryn Wee & Lau Ming Ngi
Architect's statement	:	Hii Mao Ann

A stay with nature.



Vent blocks and off form walls as facade design material palette.

WISMA SABATI @ JALAN BAKO, KUCHING

by RKD Architects Sdn Bhd

PROJECT OVERVIEW

he Wisma SABATI complex is conceptualized as office space primarily; it will house a gallery, with rentable spaces such as meeting rooms, office spaces, an auditorium, and a multi-purpose hall, facilitating various activities.

Wisma SABATI encapsulates the multicultural essence of Sarawak, merging modern and traditional elements. It embodies the rich cultural tapestry of Sarawak, drawing inspiration from vernacular, Islamic, and ethnic architectural styles indigenous to Sarawak.

A harmonious blend of muted tones and feminine accents, complemented by local materials and geometric designs, weaves a consistent aesthetic, subtly reflecting SABATI's brand essence. By integrating architectural nuances and functional spaces, Wisma SABATI seeks to embody a space that not only serves its organizational purposes but also resonates deeply with the cultural heritage and aspirations of the Sarawakian community it represents.



Admin Meeting Room.



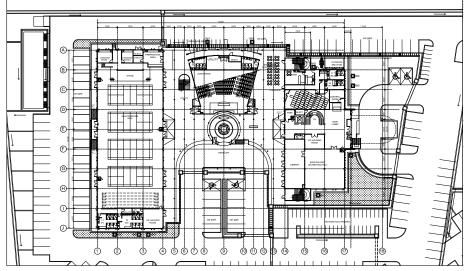
Admin Office Reception



Multipurpose Hall.



Admin Block Front Entrance.



Ground Floor Plan



Overall development.

Client		Consult Dadam Angel Tanang Jatawi Jatawi (CADATI)
Client	:	Sarawak Badan Amal Tenaga Isteri-Isteri (SABATI)
Implementation Agency	:	JKR Sarawak
Schematic	:	JKR Sarawak
Architect	:	RKD Architects Sdn Bhd
Interior Design	:	RKD Architects Sdn Bhd
C&S Engineer	:	ASL Engineers Sdn Bhd
M&E Engineer	:	Azmar Engineers Sdn Bhd
Quantity Surveyor	:	Pakatan International MD Isahak & Rakan-Rakan (Sarawak)
Main Contractor	:	Polybuilding Construction Co.
Gallery Contractor	:	Impact Design Associates Sdn Bhd

HOLMESTOWN

A Unique Take on Terrace Housing @ Kuching New Township

by PDC Design Group Sdn. Bhd.

ARCHITECT'S STATEMENT

n this housing project, we intentionally created contrasting environment that offers a fresh а perspective, by breaking away from convention; offering individuality and privacy to its residents.

The open-plan layout promotes cross-ventilation, while tall ceilings facilitate stack ventilation and abundant daylight. A strategically positioned ventilation block wall on the facade serves dual purposes of filtering east and west sunlight while optimizing cross ventilation on the first floor.

The main feature of this development is the deliberate avoidance of mirrored-repetition design. Instead, each unit was crafted to appear as an individual dwelling, rather than the typical monotonous terrace housing layout. The high ceiling spaces in these terrace houses offer more than just a sense of grandeur. They also provide residents with the unique opportunity for expansion by creating an attic floor above.

With a focus on affordability, Holmestown harmonizes aesthetic appeal, functionality, and sustainable living in its thoughtfully designed 2-storey terrace houses.

Text by: Tay Tze Yong



The internal space is bathed in natural light and achieves cross ventilation through the staircase well, extending up to the upper roof.



The internal space is bathed in natural light and achieves cross ventilation through the staircase well, extending up to the upper roof.



- : LT Homes Development Sdn. Bhd. : PDC Design Group Sdn. Bhd.
- : Perunding K.S.L



Aerial view of the terrace housing, with the old housing area as a backdrop.



Each unit was crafted to appear as an individual dwelling, akin to a townhouse or super-link, rather than the typical monotonous terrace housing layout.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

M&E Engineer

Photographer

Contractor

- : Alpha Beta JP Sdn. Bhd.
- : Kin Cuan Sen Construction Sdn. Bhd.
- : PDC Design Group Sdn. Bhd.

DARI BALAI KARANGAN KE TAWANGMANGU (BUILDING ON FAITH)

his is a story about two school projects for Mount Hope; in Balai Karangan, Kalimantan and then in Tawangmangu, near Surakarta, Java. This is a story worth telling because it describes a journey of faith; our client's faith in us as their architects and in their community to provide funding and construction labour.

Our clients are Sam and Carol Soukotta, the founders of Mount Hope - a kindergarten, school, and boarding school in Balai Karangan, and directors of the Tawangmangu Bible School in Central Java.

THE SCHOOL PROJECT April 2017

After finalising our design for the classroom extension, we decide to visit Balai Karangan in June, to brief the client and to volunteer as labourers for the foundation works. I decide to make a simple cardboard model to Sam and Carol, who were visiting the school.

June 2017

We leave Kuching after breakfast and arrive just before lunch – after a round of introductions and lunch, I had the opportunity to brief Sam and Carol about the classroom extension. Carol tells me they'll be in touch to ask for help designing their Bible College in Central Java. I laugh it off (though they seem quite serious about it) and return to my lunch.

THE COLLEGE PROJECT

True to her word, Carol rings us and asks if we are able to design an extension to the Bible College in Tawangmangu. We accept and a few weeks later, she invites us to visit the college to present our scheme to the School Board.

The presentation went well for us, and over lunch, we worked out the implementation programme with the local architect who would assist in the submission to authorities and coordinate with the local builder.

And then one day, about 18 months later - the college extension is completed.

In hindsight, it is a simple project - 3-storeys with a sub basement with only essential details to simplify the communication between us and the local team, and to reduce unnecessary cost. It did not earn us any fees, but taught us a wealth of lessons about community, responsibility and commitment. And it allowed us to leave a physical legacy in the form of two buildings in Indonesia.

Text by Sean Wee Building design by GW Leong, Min, Sean Wee and Lionel Kueh.

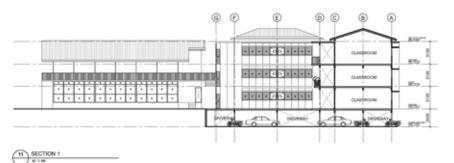




"We'll get back to you when we've solved the grids - actually, I think our current spacing still works..." Design meeting with Toni Ponco who coordinates the material procurement, while Craig Pilcher from New Zealand oversees construction on site.



Much later that night - GW: "Add in some more coniferous trees. L: [quietly] "I'm... not sure what those are."







L2 Living and dining.





L2 Kitchen and Entry.

L1 Study.

L1 Floor plan

CASCADALE APARTMENT SINGAPORE

by IDC Architects, in collaboration with ECORA Architects

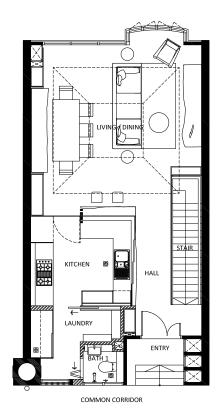
ARCHITECT'S STATEMENT

he owner of this 1450 sqft duplex unit in a Singapore condominium, an airplane pilot, requested for an update to the interior that combined functionality with a clean aesthetic. The existing layout comprised an upper level with the principal living, dining and entertaining spaces, and a lower level with 3 existing bedrooms, bathrooms, linked by a dark hallway. The upper level benefited from a lofty double-height living space with clerestory windows; the lower level, while having windows on 2 opposite sides, suffered from a dimly-lit and underused central hallway.

IDC responded by exploiting the uniquely high, naturally-lit volumes of the upper level, while opening up and consolidating the spaces of the lower level to maximise usability, and natural light and cross-ventilation. 2 adjoining bedrooms were combined into flexible accommodation comprising a sleeping space and a TV room linked by sliding wall panels. The previously unused hallway was transformed into a bright, airy study by allowing light and ventilation to penetrate from the enclosing bedrooms.

A limited palette of materials was selected for their tactile qualities, including natural oak floors and cabinetry, luxurious marble slabs, and rough-cut sawn timber panels, juxtaposed against floating white volumes.

	Location Project Team IDC Team Photographs by	: The Cascadale, Singapore : IDC Architects, in collaboration with ECORA Architects : Alan Lau, Lily Low - Decign Pebitth
	Photographs by	: Design Rebirth



L2 Floor plan

WC HOUSE AT JALAN HUP KEE, KUCHING

by J Hous Studio

ARCHITECT'S STATEMENT

he design intent for the double storey semi-detached house at Jalan Hup Kee, Kuching is to create a harmonious fusion of Japanese and Scandinavian aesthetics - Japandi. The house exudes a sense of simplicity, tranquility, and understated elegance, while incorporating natural elements and minimalist principles.

The primary objective is to seamlessly blend the timeless elegance of Japanese design with the functional minimalism of Scandinavian style, resulting in a space that balances tradition and modernity. The design will emphasize clean lines, neutral colour palettes, and a strong connection with nature, creating a serene and welcoming environment for the residents.

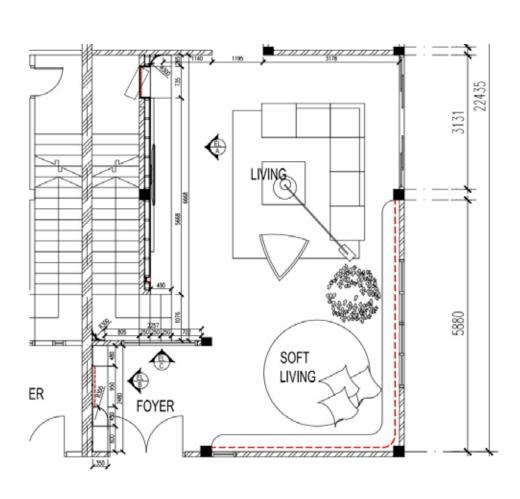
Japandi-inspired houses prioritize natural light, employing large windows and open floor plans to maximize the inflow of daylight. Thoughtful spatial planning is employed to optimize functionality and create a sense of flow between the living areas.

Location Principal Use Interior Designer
Project Principal Construction
Decoration Design Period Construction Period

Jalan Hup Kee, Kuching
Residence
J HOUS STUDIO
Joyce Wong
W&T Builder
Living Objects
1 month
3 months











GAWAI ANTU

by INTODESIGN Lab

THE FILM DOCUMENTATION (Sypnosis from the Producer)

his exhibition, hosted at the Borneo Cultures Museum, is a collaborative effort prompted by an invitation from the Jabu Family in August last year. The exhibition seeks to introduce visitors in the immersive world of Gawai Antu Film Documentation—a comprehensive documentary by the Jabu Family and Image Farm Productions Sdn. Bhd. over the course of a year.

