

360 NEWS

State in Ascent:
Nation-Building
by Design



An efficient
transportation
system can
transform a
Nation



Andy Goh – Emerging Markets

Digital Transformation Journey
with BIM & VDC

WAF Experience in Berlin

Hosting BluPrint Philippines

ONLINE &

ANDY GOH, CEO Emerging Markets

Discusses Making The Right Moves

ONG&ONG is a people-centric firm with a focus on talent development. What's your assessment on the talent level in the regions you cover, how can ONG&ONG help in nurturing and developing regional talent?

Andy Goh: I think Thailand is a great epicentre, especially at this point in time, as a platform for the rest of South East Asia. The talent pool is deep; all they need is to be guided in the right direction. We feel that they have great aptitude, but that they still need the exposure to more international projects, getting familiar with the expectations and standards for that level of project.

How can the firm gear up and prepare for the pivot towards Indochina? What should the focus be to best position the firm in terms of capitalizing on opportunities?

Andy Goh: We are always on the lookout for willing candidates to go overseas. Everyone needs to realise the opportunities and the market are in the region, not in Singapore. And once they start to see the potential and opportunities in the region, and start viewing the region not as individual countries and territories, but as one geographical area, then the picture becomes clearer. That's when we discern the true size of the market, the overall potential of the region, and the abundant opportunities that are available to us.

Right now, we have two hotel projects around Bangkok that are gearing up, so it's a great opportunity for our Thai staff to handle these types of hospitality projects. I think all they need is to learn a little, and be exposed to the finer points of these types of projects. But I think where we are right now, the things we are doing, all feel like the right moves.



Awards

Win Win Situation Our Latest Awards

Winning does not come easy, as they always say. That is certainly true, but in our case it requires the creative energy and determination of an entire team, more so than one individual.

It's always a blessing and a bonus to receive recognition of any kind for the fruits of your labour. What follows is a roundup of our latest awards and accolades, made possible by the collective passion and talent of ONG&ONG's best and brightest.



The Creek @ Bukit



HDB Hub,
Customer Service Spaces



Aspire



Siem Reap Botanic
Residences and Lifestyle Mall



Taroko Pacific Hotel and
Service Apartment



Marriott Bintan

New Directors Q+A

Getting Acquainted



Lai Tien Yong
SINGAPORE

As part of the younger generation of directors at ONG&ONG you represent the next generation of leadership, what are your hopes and your vision for the future of the firm? What's your outlook for 2017?

TY: As a design firm and an architectural practice, we often forget the importance of our organization's culture, which is the aggregate of human qualities that characterize a firm. It is one of the most significant signals we send to the world outside.

That said, I am really looking forward to the point where we as management can establish a "liquid network" within the firm, where everyone can connect and collaborate. Connections facilitate ideas and allow for serendipitous discoveries, and these great ideas in turn would drive innovation.



Ryan Huynh Ngoc Nghia
VIETNAM

Do you have a leadership style? What do you bring to the table and how do you feel you can impact and influence your team?

RH: Yes, and I have a quote that sums up my belief. "To be nobody but yourself in a world which is doing its best, night and day, to make you everybody else, means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight; and never stop fighting"



Dang Hoang Tung
VIETNAM

Congrats on the new appointment, what do you hope to achieve in your new role as director?

DHT: As a player in Vietnam since 2005 with an enviable track records, Rankine&Hill has not really capitalized on its position. I also feel that I have a responsibility to lead my engineers and draftsmen, so we can all work toward ensuring a brighter future. And I hope that our studio will become more than a team but a second family to one another. Lastly, being Vietnamese, I feel it is my duty to contribute to our society. In my new position as Director, I will have opportunities to meet other talented people who are likeminded, or even share a vision similar to mine. When people can work together towards a common goal, for the greater good, only then can society advance and improve.