The exhibition comprises a series of interconnected rooms of the above, with bamboo walls playing a crucial role in connecting the spaces and mirroring the ambiance of an Iban longhouse. The atmosphere of the Gawai Antu celebration is further enriched by the resonating chants and prayers, accompanying the visual presentation of the film in each room. Overall, the Gawai Antu exhibition acts as a bridge between the past and present, offering insight into the traditions of Gawai Antu and emphasizing the ongoing importance of cultural preservation. It leaves visitors with a deeper understanding of this unique tradition through film and exhibition design.

Text by Tay Tze Yong



Layout plan of the Exhibition Room

Client	:	Jabu Family in collaboration
		with Borneo Cultures Museum
Designed by	:	INTODESIGN Lab
Project Team	:	Tay Tze Yong, Lam Choi Suan,
		Sim Siok Pheng, Wong Jun Xiang,
		Yong Chin Hee, Lim Guo Kai
Contractor	:	Absolute Cool Event
Photographer	:	INTODESIGN Lab
• •		



The Ruai - a bamboo screen defines and seamlessly connects three distinct spaces: The Ngempi, Garong Basket, and Rugan.



The Buah Melanjan and Garong Basket in the backdrop.



The Miring ceremony, graced by the presence of Yang Berbahagia Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Alfred Jabu, his family, community leaders, production and exhibition teams, and guests.



The Rugan and a projection of the Gawai Antu documentary displayed on the wall.



The Rugan and a projection of the Gawai Antu documentary displayed on the wall.

Tribute to Ar. Philip Chang Foh Phing (1952-2023)

Written by Min

It always comes as a surprise when tall timber falls. Especially in our profession where the Almighty seem to bless us with old age. Uncle Philip was only 71.

n his passing, Sarawak lost one of her pioneer architects - founding director of United Consultants Architects Sdn. Bhd., former Councillor in Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan (MBKS) and former Deputy Chairman of the Pending branch of the Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP). Philip has received many awards for his work as an architect, as a local councillor and as an educator. He was also PAMSC Chairman for several terms (1989-1991, 1999-2001), Deputy Chairman of Joint Technical Consultative Committee (JTCC) under the Ministry of Public Health & Local Government, LAM (Lembaga Akitek Malaysia) board member; actively involved in LAM Practice, Education & Disciplinary Committee.

'Uncle Philip' will be much more remembered as a mentor and guiding hand to young architects in the advancement of our profession, a sympathetic ear to his friends and colleagues, a generous soul to whomever seeks his advice about architecture, practice, education and art. In this tribute, some of his friends have recounts their favourite memories with Philip.

Philip was born in Singapore in 1952, his family moved to Kuching where he attended St. Thomas's School until Upper Sixth, before completion his matriculation at Sydney Boy's High in 1970. Philip studied Architecture in Sydney University of Architecture - where he blossomed and became active in student organizations and campaigns. This is perhaps a precursor to his involvement in PAM, LAM and the local council. During his studies, he worked first with Planning Workshop Pty.; a master planning and architectural firm under Darrel Conybeare, Bill Morrison and Peter Armstrong. Philip would later collaborate with Bill and Darrel on the Kuching Waterfront project in the 1990s. He later worked for Granada Homes; a builder and supplier of kit-homes where he spent a year as a builder on construction sites. Philip considers these as his formative years when he crossed paths with many influential lecturers such as Marr Grounds, Prof. Peter Johnson, and Lloyd Rees. Through the guidance of these lecturers, Ar. Chang was fuelled by the impressions left by them.

Philip returned to Kuching after graduating to join JKR where he worked with and formed strong friendships with many of his peers there; Johnny Sim, Vincent Jong, Sim Eng Miang, Sim Teck Hian, Chin Kim Yu, Simon Woon, Chew Chung Yee, Jon Ngui, Roland Tan, and Stanley Chai . In 1985, Ar. Chang and a few other architects worked to reinvent PAM Sarawak Chapter by working with PAMKL to amend and improve working policies. He would later serve as PAMSC Chairman for several terms (1989-1991 and 1999-2001); he was the driving force behind PAMSC's Practice and Government Liaison sub-committee working tirelessly up to the beginning of this year. Ar Chang was Deputy Chairman of Joint Technical Consultative Committee (JTCC) under the Ministry of Public Health & Local Government; working closely with local councils and government agencies to standardise guidelines and policies, including revision of the Sarawak Building Ordinance (SBO).

He was also a LAM (Lembaga Akitek Malaysia) board member; actively involved in LAM Practice, Education & Disciplinary Committee., he was re-appointed as LAM board member in December 2022.





Simon Woon, Philip, Jon Ngui and Johnny Wee, JKR days.



JKR, 1981 with Suharto, draughtsman.



PAM committee, 1982.

Ar. Chang set up United Consultants; a multidisciplinary firm in Miri in 1982, and United Consultants Architect Sdn. Bhd in 2008. Some of their significant projects include The Kuching Waterfront in collaboration with Conybeare Morrison and Partners, the Friendship Park along Jalan Song, Kuching as well as Curtin University in Miri with Perth-based JCY Architects.

Ar. Chang contributed 17 years as a Councillor in MBKS with the goal of amending the rules and procedures and to act as a conduit between architects and the Council. Between 2008-2011, he spent 3 fulfilling years teaching Architecture Drawings at LICT (LimKokWing Institute of Creative Technology).

Philip leaves behind his wife, Tan Moi Moi and his children, Byron, Dwayne and Melissa. He is deeply missed by a community of architects who will always be grateful for his contribution to the profession - some of them have shared their favourite memories with us below.





Where do I begin? It came as a shock to learn that Ar. Philip Chang Foh Ping, a long-term colleague and a legend in his own right, especially in Sarawak, has passed away so unexpectedly.

I first got to know Philip in the 1990s when I became involved with PAM. As a well-known architect from Sarawak, our relationship was primarily professional in nature, and we didn't socialize much in the early days.

However, I got to know Philip a lot better during the year when I served as the Deputy President of PAM. When he was the Chair of PAM Sarawak Chapter, I represented PAM at the PAM Sarawak dinner, where I learned a great deal about the Sarawak Chapter through him during that particular trip. Shortly after that, during the same year, I ran for the PAM President position, and he organized a special dinner in Sarawak for a few of us to meet the members and share our visions for PAM's future. That was indeed a very special and memorable occasion.

Additionally, I had the opportunity to work with Philip as Board Members at the Board of Architects. *He exhibited great commitment and tireless passion in championing issues relating to the architectural profession in Sarawak,* and my admiration for him grew even more.

Philip was not just a great architect, but a true professional. His contributions to the profession and community will be greatly missed, and he will always be remembered fondly by many of us.

- Ar. Datuk Tan Pei Ing

I worked with Ar. Philip Chang at United Consultants from 1992 until early 1996. As a young architect with just 5 years' working experience and newly arrived in Kuching, Philip employed me to work on the Kuching Waterfront.

He taught me about the many intricacies and cultural niceties required when working in Asia. He taught me about the importance of connections, negotiating and working in a team. He taught me to always get the right people to do the job. He was a fair boss, a great mentor, always approachable and he had a good sense of humour, no matter what type of day we had.

He set me on the path to becoming the best Architect I could be. For that I will always be grateful. He will be dearly missed.

- Megan Chalmers



I have known Philip since secondary school days; he was in St. Thomas, I was in St. Joseph.

We left for Australia around the same time; both graduated in Architecture, he in Sydney, I in Melbourne.

We drank and got drunk in Australia, drank and got drunk in Sarawak; so many precious memories.

He was my best man at my wedding to Janice. Philip, my brother - *I am honoured to have met you in this life, as a friend and as an architect until we meet again in the next.*

- Ar. Simon Woon

Farewell Philip my comrade in arms! It was Philip who called me persuading me to take on chairmanship of PAMSC years back. Philip assured me he would back me up, and true to his word, he stood by me all the way which made my job so much easier. We fought for Sarawak architects' interests while we facing stiff competition from architects from outside our State. We brought the case all the way to the highest decision maker of the State only to be met with very unpleasant response. Thank you Philip for putting up a brave front and backing me up. This incident always remained as something special in our hearts and we always talked about it. May you rest in eternal peace, my dear friend!

- Dato' Seri Ar. John Lau Kah Sieng



Goodbye and thank you, Philip.

Thank you for your dedication for the betterment of our profession - through the refining of government legislation and policies, and the improvement of communication between architects and the authorities. Thank you for instilling in those of us who were fortunate enough to rub shoulders with you - *the importance of good work ethics, integrity and humanity in the the advancement of our profession.*

Thank you for the good times in travel, architecture, art, food and wine. Sadly our adventures have been cut short by your untimely departure, but we will remember you fondly and reminisce about your companionship and your guidance.

- Ar. Stephen Liew

We will miss you Uncle Philip. Remember the time when we play chess though I am the poorest of all. You can try your chess skills now with the angels. *Deepest condolence to Ar. Philip's loved ones and family.*

- Louis Tiong

Deepest condolence to Ar. Philip's family and loved ones. *A* great loss to the fraternity. A great leader who inspired many. Rest in peace Philip.

– Ar. David Hollis Tini



Sincere condolences to the family of Ar. Philip Chang and Sarawak Chapter colleagues. Philip contributed many years of service to PAM and LAM. Philip was always respected and liked as a *knowledgeable, dutiful, kind, wise and fair-minded leader* in our architects' fraternity. RIP.

- Ar. Lillian Tay



I first met Uncle Philip when he interviewed me for my LAM-PAM Part 3 Oral exams many years ago. As a graduate, I was a tad intimidated by his commanding presence. Later he came over to introduce himself as a friend of my architect Uncle Vincent. Formalities evaporated when he shared with me their boyish antics during their JKR years.

Uncle Philip was PAMSC chairman for several terms - post chairmanships, he continued '*knocking*' on the local government's doors in an effort to make practice in Sarawak better for all our members. Through PAMSC Local Government Practice and Liaison sub-committee, he tirelessly rallied a group of dedicated past chairmen and committee members to champion the cause.

His slogan for PAMSC recruitees was a borrowed verse from Hotel California -"you can check out any time you like but you can never leave."

He was extremely pleased when 'Siaw Chai', (his pet name for Si Yong) our immediate past chairman Ar. Chai Si Yong, took up the mantle to helm the PGL sub-committee. Under UP's mentorship, the sub-committee made headways in formally engaging with the local government and their agencies on architectural practice matters.