Layan Beach Resort



Loyang Point A&A



Heartbeat @ Bedok



The Scotts Tower



Singapore Sustainability Academy



Yishun Greenwalk



Matilda Portico



Rivervale Delta



Greyform ICPH



Whampoa Dew

fruits of our labour

Awards



Orchard Central, part of Discovery Walk on Orchard
FIABCI World Prix d'Excellence Awards, Gold
Director:
Lena Quek *Landscape*

Waterfront collection, comprising of Waterfront Gold, Waterfront Key, Waterfront Isle and Waterfront Waves
FIABCI World Prix D'Excellence Awards, Silver
Director:
Lena Quek *Landscape*



The Creek @ Bukit
South East Asia Property Awards, Best High-End Condo Development, Highly commended
Directors:
Raymond Tan *Architecture*
Lena Quek *Landscape*
Team Members:
Lucas Chen, Natapon Akomsoontorn, Cheah Eu Jin, Mohamed Shaziran Bin Mohamed Shahabdeen, Khalil Bin Mohamed Yusof & Zhou Yiting *Architecture*



HDB Hub, Customer Service Spaces
HDB Quality Partners Awards
Team Members:
Joshua Teo, Anthony Chung *Experience Design*
Chester Goh, Long Pei Fen *Interior*



Aspire
Asia Pacific Property Awards, Residential High-rise Architecture, Myanmar Award Winner
Director:
Andy Goh *Architecture*
Team Members:
Ong Qi Rong, Wong Tuck Soon, Harry Thein Lwin & Ildefonso Tanio Baisa *Architecture*

Siem Reap Botanic Residences and Lifestyle Mall
Asia Pacific Property Awards, Architecture Multiple Residence Cambodia Award Winner
Director:
Andy Goh *Architecture*
Team Members:
Ong Qi Rong, Puttajun Tippisuit & Ildefonso Tanio Baisa *Architecture*

Layan Beach Resort
Asia Pacific Property Awards, Hotel Architecture Thailand Award Winner
Director:
Andy Goh *Architecture*
Team Members:
Ong Qi Rong, Puttajun Tippisuit, Noom Narunya Kesmanee, Jew Thanaporn Raungphungthong, Sand Chanapa Wongraveekul, Koi Kanyarat Chullakate & Boat Uraivan Palakung *Architecture*

Taroko Pacific Hotel and Service Apartment
Asia Pacific Property Awards, Best Hotel Architecture Taiwan, 5 Star Award Winner

Asia Pacific Property Awards, Hotel Architecture Taiwan, Award Winner

Asia Pacific Property Awards, Hotel Architecture Asia Pacific, Nominee
Director:
Andy Goh *Architecture*
Team Members:
Tan Yingying, Puttajun Tippisuit & Ildefonso Tanio Baisa *Architecture*

Marriott Bintan
Asia Pacific Property Awards, Hotel Architecture Indonesia Award Winner
Director:
Andy Goh *Architecture*
Team Members:
Ong Qi Rong, Tan Yingying & Puttajun Tippisuit *Architecture*



ONG&ONG Pte Ltd
BCA Built Environment Leadership Award, Gold Class

Heartbeat @ Bedok
BCA Universal Design Award, Gold^{Plus}
Directors:
Ashvinkumar Kantilal *Architecture*
Lena Quek *Landscape*
Shahrom Bin Mohamed Ariff *M&E*
Team Leader:
Robert Brodeth *Architecture*
Team Members:
Magat Rose Michelle Guanzon, Christina Sumanga, Joleen Woon Yulin, Loo Bo Yan & Renny Melina *Architecture*
Kalandar Naina Mohamed Mohamed Jawith, Chng Wei Xiang & Lam Siew Ping *M&E*

Singapore Sustainability Academy (SSA)
BCA Green Mark Award, Platinum
Director:
Steven Low *Architecture*
Team Member:
Ong Hwee Jin *Architecture*

Wisma Geylang Serai
BCA Green Mark Award, Platinum
Director:
Tan Peck Khoon *M&E*
Team Members:
Lee Chek Shih, Lam Siew Ping, Brandon Li Xinxiang & Teh Yong Hui *M&E*

Matilda Portico
BCA Green Mark Award, Gold^{Plus}
Director:
Steven Low *Architecture*
Team Members:
I Gusti Biantara & Jason Gan *Architecture*

Greyform ICPH
BCA Green Mark Award, Gold^{Plus}
Directors:
Ong Tze Boon *Architecture*
Shahrom Bin Mohamed Ariff *M&E*
Team Members:
Mae Ang Zi Ya *Architecture*
Teh Yong Hui, Lam Siew Ping & Teh Yong Hui *M&E*
Elton Ng Soon Kuan *Fire Safety*

Whampoa Dew
BCA Green Mark Award, Gold
Director:
Wendy Tan Kuan Kuan *Architecture*
Team Members:
Tay Cheow Bin, Aditi Verma Yogesh, Elmer Jay Caparros Matriano & Lim Hui Kiang *Architecture*

Toa Payoh Apex
BCA Green Mark Award, Gold
Director:
Steven Low *Architecture*
Team Members:
Ong Hwee Jin & Jason Gan *Architecture*

Loyang Point A&A
BCA Green Mark Award, Gold
Director:
Wendy Tan Kuan Kuan *Architecture*
Team Members:
Wang Lai Meng, Michele Chong Sheau Wen & Grace Loh Poh Wai *Architecture*

The Scotts Tower
BCA Design and Engineering Safety Excellence Award
Director:
Raymond Tan Eng Teik *Architecture*
Team Members:
Natapon Akomsoontorn & Sally Tan *Architecture*

Yishun Greenwalk
BCA Construction Excellence Award
Directors:
Steven Low *Architecture*
Lena Quek *Landscape*
Team Members:
I Gusti Biantara & Jason Gan *Architecture*
Peter Bridgewater *Landscape*

Rivervale Delta
BCA Construction Excellence Award
Directors:
Dr Goh Chong Chia *Architecture*
Tan Peck Khoon & Richard Teo Kow Kia *M&E*
Lim Yan Ping *C&E*
Team Members:
Siti Jamaliah Banafie Jaarfur *Architecture*
Swe Zin Htun & Chun Junyuan *M&E*
Slamet Gunawan *C&S*



Orchard Central



Toa Payoh Apex



Waterfront Collection

Digital

Transformation Journey with BIM & VDC



ONG&ONG Group won Platinum for BCA BIM Awards - Organisation category
 Accelerating software skills and earning certification through ONG&ONG Group's Autodesk Authorized Training Centre facility
 Project implementation training with hand-holding support to enhance learning process of new technologies
 Virtual Design and Construction (VDC) facilities with interactive multi-displays enabling all project stakeholders to conduct productive ICE sessions
 Increasing awareness of cutting edge technologies through regular sharing session