His demeanor of making light a tense situation with his witty humour and cajoling during many heated discussions on practice matters, sustained the group and gave us all a united sense of purpose. The new upcoming Sarawak Building Ordinance will be amongst the many endeavors that he spearheaded and contributed significantly to. I know he would be proud knowing that it is coming to fruition.

I had only just met his lovely wife Mdm. Tan Moi Moi during his wake last week. She immediately knew who I was and said that Uncle Philip always talks about PAMSC activities and the people he shared his day with. It is obvious that UP did not draw a line between his public commitments, his work and his family. That sense of kinship I suspects, permeates thorough all his endeavors and felt by those who were involved with him. His title 'Uncle' to all at PAMSC came naturally and affectionately.

To those who were fortunate to have crossed paths with him, he was generous with his knowledge and experience. It was always a joy to hear his many life stories and a privilege to have shared a few laughs with him.

The room will be a lot quieter now that you have left us. Thank you Uncle Philip.

- Ar. Ivy Jong & Ar. Sia Peh Swee



During his long tenure at PAMSC, Uncle Philip must have felt at times like the only adult in a room of unruly youngsters. Now that he has left the room, time for us to step up and fill his shoes.

INTERVIEW WITH AR MERVYN WONG

Miri House by local architecture practice, **Design Network Architects** won the Best Sustainable Design Award at the Tatler Malaysian Homes Design Award last week. Intersection (Flash) met up with Ar. Mervyn Wong who received the award in Kuala Lumpur, with a few questions to find out more about this house which also won a Gold Medal at the PAM Awards last year.



The Tatler Homes Design Awards 2023 ceremony was held in Royal Selangor Visitor Centre on 31st May 2023.

F: Flash M: Ar. Mervyn Wong

- F : Congratulations. This project won an award last year, given by the Malaysian Institute of Architects for design excellence. This time it won the prize for Best Sustainable Design, can you tell some of the sustainable design features that impressed the judges.
- M : Sustainable design was factored into the equation early on. The site planning of this multi-generational compound naturally gave shape to the introduction of gazetted common areas shared and sprawling between the multiple houses. This opportunity was quickly grasped and utilized to form a number of pocket garden spaces. Time was taken to carefully consider and design each of these pocket spaces- assigning each a different function whilst ensuring a cohesive language throughout. From rocky, pebbled gardens to low-lying, burbling water features, each garden invites in the natural landscaping and explores a different facet of the houses- and their owners.

Selected landscaping peppers the large shared courtyard, denoting ground zero where the three families gather against a double backdrop of natural stone, timber and steel. Miri House (T House) humbly boasts the lowest profile among the three houses, not just as a gesture of deference to the larger profile of the parents' house, but also to regale the compound with views of the nearby Luak Beach. Cool air rolls in from the oceanside and imparts the three houses with ample ventilation and natural cooling. The gardens also boast serene swathes of water- strategically placed alongside large stretches of glazing.

The architectural design approach for the Miri House allows for more greenery to be brought inwards. Through a reduction of the concrete built-up, a large interior courtyard lays claim to the central core of the house. This courtyard is where the homeowner's personality really makes a statement. Large, full height trees are adorned by lush, wild ferns and underscored by wild green undergrowth. Spanning a double volume, this brash, bold courtyard is delicately accented by a hanging staircase with a structure so lightweight it serves only to enhance the greenery. The permeable mesh structure was conceived with the direct involvement of the client's steelworking and ship building knowledge. This feature helped to ensure that natural sunlight and breeze passed through the space unhindered. Sun-facing room with large openings were treated with pivot and louver screens to regulate temperature and light. Large format full glass panels ensured seamless connectivity between the outdoor and indoors, and also gave the homeowner the option to seal it off if need be. The introduction of timber sunshading screens also played a large part in controlling the overall comfort level of the interior courtyard. Apart from its whimsical contribution in the form of light and shadow, these screens function to deflect excess heat and daylighting or let sunlight in accordance with weather conditions.

The principle of sustainable design can not be merely an afterthought. Here, the concept of green design is entertwined with the very core of the project, encapsulating the essence of modern, tropical living.



The three houses - linked by a myriad of open terraces and gardens.



Greenery brings an element of softness to sharp edges and sleek finishes.



Thoughtfully designed landscaping creates a juxtaposition against the 'box-like', sleek structure.

- F : The houses that won awards this time, they're all large and luxurious finishes. Do you think a large construction budget is necessary for good design execution? For projects to have a chance to win awards?
- M : It is our firm belief that the budget available does not correlate with the calibre of design execution. Although it is true that a large construction budget opens more avenues to obtain resources and execute design ideas, at its basis, we believe that great design is a multidimensional- a showcase of creativity and innovation.

Most housing projects that we acquire are predetermined to some level. Each client, in their own right, has their own vision, be it contemporary luxury, bespoke opulence or even bare simplicity. The ball is then in our park to be the visionaries; As designers, it is about finding inspiration within the site constraints, and highlighting the nuances found through design exploration.

Designers carry the role of storytellers. A strong concept with a heartfelt narrative is just as important as good design planning and detailing in each of our submissions. We draw inspiration from many aspects- oftentimes the client's values and experiences play a large part in helping to shape the narrative and drive the design direction. To achieve homogeny in all aspects of a design, factors of sustainability, functionality and aesthetics should be addressed and resolved whilst maintaining the integrity within the design intention.

Recent years' competitions have been fiercely competitive, with the winners excelling at resolving site context issues and innovating within given constraints. Good design execution can happen within any range of budgetary constraints as excellence in design rests on the shoulders of innovation.

- F : Lastly, DNA has continuously won architecture awards, especially for your houses - this will no doubt set DNA above others as an award winning firm for house design, will this limit your range of future clientele for other building types?
- M : Our firm has always had a hand in a wide range of residential projects that range from simple renovations to sprawling detached residences. It is undeniable that residential house design allows for maximum involvement among the client and the designer, opening up avenues for a building perfectly tailored to ones' routines and preferences. However, our firm has branched out in recent years, taking on projects of larger scope and scale. Besides the profitability that comes from these projects, a challenge is posed; one that requires us to solve problems beyond personal taste.

Our ongoing projects in the hospitality and industrial sectors allowed us to continously revisit the intent behind each design. In the future, we hope to broaden our portfolio whilst seeking out the best ways to elevate the user experience, and to design spaces that are responsive to the context yet ultimately leave a meaningful contribution to the wider social and physical setting.

Ultimately, DNA's accomplishments in the residential design sector serves as a testament of our abilities and vision, and we hope to attract clientele that value the personal touch we bring to projects as we continue to challenge and develop the firm's identity.



Pivot screens allow the homeowners full control over various levels of privacy.



A homogenous circulation is made possible by the installation of the timber pivot doors.



Spiral stair expertly crafted from steel plate, an homage to the family's years of expertise in ship building.

The hanging ferns create visual interest along the stairwell.



A central courtyard hones the balance and tension between the pair of houses; both accepting, both unrelenting.



Alan Teh, Shyuan Kuee, Azril Amir Jaafar, Mok Chee Paan, Lawrence Loh, Sharina Intan Abdullah, Dexter Koh, me, Michael Ong (L-R)

gave a short lecture at DATUM:M as one of the seven Malaysian Architects invited to talk about one of our award winning projects. The event was part of the KLAF Kuala Lumpur Architecture Festival, the speakers were invited to share behind- thescenes stories about their projects.

My fellow speakers were:

- Lawrence Loh (Arkitek LLA S/B) who spoke about his UAB Building conservation project in Georgetown, about the stringent standards that he and the owner set for the project in terms of LEED ratings as well as the cultural and historical legacy the building represented.
- Shyuan Kuee (Kuee Architect) talked about the challenges and rewards in the 1-LASAM project in Ipoh which took 7 years to execute. This is another highly rated building in terms of GBI and environmental controls.
- 3. Mok Chee Paan (Garis Architects S/B) explained how the Tamarind Square project was conceived and the town squares from Tripoli, Lisbon and Barcelona which influenced its design, and the careful balance in dealing with cars, people, business, leisure, nature and density.
- 4. Sharina Intan Abdullah (Public Works Dept.) gave a candid and informative account of the renovation and upgrading of the Parliament House and associated buildings, and how the recent quick changes of government did not make her job easier.
- 5. The fifth speaker was me.
- 6. Dexter Koh (DEKODA) told the audience that this is the first time he had presented on stage, and gave an informative account of fitting out of the executive spaces within the KYM Tower in Kuala Lumpur.

7. Azril Amir Jaafar (Veritas Architects S/B) was very animated in his presentation on the Saloma Link; a bridge project which was completed during the lockdown. It was an infra structure project with a strong architectural response and place making qualities.

The event covenor was Alan Teh (Atelier Alan Teh Architect) who served as moderator with co-moderator, Michael Ong from BYG Penang.

I was asked to talk about the Sibu Heritage Centre, which won a Gold in the 2011 PAM Awards in the Conservation category.

This is a brief account of my sharing.

I first presented this project at DATUM in 2010, at the time the project was newly completed and I was with my former company; Design Network Architects. Now, more than 12 years later, it is a good time to take stock and to record my gratitude to my colleagues at the time, and there were many of them. This is mainly because we carried out the project like a university assignment; with many teams working on the various elements of the building.



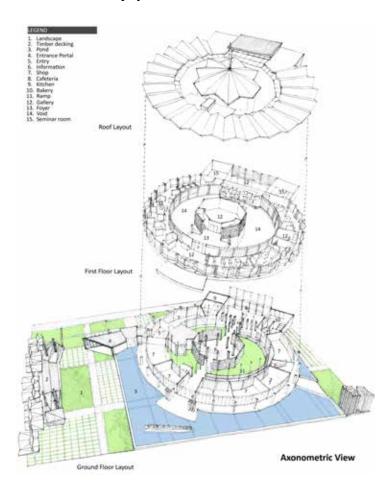
The SMC was designed by the expatriate firm Swan and McLaren in 1960, and completed in 1963 to house the local council.

In 2002 the council moved to their new premises and vacated the building, without definite plans for this building, so it was left vacant until 2008. We see that quite frequently; in the name of development – new premises are built without plans for the existing building. Eventually the old building falls into disrepair – by then there is a reason to tear it down and another available resource is lost forever.

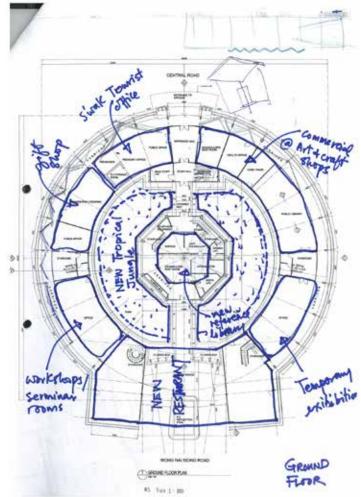


"Exquisite effort in conserving a heritage building while enhancing cultural amenities and public space."

- PAM Awards 2011 jury citation, Gold in Conservation



The floor of the entry plaza is criss crossed with 'urban lines' - these were derived from the adjacent lanes, streets and landmarks. They are filled with the demolished material from the existing building.



Fortunately for the SMC building, the Council made plans to upgrade the currently unoccupied SMC building into a new heritage centre. They contacted Wong Kiong, who sketched out some initial ideas for the usage of the two former office floors. The museum would be located in the first floor while the lower floor would have retail and food outlets – the rental collection would then allow free admission into the museum.

This is an example of how value can be added to existing buildings through interventions and insertions without diluting the essence of the original building; allowing the new to enter into a meaningful dialogue with the old.



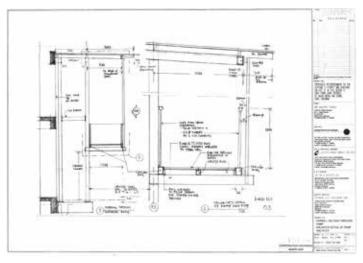
Mingi and Suh Chee designed the Funnel and Moat to control the entry of people into the museum, aided by Sean Chew. The form of the Funnel lends itself to many things; a threshold between the new and the old, a performance space, a public sculpture and a device to direct the movement of people. Its construction materials are borrowed from Sibu's riverfront and from her shipping building past.

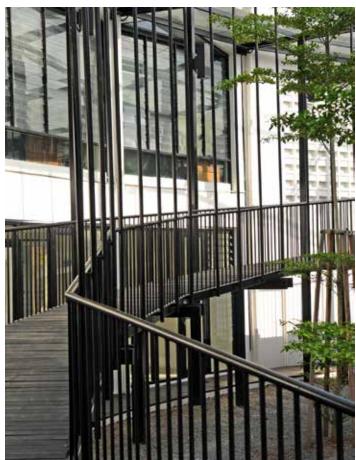
The Moat gave the new building an urban edge, much like the Terrain along the five foot way of the adjacent shops.

Design development of building elements continued as construction commenced on site, we had weekly design 'crits' to finalise details to issue to Thomas on site. Teams competed with each other to get their schemes built.

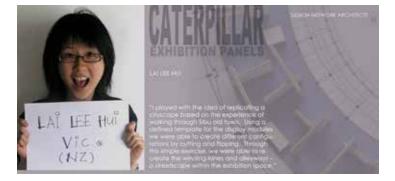


Wong Zi Tao from NUS was able to get his design of the Terrain accepted and built, the timber landform was a companion piece to the Funnel; a seating space and a gentle device to delineate between the park and the shops





The new ramp fitted newly along one semi circular wing, moving people upstairs to the museum lobby - its suspended structure with timber flooring is influenced by jungle bridges and river jetties.



Another young designer, Lai Lee Hui from University of Wellington 'won' the interior design package for the museum, designing the museum exhibition like a board game with influences from Sibu riverfront alleys and lane-ways.





I ended the 20-minute sharing by showing the current state of the Heritage Centre; the moat was filled over and converted into a planter, the timber totems at the terrain were cut down and the terrain itself dismantled. I do not know the reasons behind these actions, but know that these took place before the pandemic. I suspect maintenance of the Centre and the park was a responsibility beyond the developer's commitment.



As foster parents of our projects, architects can do little after handing over the completed projecs to their legal parents - we hope that we have done enough during the design and development of the scheme to groom the new parents to take over and raise the child well.







KENALI KAMI, PAMSC

Written by SiYong

Last Sunday, Noraini, Ivy, Stephen Liew and I travelled from Kuching to Pontianak, following an invitation from the Ikatan Arsitek Indonesia Kalimantan Barat (IAI KalBar) to attend a series of events held in Kota Pontianak in conjunction with the 34th Anniversary of IAI KalBar.

he event includes a 1-month exhibition of architectural projects and a seminar on Monday. PAMSC participated in the exhibition theme "*Kenali Kami, PAMSC*" to give a brief introduction of PAMSC and 11 selected project features by local Sarawakian architects.

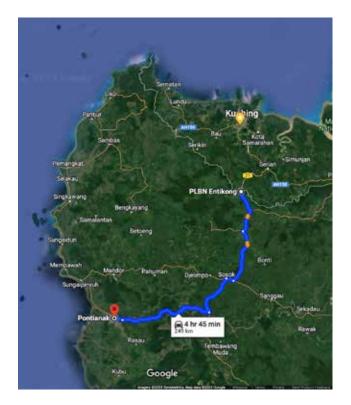
JOURNEY TO THE SOUTH

We arrived at Tebedu ICQS around 9 a.m. on Sunday. After the customs clearance, we met our Indonesian driver Pak Yoga and began the 5-hour road journey from Entikong to Kota Pontianak. The journey was quite pleasant with a few quick stops for local kopi and a quick bite.

After arriving in Pontianak, we headed straight to Khatulistiwa Park, which was not very far away from the city centre for the Equator Monument. We then met our host Pak M. Ridha Alhamdani from IAI KalBar there for the arrangement to visit their office at Port99.

One of the objectives of this trip was to promote crossborder engagements and strengthen the '*ikatan*' between PAMSC and the IAI provinces in Kalimantan (there are 5 provinces; KalBar, KalTim, KalTeng, KalSel & Kaltara).

A year ago, I travelled to Kota Singkawang on a similar mission. That time PAMSC was invited as a speaker for the 1st Borneo City Forum. (The trip was featured in our newsletter: NEWS PAMSC Circular 26 - 21st Oct 2022 Issue)





Group photo of PAMSC contingent at Tebedu ICQS.



Standing at the Equator Monument located exactly at 0° N, 109°20'E



Courtesy call to IAI KalBar's office at Port 99, welcomed by welcomed by the committee member Ms. Kiki and met with Ar. Mohd Ridha (Ketua IAI KalBar)



IAI KalBar hosted a welcoming dinner at Port99 for PAMSC and the speakers of the seminar.



Group photo after the welcoming dinner at Port99.



PAMSC received souvenir from the organiser presented by Dr. Uray (most right) and Ar M Ridha.

BEYOND KALBAR: ARCHITECTURE FOR ALL

The 1-day seminar was organised by IAI KalBar, Bappeda Pemerintah Provinsi Kalimatan Barat and Program Studi Arsiteksur Universitas Tanjongpura in Hotel Ibis, Kota Pontianak.

In line with the theme of the seminar, **Dr. Uray Fery Andi** shared his view on how architecture should not be limited to a certain group of users by emphasising the importance of universal design. **Ar. Yacobus Getot Subroto** showed how he turned the negative spaces into a more vibrant event venue in Jakarta (M Bloc Space & POS Bloc) not only as a designer but also as an operator himself.

Ar. Gregorius Antar Awal (a.k.a. Mas Yuri Antar) impressed the audience with his passion for documenting the traditional ways of building construction with his students and volunteers for Waerebo Village and many rural places around Indonesia. He also stressed the importance of architects in Indonesia being involved in the IKN projects.

Anton Siura shared how his studio helped to revitalise the Tebet Eco Park to resolve the disconnect accessibility, flooding and social issues in Jakarta. The project won the President's Design Award 2023 in Indonesia. *Ar. Andy Rahman* demonstrated how his research on bricks using local earth in various places transformed the unique architectural façade of his design. He also studied in detail the material and started manufacturing his own bricks including the unburnt brick or "*bata hidup*".

The seminar was attended by government officers from the province, members of IAI KalBar and students from Universitas Tanjongpura. Later this year, we can expect some of our Indonesian peers to travel to Kuching to attend our PAMSC Design Festival in November.

END



PAMSC DESIGN FESTIVAL 2023

Post pandemic and with full force, PAMSC is back with PDF 2023 which was held on 17th and 18th November 2023 at Dewan Masyarakat, MBKS, Kuching. The festival received government support through MBKS and Ministry of Public Health, Housing & Local Government, sponsored by industry partners, participation, and attendance by Sarawakians and from other parts of Malaysia for the many of the events lined up.

17.11.2023 -18.11.2023

- Trade Expo with participation of exhibitors from 13 suppliers and Sarawak's architecture schools.
- Art Market supported by Sarawak Creative Arts and Cultural Association.

17.11.2023

9am - 12:30pm

- Architecture Student Competition Workshop with participation from architecture schools all over Malaysia.

1:30pm - 4:30pm

- Cloud Pavilion Junior Coloring Contest

6:30pm

 An outdoor installation; Cloud Pavilion in collaboration with Intodesign Lab. The installation is located at MBKS's Palmarium Park. The launching was done by *City Mayor*, Datuk Wee Hong Seng.

7.30pm

 Networking and Members Night, a night of making friends, networking and winning some lucky draws.

18.11.2023

8am-5pm

- The event was officiated by *Deputy Premier of Sarawak*, Yb Datuk Amar Professor Dr. Sim Kui Hian.
- Design Forum supported by our Premium Sponsor, **iMetal**.
- 6 speakers; Shunri Nishizqwa (Japan), Ketut Dirgantara (Bali), Sheng-Feng Lin (Taiwan) and Freddie as the interpreter, Richard Kirk (Australia), Chiao Hui Thien (Sydney) and one of our own; Ar Goh Tze Hui.
- The discussion session moderators were **Eric Chen** and **Ar Tang Hsiao Seak** from Kuala Lumpur.
- The event was full house with >300 attendees.











Aerial view of the launching and light-up ceremony at MBKS Palmerium Park, featuring musical performance by Saji Daow below the pavilion



Nighttime waterscape reflects the pavilion's radiant glow.

CLOUD PAVILION A METAPHOR FOR COLLABORATION

Wrtten by Tay Tze Yong

The Cloud Pavilion is rooted in the concept of collaboration. Crafted entirely from bamboo, this installation is a month-long endeavour executed by the Bidayuh community from Puncak Borneo. The use of bamboo adds sustainable touch while highlighting the community's traditional craftsmanship. The structure is partially veiled and woven with agricultural netting to create the notion of a 'cloud'.

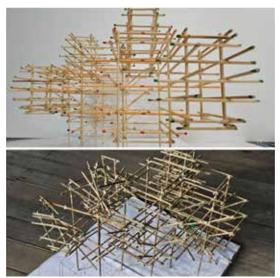
Throughout the entire process, from design to construction, the project demonstrates the significance of collaboration through the integration of traditional techniques with contemporary vision. This installation marks a continuous evolution from our previous Moon Pavilion project (same site, 2022). It showcases our commitment to fostering public engagement, cultivating community space, as well as promoting urban resilience through art and urban installations.