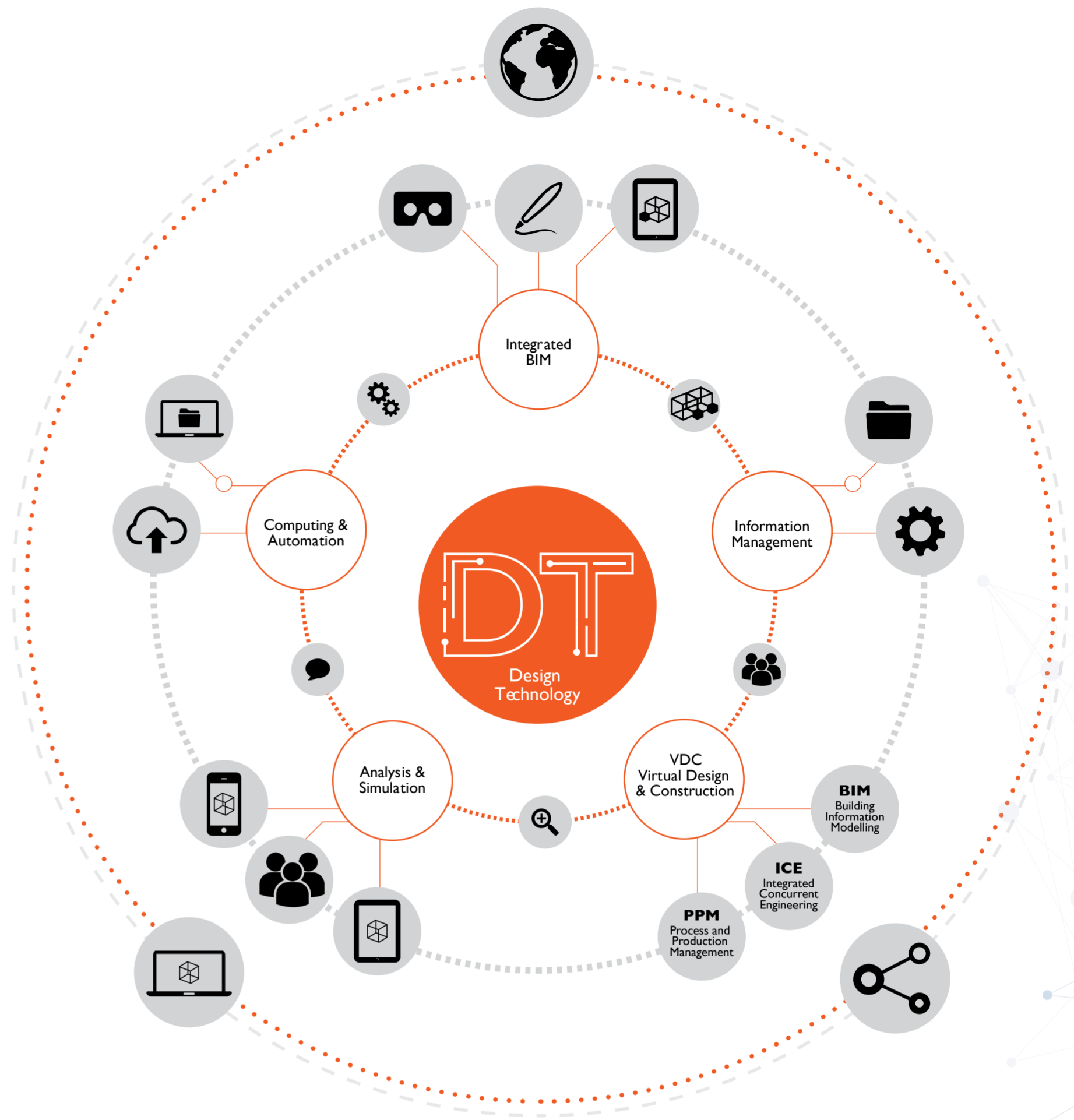
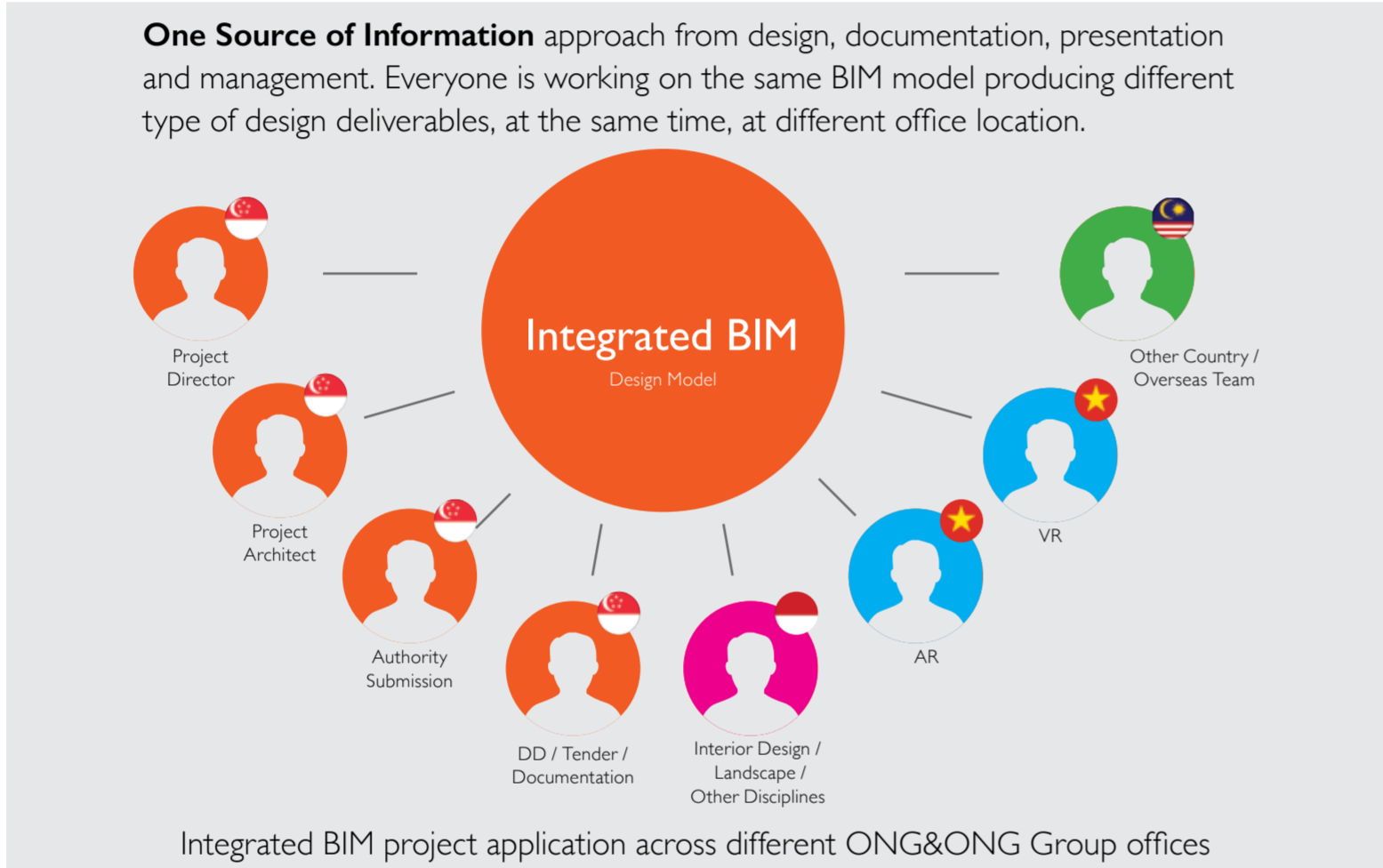
BIM core team formed 5 years ago in Singapore has now evolved to become the Design Technology Department (DT)