Kuching has a rich and diverse culture and community; however, our cityscape lacks the presence of creative spaces. We passionately advocate for our city to embrace the freedom to re-imagine potential futures by two approaches:

- Inspiring local communities and fostering partnerships with creative and cultural organizations, as well as authorities.
- Granting architects, designers, or artists the opportunity to shape spaces that ignite the city's creativity

With this vision, we hope that the Cloud Pavilion will continue to contribute and inspire.

Cloud Pavilion Urban Installation	
Designed by	: INTODESIGN Lab
Design team	: Tay Tze Yong, Lam Choi Suan, Sim Siok Pheng, Wong Jun Xiang
Structural Engineer (Foundation)	: N.D. Konsultant
Foundation Contractor	: Precious Buildility Construction
Bamboo Installer	: Bidayuh community led by Wadel Boyod
Funded by	: PAMSC
Supported by	: MBKS, SCACA



Check out the before-and-after journey of the Cloud Pavilion study model.



The on-site installation relied on the study model over drawings for a precise and smooth execution.



Structure veiled an woven with agriculture netting, creating a soft aesthetic.



Structure veiled an woven with agriculture netting, creating a soft aesthetic.



Tay and Wadel, with installers from the Puncak Borneo community.





Dato Mayor Wee Hong Seng arrives as the Guest of Honour before the launching ceremony.



The Cloud Pavilion's appearance shifts with the sun and weather, playing with opacity, transparency and colors.



It transforms into a cloud lamp in the park at night.

TOP 3 WINNERS OF PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST



1st Prize : Sean Wee



2nd Prize : My Easy Moment



3rd Prize & most number of LIKES on FB : Wong Qinkae

Architecture Student Competition : WHAT IS SARAWAK'S IDENTITY TO YOU?

Wrtten by Ar. Chan Shie Wah and Ar. IDr. Sim Shau Jiunn

he PAMSC Design Festival 2023 (PDF2023) Architectural Student competition has the goal of nurturing the next generation of architects and exploring Sarawak's unique identity. The competition brought together students, local architects, and creative partners in an unprecedented collaboration.

A total of 12 local architects volunteered as mentors, dedicating their time from 13th - 28th October, 2023, fostering bonds of mentorship and friendship throughout the competition. This approach went beyond the conventional competition model, fostering engagement and meaningful interactions between participants and mentors.

Out of the 12 entries received, the jury panel shortlisted six winning entries to present their schemes in person during the PAMSC Design Festival 2023 (PDF2023). The winners were selected after the presentation.

The winning entries reflected a profound understanding of Sarawak's tangible and intangible aspects, showcasing a blend of contemporary design approaches with traditional influences. The winning teams demonstrated an exceptional ability to integrate the structure's functions with the urban context, creating designs that not only honoured Sarawak's heritage but also contributed to the city's architectural landscape.



With passion and enthusiasm, the cross-university team present their creative vision for "Berambeh".



The shortlisted teams from both UiTM Sarawak and Unimas showcases, their visionary design proposal, "Satu.Dua.Tiga."





From left: (Panel of Jury) Ar. Dona Rose Koesmeri, Ms. Karen Shepherd, Ar. Noraini Narodden, Ar. Mike Boon Chee Kian, (The Conveners) Ar. IDr. Sim Shau Jiunn and Ar. Chan Shie Wah.



PAMSC DESIGN FI

Some coaching teams emerged from their virtual sessions to connect in person, fostering meaningful relationships and strengthening their collaborative spirit. Whether gathered at MBKS site, brainstorming in the architects' offices, or over a shared meal, these physical encounters enriched the mentorship experience, creating a sense of camaraderie that transcended the digital divide.

The virtual mentorship came alive as shortlisted student teams from West Malaysia reunited with their architect coaches on the presentation day of the PAMSC Design Forum 2023 Student Competition. These face-to-face encounters provided a cherished opportunity to solidify bonds, exchange heartfelt encouragement, and celebrate the journey that had led them to this momentous occasion.

NETWORKING & MEMBERS' NIGHT

Wrtten by Ar. Lau Chun Leong

he PAMSC Members' Networking Night 2023 was incredible! We had over 200 architects, along with their staff, and more than 100 industrial partners in attendance. This marked the first Members' Night since the pandemic. The evening kicked off at 5 pm, with some members starting the networking session with industrial partners. By 7 pm, the venue was full, surpassing our expectations with over 300 participants!

PAMSC Chairman, Ar. Noraini, welcomed everyone with her opening speech. Also present were the two recent Part 3 passers, Ar. Vanessa Lungan Lai and Ar. Aneem Soraya, celebrating this annual event together. The highlights of the night included the 20 lucky draw gifts sponsored by our industrial partners, including IMetal for the grand prize, an Apple iPad Air. Other sponsors included Lifkon, Pentens, Kaisu, LCS Trading, Satok Furniture, Titan, Globalniaga, Mapei, and EcoSteel.

We extend our gratitude to all the members, their staff, and the industrial partners for turning up and showing their support for the event! We eagerly anticipate our Members' Night in 2024.













Photo credit: Ar. Ivy Jong, Jennie (UGI) & Wong Siew Tien (Penten)

DINNER AT 46 D'BOYAN

Wrtten by Ar. Ivy Jong

thank you and welcome dinner was held for our invited guests, speakers, moderators, PDF organizing committee and PAMSC main committee after the day's Design Forum.

Although a rainy evening, some of our guests braved the weather to experience the sampan ride across Sarawak river and a short stroll to 46 D'Boyan at Kampung Boyan for dinner.

Guests were feted to a buffet style dinner of local Sarawakian fare and some of D'Boyan signature western cuisine.

The relaxed and casual evening with the magnificent backdrop of Kuching skyline enlivened the fellowship and everyone got to know each other better.

A few ideas and plans were mooted over satay and terung assam fish; for cross border exchanges and future sharing of events and joint activities.

Photo credit: Ar. Ivy Jong









YOU ARE WHAT YOU READ

by Min



I acquired a library last Friday.

About a thousand books and some magazines, from a practice that was winding down. To my surprise, the remaining staff did not want the books, and expressed surprise that someone would want them enough to buy them lock, stock and barrel. 'The books are old, and there are not that many about architecture.'

True enough, there were more books on politics, memoirs, books about local culture and history, about flora and fauna, there were novels and scientific journals, how-to guides to water-colour, photography and Photo-shop. To be fair to his colleagues, this was his personal library lining the four walls that was his 10' by 12' office. Though I am sure that the generous person and teacher that he was, he would have marked pages of interest to share with his staff; to point out a detail, to re-tell an amusing story or to mark a story to re-read later on.

True enough, we found many home-made book marks in the books while we sorted them and put in boxes for transportation. Business cards, strips of old greeting cards, Ringgit notes, and photographs marking where he paused; end of a long car ride, the beginning of dinner, bed-time or boredom. The family is glad that someone would treasure them and keep them in one place - the books that shaped the man he was.

My young helpers were not packing fast enough, they were looking through the books instead of packing them. They are setting some aside 'to look through later in the office'. I was quietly pleased because few of us continue to read after finishing university (even then the reading was based on prescribed texts to write assignment and pass exams), even fewer read for fun and those of us who continue to read often stay within the `tracks' of our profession.

You are what you eat, likewise we are what read - once in a while it is good to add colour to what might be an unbalanced or inadequate diet.

Read:

Fiction - architects are working even when they are not; solving a detail, framing a reply to a contractual situation. Fiction offers a respite, it teaches us about human nature, improves our phrasing while 'escaping' for a hour.

Classics - get to know the book that was made into a film, learn how Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is related to Robert Downey Jr.

Poetry - learn about the distillation of language to paint a scene in a few lines; minimalism.

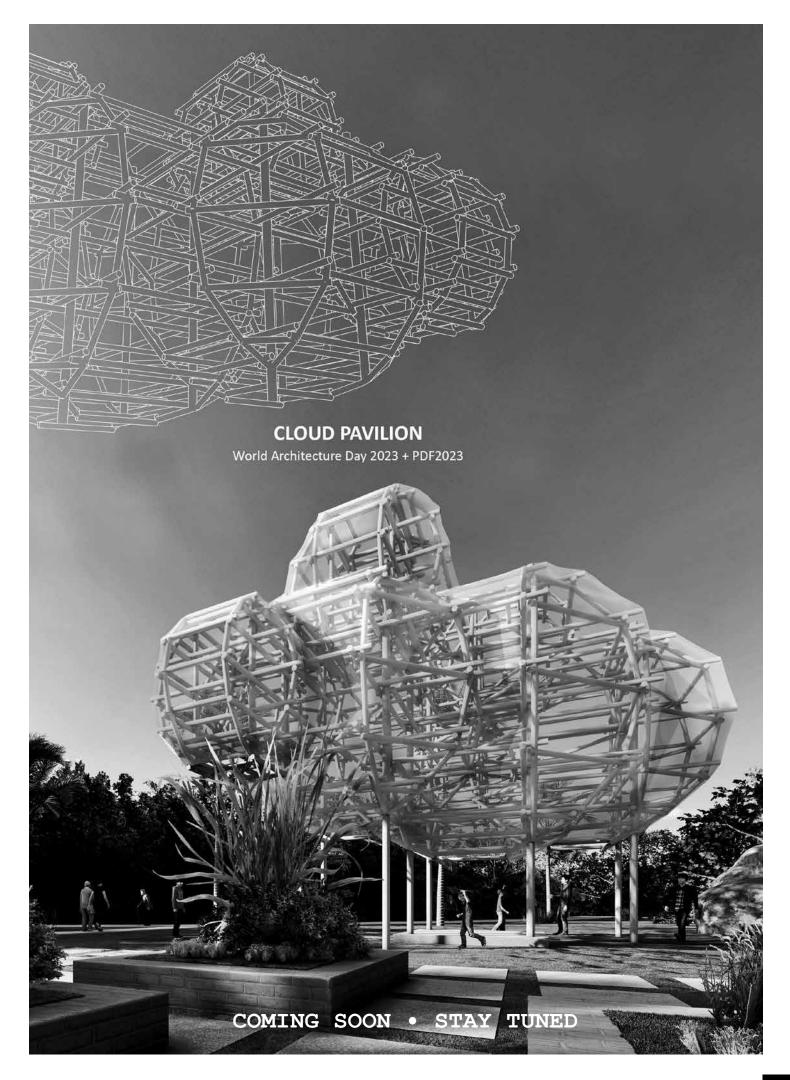
Biographies - are written by or about people who have succeeded in some way, learn about their journey and failures. It is similar to reading about the design process which results in the design outcome/product.

History - without which, it is difficult to base many of our design theories and ideas on. History does not have to start 3,000 years ago, it can be from the birth of a nation.

Old books - I have a fondness for old books, I can't explain why. Perhaps it is the notes in the margins, the inscriptions on the inside flap or the random bookmarks. Perhaps it is the sense of handing down, and the continuation of an inheritance. With this new library, I have a chance to experience all of the above.

Moreover, I am able to dip into the collection and have pot luck; dine outside my usual food-groups and learn more about the man who gifted me his books. What more can I ask for?

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CLOUD PAVILION

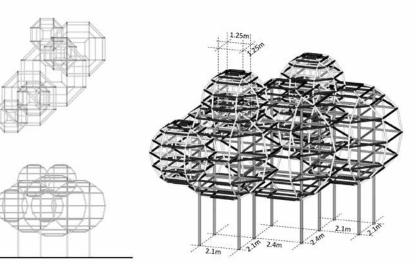
Written by Tay Tze Yong

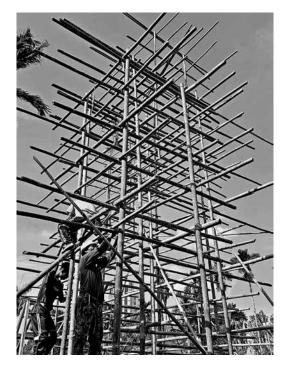
Louds in nature as a metaphor for collaboration reinforces the idea of interconnections and decentralization, flexibility and scalability. In the digital age, it highlights the ways in which technology allows people to work together seamlessly, regardless of physical distance - like how water molecules come together to form clouds in the sky. This year, in celebration of World Architecture Day and as part of the PAMSC Design Festival 2023 (PDF2023), we are excited to present the Cloud Pavilion, which aligns seamlessly with the themes of 'Architecture for a Resilient Community' (WAD2023) and 'Redefining Practice' (PDF2023). This installation marks a continuous evolution from our previous Moon Pavilion project, and is a testament to our commitment to fostering public engagement and promoting urban resilience through art and design installations.

The Cloud Pavilion construction is currently in progress, and we invite all members to visit and participate in this on-site experience. Don't forget to document your visit by capturing photographs as proof of your attendance, which may earn you CPD points (subject to LAM approval). To submit evidence of your onsite presence, please send your name along with the photographs to +60109787010 via WhatsApp. We look forward to seeing you at the Cloud Pavilion!



INTODESIGN Lab









The bamboo was harvested from Puncak Borneo and is currently being installed by their local community.

Curating PDF2023

Wee Hii Min & Chai Si Yong

his year we only started in June, and had to work fast. Si Yong and I decided to take it on because we have done two before - and kept in mind the objectives of having an event such as PDF (PAMSC Design Festival):

- To raise design awareness
- To promote fellowship among peers
- To cultivate community engagement
- To earn 8 CPD points before the end of the year. (Especially for our members from outside Kuching).

DESIGN FORUM

I started by inviting **Eric Chen (ArchiBlur Lab, Taiwan)** to be one of the two moderators, he was one of the speakers in **PDF2020**. He has always wanted to visit Kuching, now he can on the condition that he finds us a Taiwanese architect of renown. He recommended **Lin Sheng Feng (Atelier Or, Taiwan)** who agreed to give a lecture at PDF2023. (Unbeknownst to us at this stage, Lin would later request for an interpreter for his lecture - a post which was filled by Ar. Freddie Lo admirably)

I next invited Ar. Tang Hsiao Seak (TANGU Architecture, KL) to be the other moderator; another speaker from PDF2020 (the pandemic edition) He agreed and started putting together suggestions for the theme of the forum.

Richard Kirk (KIRK Studio) was the the next speaker whom we secured, I met Richard Kirk several years before, and liked him and his work. We knew he is familiar with Malaysia and has built some projects in KL. We next looked for speakers in South East Asia. I visited Shunri Nishizawa (NISHIZAWA ARCHITECTS) in his Saigon office several years ago and saw his projects. Though initially uncertain about delivering a lecture in English, the lure of visiting Sarawak helped overcome his concerns.

At the end of July, Si Yong with the help of Budi Pradono got us our final keynote speaker - Dirga from DDAP Architects in Bali. Next, we wanted to include two younger architects to give them a platform for future lectures and to inspire other emergent voices to speak out. Thien Chiao Hui (nettleton tribe, Sydney) and Goh Tze Hui (Arkitek JFN Sdn. Bhd. Kuching) were inspired choices. The two young ladies are close friends, both have similar career paths though in different parts of the world.

FRINGE EVENTS

As the date of the Design Forum was late in the year; hotel venues for 300 participants were fully booked on all the Saturdays in November and December. At that time, our collaborator **INTODesign Lab** has started planning for the **CLOUD PAVILION Urban Installation** working closely with the **Kuching South City Council (MBKS)** who provided them with a 'site' in the Council gardens. We applied for and got the use of the Dewan Masyarakat from the 16th-18th of November at a discounted rate.



Meeting the speakers - introducing Lin to his interpreter.



Pik Shia briefing suppliers taking part in our Trade Expo.



Calling in on the Mayor of MBKS to invite him to be our Guest of Honour.

THE VENUE

However, the Dewan had to be fitted out for the occasion - Hall A for the Design Forum, and Hall B for the Trade Expo and University exhibitions, children's colouring competition (organised by yet another PAMSC collaborator; SCACA Sarawak Creative Arts and Culture Association), Networking Night as well as the presentation and judging of the Student Design Competition. Carpets, screens, backdrops, kiosks, audio-visual equipment and lighting was installed by an event planner.



In the month leading up to PDF2023, the team members met weekly to update each other and delegate tasks.



Getting the Dewan ready for the Trade Expo and exhibitions.



The speakers were collected from the airport by familiar faces as part of PAMSC's hospitality scheme.



Mayor Wee Hong Seng launches the Cloud Pavilion.

THE TEAM

Meanwhile, the other aspects of PDF2023 is falling into place. We enlisted young couple, **Ar. Sim Shau** Juinn and his wife, **Ar. Chan Shie Wah** to head the Students Architecture Design Competition. This would include entries from universities throughout Malaysia, and shortlisted teams will be given a travel subsidy to present in person to the jury panel on the 17th of November 2023. Sim and Chan also undertook the task of inviting universities to set up exhibitions during the festival. (Details of their efforts will be featured in a fortnight's time, in FLASH).

The two Laus, **Chun Leong** and **Chee Kiong** organised the catering and detailed planning of the Networking Night as well as the Design Forum which meant working closely with **Ar. Johann Harris Sulaiman** agreed to emcee the events of the Festival. The Trade Expo was organised and managed by PAMSC Treasurer, **Ar. Leong Pik Shia.**

THE PARTICIPANTS

By August, we had released flyers for the Design Forum and the Cloud Pavilion, and by September, we issued a series of press releases. One month before the event, we received news that a contingency of architects will attend PDF2023. Shortly after, more confirmed participants from the Sabah, Northern and East Coast chapters as well as Brunei Institution of Surveyors, Engineers and Architects (PUJA). Our local hospitality liaison team led by PAMSC Chairman, Ar. Noraini Narroden and Ar. Ivy Jong took care of these participants.

One week before the event, we visited the Mayor of Kuching South City Council, **Datuk Wee Hong Seng**, who agreed to be the Guest-of-Honour for the Pavilion launching. We wrote to invite the Deputy Premier of Sarawak, **Datuk Amar Prof. Dr. Sim Kiu Hian** to be the Guest-of-Honour for the Design Forum, which he agreed.

One day before the Design Forum (8:24pm) we received news the the Deputy Premier will come arrive 45 minutes earlier (at 8:30 a.m instead of 9:15 a.m.). We quickly rallied the event participants to arrive earlier so that the Deputy Premier will not be speaking to a half empty hall. Dutifully, our fellow architects skipped their breakfasts and arrived before our Guest-of-Honour, who happily launched our Design Forum. And as they say, the rest is history. (A detailed feature of the Design Forum will available in the coming FLASH).

THE REWARDS

This report aims to give a behind the scenes experience of organising PDF 2023, and it gives us an opportunity to record our thanks and gratitude to those of our readers who attended the events. It, more importantly allows us to record our thanks to our fellow architects who assisted us in our tasks. The committee members who quietly helped in securing funding, providing hospitality for our out-of-town visitors and presenting a 'face' to our Chapter. The most impressive and rewarding thing for me is how our young architects took to their tasks, they were professional and a joy to work with. They are **Chan Shie Wah, Sim Shau Jiunn, Lau Chee Kiong, Johann Harris Sulaiman, Lau Chun Leong** and **Freddie Lo**. If this is a gauge to go by, then the future of our Chapter is in good hands.

WHAT DO ARCHITECTS DO ALL DAY?

This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Peng Hui Lee's contribution this issue.

Our readers are invited to submit their 'day's experiences' as well - email to intersection.editorial@gmail.com



12.30am - Arrived in KL after an 8.5 hour drive from Penang.



8.30am - Sent my youngest boy to school.



9.00am - Post-meeting work ... minutes, planning, drafting ...



10.30am - work + caffeine + food.



11.30am - Office furniture showroom visit - part 1.



1.00pm - Lunch with colleagues + catching up.



2.30pm - Office furniture showroom visit - part 2.



6.00pm - Picked up my boys from tuition, then headed home.



9.00pm - The best time to work; for another couple of hours.

WHAT DO ARCHITECTS DO ALL DAY?

This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Ar. Lau Chun Leong's contribution this issue. For the next issue, we nominate Sean Chew, a Sarawakian in Singapore.

Our readers are invited to submit their 'day's experiences' as well - email to intersection.editorial@gmail.com



7.30am - Breakfast at Duduksama Kopitiam, Saradise with contractor and ID for project discussion.



10.00am - Rushed to Carpenter Street to represent Che Hia Khor Moral Uplifting Society to receive donation fund from Kuching Hainan Association.



11.00am - Back to office to and discussed metal wall cladding details with colleagues.



12.00pm - Devouring the unique fried kueh tiaw with midin for my lunch at Heng Heng Restaurant, one of my favourite dishes!



1.00pm - Inspection on the composite panel installation at a factory at Samajaya Industrial Park.



4.00pm - Quick visit to our CHKMUS Charity Kidney Dialysis Centre at Jalan Laksamana Cheng Ho to meet the management.



5.00pm - Design review with my colleague so that they have something to do at night.





7.00pm - Dinner with our BNI chapter members; interior designer, C&S engineer, and M&E engineer, for project collaboration.



9.00pm - Finally some family time and bonding with my cutie pie.♥

This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Sean Chew's contribution this issue. For the next issue, we nominate Grace Teoh.

Our readers are invited to submit their 'day's experiences' as well - email to intersection.editorial@gmail.com



7.00am - Breakfast at home consisting of 2 eggs and protein shake.



8.00am - 30 minute commute to work.



9.00am - First cup of coffee. Checking email and calendar.



10.00am - Discussion with colleagues on staircases.



12.00pm - Monthly BYO lunch and learn at the office.



2.00pm - Preparing presentation slides for design workshop with clients.



8.00pm - Jiu-jitsu training.



10.00pm - Late take away dinner.



11.00pm - Laundry before calling it a day.

Sean has been working as an architect in Singapore for the past decade, all the while harboring a secret longing for Sarawak Laksa during his lunch breaks.

This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Grace Teoh's contribution this issue. For the next issue, we nominate Wong Jeh Tat.

Our readers are invited to submit their 'day's experiences' as well - email to intersection.editorial@gmail.com



8.30am - coffee on the go.



9.00am - work planning, design work.



1.00pm - quick lunch.



2.45pm - site discussion.



4.30pm - material viewing & selection.



6.30pm - evening yoga & meditation.



8.00pm - dinner.



9.30pm - as much as I hate to say it, appreciating some uninterrupted time to do some(more) work, while having a little drink.



12.15am - finale of the day, Netflix time, and I usually doze off within 15 mins. (please tell me I'm not the only one)

Grace Teoh is a practising architect in Penang, she sees herself as an architectural traveller who finds balance in life through yoga.

38

This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Wong Jeh Tat's contribution this issue.



6.30am - On my way to a farm house project around Sang Lee, we are going to start demolish an existing timber house.



7.45am - Stop by Bentong town for breakfast before heading to Sang lee.



8.30am - We go off-road using a pickup truck. It is a 15 to 20 minutes bumpy earth road.



9.00am - The farm workers have started dismantling electrical appliances, GI conduits, window & door panels, toilet fittings to reuse and we sort out the timber based on sizes.



1.00pm - Lunch time ! we have simple meals of Nasi Kandar and carbonated drinks.



3.00pm - We clean up the debris and move them to the garage.



5.00pm - 6.00pm - Sending all the debris out for proper disposal.



7.00pm - Waiting for dinner at Sumo's house, his wife Kak Lipa is cooking for us.



7.15pm - Having dinner together on the floor.

This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Ar. Johann Haris Sulaiman's contribution this issue. For the next issue, we nominate Lau Chee Kiong.



6:00am - starts with coffee cup #1 of 200 to get through the day.



7:30am - early morning briefing to my two bosses.



8:30am - breakfast with my group CEO before heading off for a few meetings and a site inspection.



10:00am - discussion with client on proposed furniture with the intended supplier.



12:00pm - site meeting with consultants and contractor to resolve construction issues on site.



1:30am - site inspection of an upcoming school to check on progress and issues raised during the site meeting.



2:00pm - inspecting the mockup of a classroom recently completed by the contractor.



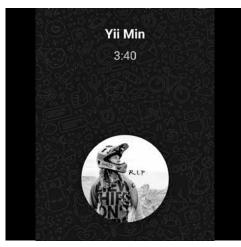
4:00pm - back at the office to catch up on paperwork and coffee.



8:00pm - dinner and reporting my daily activities and progress to my group CEO.

This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Lau Chee Kiong's contribution this issue. For the next issue.

Our readers are invited to submit their 'day's experiences' as well - email to intersection.editorial@gmail.com



6:00am - Sharing by soulmate from NZ.



7:30am - Kolo mee.



8:30am - Organize office work.



12:00pm - Discussion with consultant.



3:00pm - Site walk.



6:30pm - Traffic jam.



7:00pm - Oreo time.



7:30pm - Enjoy wife's cooking.



8:30pm - Revision.

As I have been practicing for a while now, and have 'kaki-tangan' to shoulder some roles, I would very much prefer to be enjoying making more bread, learn the Al-Quran and more playtime with feline `captives'.

However, having said that, still, Architecture is the highest 'art' that I know and the most mind-filling, soul grabbing and fulfilling (like a good Cornish Pasty).

We thought we would invite our readers to do the same - describe their day in a series of images and short captions -and I nominate Ar. Abg Razali to be the next contributor. - Ar. Nurina Matnor



5.00 am - Pray Subuh

7.00 am - Gardening



8.00 am - Mucking about in the kitchen and cat space.



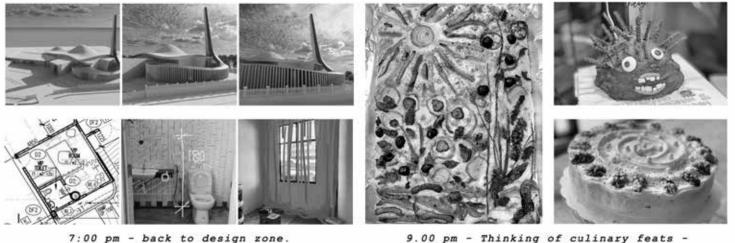
10.00 am - Posing



2.00 pm - more posing with consultants.



5.00 pm - contemplation moments in office nook.



9.00 pm - Thinking of culinary feats past, present & future until ZZZ.

This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Ar Tang Hsiao Seak's contribution this issue. For the next issue, we feature Ar. Abg Razali (nominated by Ar. Nurina Matnor).



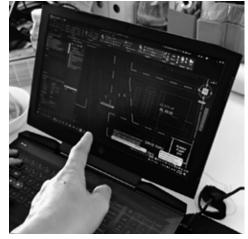
Morning call by Sang Suria, flora & fauna interplay.



Daily reminder of good design icons presided by General Guanyu - at my workplace 'altar'.



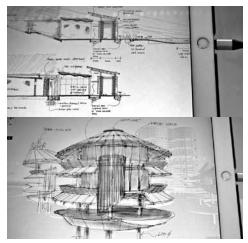
Office tour of duty - being the guiding lieutenant to the platoon - looking at screens and talking to faces, only interrupted by tea & other breaks.



Habit 1: Finger poking, commenting, sketching to convey some imaginary good practice.



Habit 2: Multitasking - pencil (C) vs Pencil (E) + fingers.



Post lunch & caffeine intake: Where Pencil + Pad prevail over pencil + paper.



Site visit before construction: sometimes visual surveillance is more effective than measured ones, but involves climbing and bending.



Meanwhile, via post COVID communication solution: site progress reporting via mobile devices is easy & satisfying, however it entails prompt response time from us too.



Occasionally, site visit at the end of construction: Recalling "I told you so it's nice moments", appraisal and satisfaction (in earnest hope).

This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Ar. Abg Razali's contribution this issue. For the next issue, we feature Ar. IDr. Sim Shau Jiunn.



5.30 am - Fajr prayer.



7.00 am - Gardening at my DIY Hydroponic system. Constructed of 150mm diameter UPVC pipes.



8.00 am - Breakfast.



8.30 am - Traffic Jam.



10.00 am - Discussion on design work.



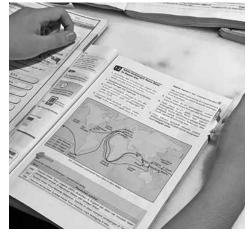
12.30 pm - Homegrown lunch.



2.30 pm - Meeting with Client.



6.30 pm - Gardening again... Transplanting another batch of Lettuce seedlings.



8.00 pm - Helping my son with his homework.

This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Ar. IDr. Sim Shau Jiunn's contribution this issue.



7.00am - A simple plate of Kampua to start the day.



8.30am - site coordination and 1:1 scale mock up.



10.00am - Another good day for site walk.



12.30pm - Lunch as per usual with partner in crime.



1.30pm - More site checking...



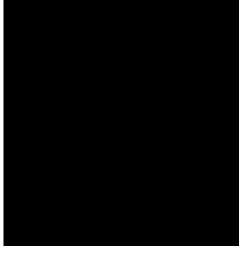
4.00pm - Last min Consultation and Submissions before the end of the day.



6.00pm - Return home to our super "Domesticated Fur-babies".



7.30pm - Dinner with family and friends.



9.00pm - Time for bed.

This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Ar. Brendan Tong's contribution this issue.

This forms part of a 6 day study tour to Kuala Lumpur with the students of the Comprehensive Design Studio of the Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Architecture program, of the University of Technology Sarawak (UTS).

No, we don't do this every day, we only do it every other day.

And yes, we are still hiring.



7:00am - Early morning dip in the hotel pool.



10:00am - Tour of Tamarind Suites and the office of Garispxl.Co.



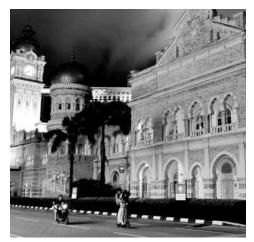
2:00pm - Leaning over the edge of DBKL Building 1.



3:00pm - Briefing on the development process of Kuala Lumpur.



7:30pm - Sunset over Masjid Jamek.



8:00pm - Peek at the nightlife of Jalan Raja.



8:30pm - Shopping spree at Pasar Seni.



10:30pm - Replenishing my library at Rex KL.

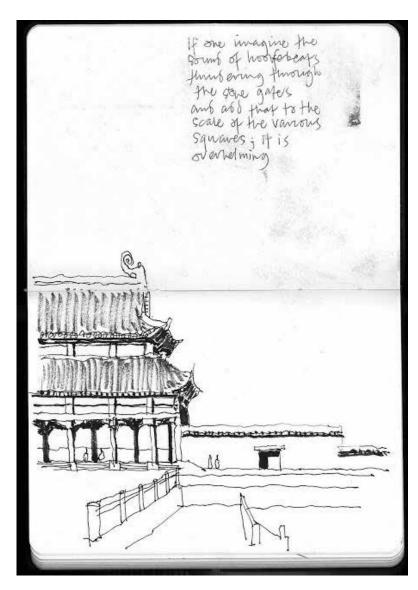


12:00am - A quick catchup with an old friend at Kwai Chai Hong.

DOCUMENTING TRAVEL

- Min

This is the first of a series of buildings documented during PAMSC study trips; some are recorded like photographs while others are imagined sections or plans of the spaces we visit. Most are done 'on-site', some are completed afterwards with colour or ink washes. I find this a good way of recording and remembering the spaces and buildings we visit, and an enjoyable way to occupy time on the tour bus, at the airport lounge, at breakfast while I wait for my travel companions to get ready.

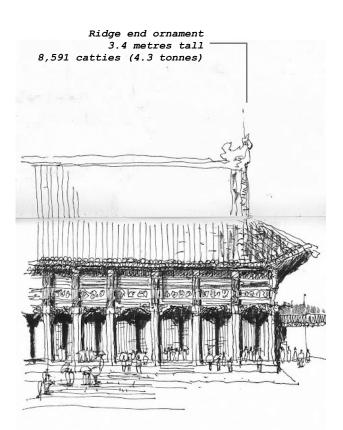


Tourist always indicate their regret about 'not having been able to visit the entire City'. However, I am afraid that even historically, no one has managed to walk through the entrire city. In the old days, official within or outside the palace had very restrictive movements within the grounds. The hierachy of ranks was rigid and the rights of the sexes were clearly defined. These rights (li) still form a kind of backbone to our socitey these days, albeit a little remote.

> The Grand Forbidden City. Chiu Kwong Chiu



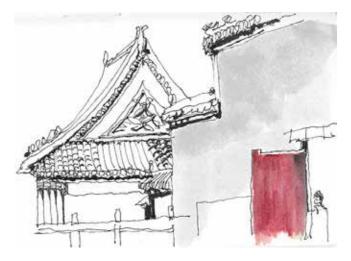
Every frame a painting; in the courtyard of the Hall of Mental Cultivation. (Yangxindian)



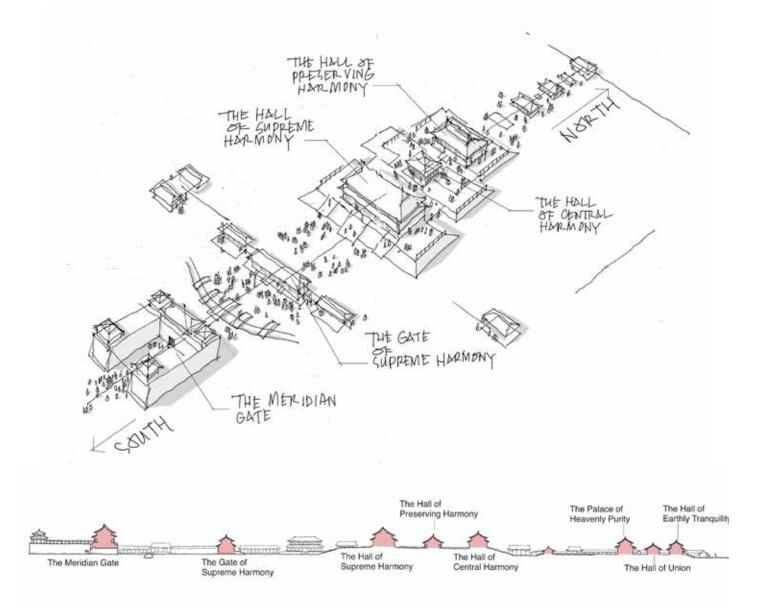
Flights of steps and platforms of different levels were used to lessen the negative effects of straight lines and vertical space.



I steal away to the side and sketch quickly, the others wander around and snap photos. 15 minutes later they all gather on the opposite end of the courtyard and the tour guide signals for me to follow. I finish one sketch and Sam takes a dozen photographs.



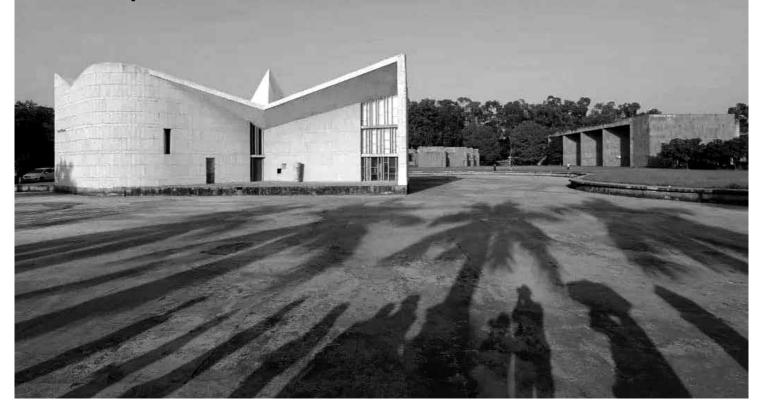
In the shade of the Gate of Supreme Harmony (Taihemen), looking towards the largest square in the Forbidden City with the Hall of Supreme Harmony in front of us.



DOCUMENTING TRAVEL

- Min

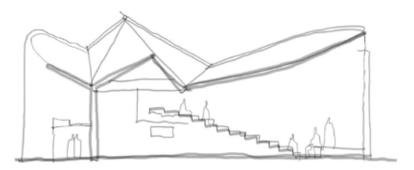
Gandhi Bhavan, designed by Pierre Jeanerret to house the works of Mahatma Gandhi, it sits in the middle of a pond although this was dry when we were there. It has a unique floor plan, and a flamboyant form but the spaces inside were intimate.



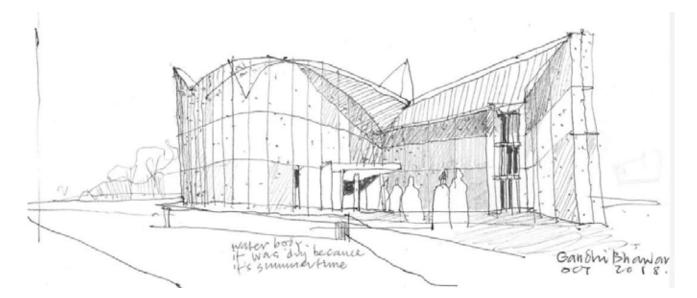
Chandigarh.

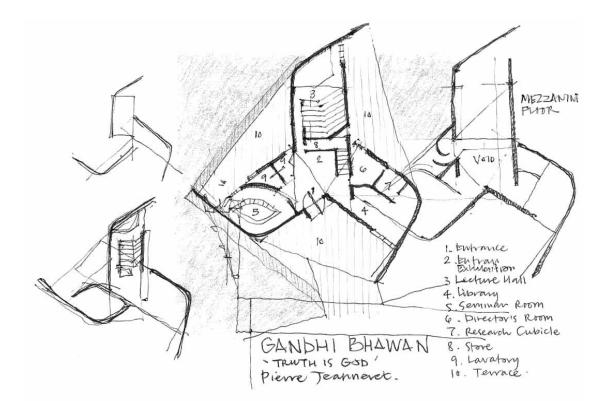
We walked from Le Corb's museum towards the Student Centre and happened upon this delight perched in the centre of a (dry) moat.

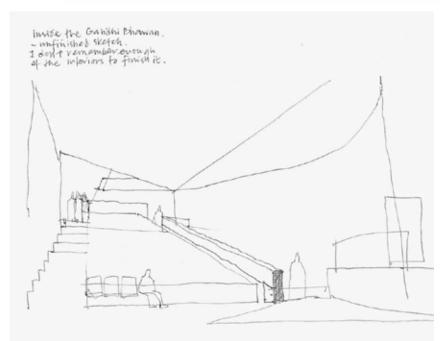
It's a relatively small structure yet able to accommodate a lecture hall, a seminar room, offices and exhibition spaces expressed in a series of volumes of different heights. Some of the ground floor rooms share the same high ceiling of the lecture hall, allowing us to look down into them from the mezzanine.



Section - most of the spaces share the same ceiling.











Stair to mezzaine.



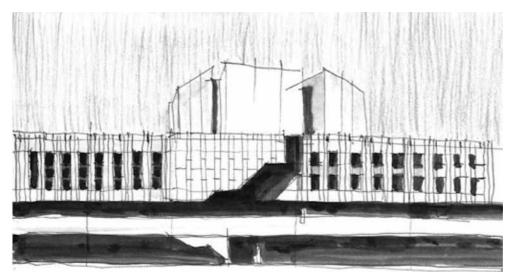
Mezzaine.

Photographs courtesy of Chai Si Yong, Annie Narodden & Lau Ming Ngi

DOCUMENTING TRAVEL

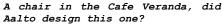
FINLANDIA HALL 3/12 ALVAR AALTO. HELSINKI

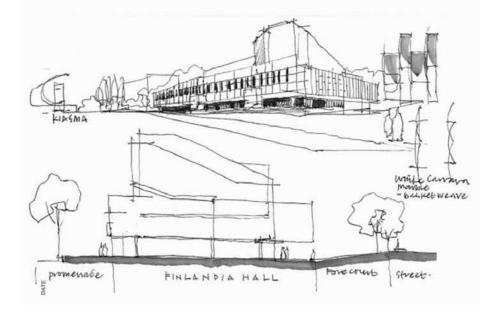
- Min



The Finlandia Hall is part of Aalto's central city plan (1961), which included a series of cultural buildings aligned along Toolonlahti bay which penetrates the Helsinki city centre (Archituul).





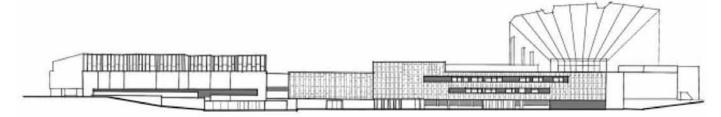




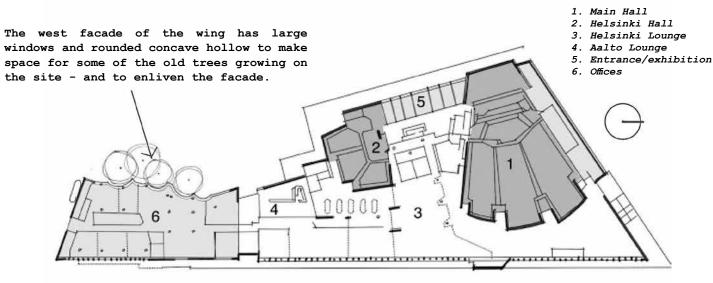
What I thought was a design feature; the white Carrara marble in slightly curved basket weave is actually a building defect. The original thin slabs were too thin and began to warp. These were replaced by thicker slabs during restoration works in 1998, but in 2006 the marble started to warp again.



We walked along the park and entered the building from the lakeside, and worked our way back to front, to the entrance. What surprised us was how lowkey the entrance forecourt is, set to half a storey below the road level. Last year, as homage to the great man, I revisited Helsinki by tracing over the floor plans and east elevation (12 years after our trip).



EAST ELEVATION



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

DOCUMENTING TRAVEL

- Min





4/12

From the Germany Sketchbook.

A quick five-minute sketch inside the Frankfurt Cathedral located off Romer Platz - we were on the way to dinner and if I recall correctly, the Cathedral was not particularly impressive but it was good to capture it on paper while the others wandered around taking photos and lighting candles.

Peggy Wong took the photo of me while Irene Lim took the one of us.

#pamsc #studytrip #frankfurt

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