Continuous ONG&ONG Group management support for BIM & VDC adoption with top-down and bottom-up approaches.

In-house facilities to conduct training and certification equipped with cutting edge tools to enhance collaboration

Embarking on new collaboration processes such as VDC (Virtual Design & Construction) with ICE (Integrated Concurrent Engineering) sessions to further improve productivity.

Design tools exploration with Visual Programming, Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR) and Real Time rendering



Analysis & Simulation

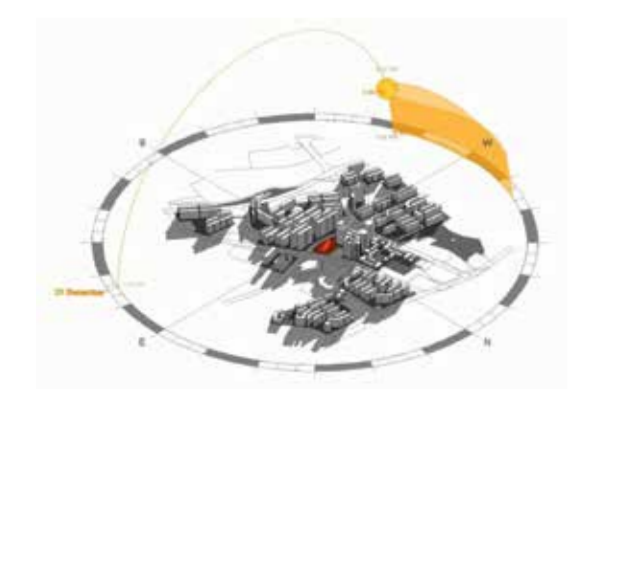
Cloud Collaboration

Information Management

Visual Programming

Augmented Reality

Realtime Rendering / VR



To bolster the corporate profile put in place over recent months, ONG&ONG Group has ramped up focus on the technological front. The firm has reaffirmed its commitment to BIM (Building Information Modelling) technology, by further expanding on its already impressive capabilities. The BIM Department has now evolved into the Design Technology and will continue to be headed by Director Daniels Chandra and powered by a team of Design Technology Specialists, with the goal of keeping ONG&ONG Group at the digital forefront.

Keeping ahead of the curve on the digital tools and technologies for the AEC (Architecture, Engineering & Construction) Industry, ONG&ONG Group will look to build on the strength of more than 100 multi-disciplinary BIM projects that have been completed in the last 5 years. Reflecting the strong support the initiative has received from the firm's upper management, at present the majority of ONG&ONG Group's staff, including technical staff, architects, engineers and senior management, have already completed BIM training.

A Platinum Award winner at the 2016 BCA BIM Awards – Organization category, ONG&ONG Group's top-down and bottom up approach toward BIM adoption has the firm well positioned to build on the capabilities already in place. The Design Technology department will continue to oversee extensive multi disciplinary BIM usage in all stages. The next phase will continue to develop the firm's technological arsenal, where focus will shift to boosting local and international collaboration through the introduction of a virtual design environment with

technology such as BIM server. The Design Technology department has been deployed in regional offices in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam, with an eye for expansion to all ONG&ONG Group offices in the near future. The Singapore facility has been upgraded to allow for the implementation of new processes such as VDC (Virtual Design and Construction) to facilitate ICE (Integrated Concurrent Engineering) sessions. All of this will be supplemented by use of cloud services to enhance collaboration globally.

This will outfit the rest of the firm's offices in different cities around the world. The authorized training centre within the ONG&ONG Group office will serve to benefit the firm in a number of ways. Not only will staff have easy access to cutting edge facilities and technology, but they will also be able to attend and complete certification courses with greater ease and convenience – complementing the advantages of ONG&ONG Group's unique in-house 360U career enhancement initiative. So far, this has translated into productivity improvement in Singapore. This could increase further with the continued integration of digital tools and services, as well as the introduction of new tools such as AR (Augmented Reality), VR (Virtual Reality) and Realtime Rendering. Additionally, ONG&ONG Group staff across the world will also be able to utilise cutting edge digital platforms and tools such as BIM Add-On, visual programming and Scripting, giving them access to the latest innovations in automation to increase productivity.

State in Ascent: Nation-Building by Design

An efficient transportation system can transform a Nation

Developing suitable infrastructure is a priority for any country. The advantages of an efficient transportation system, the support of reliable utilities, equipped civic institutions, available healthcare facilities, are essential to national progress. Yet, these remain mere components of nation-building. So much more is needed for a country to truly rise.

ONG&ONG's track record has been founded in large part by the role we have played in getting Singapore to the position she enjoys today. From the everyday bus shelters that have been used around the island for more than 20 years, to civic and healthcare projects for the National Heart Centre, Mount Elizabeth Hospital and the Singapore Red Cross, our designs have contributed to shaping Singapore's future.

Our efforts extend further. With projects that have included Fire Station for the Civil Defence, the Housing Development Board's Toa Payoh Hub and Atrium, as well as the Heartbeat @ Bedok, a ground-breaking new integrated community centre.

The firm has had the distinction of carrying Singapore's brand beyond our shores. Creating the exquisite look of Singapore Airlines' first class Silverkris Lounges in cities such as Auckland, Bangkok, Manila and Sydney.

ONG&ONG played a major part in building the MRT (Mass Rapid Transit) system, greatly contributing to the development of Singapore's national transportation network. Which is exactly what we will delve into over the pages that follow.

Connecting people and places with ease and purpose, our skill set lies beyond just building train stations and rail networks, because our expertise lies in creating spaces that impact the movement of an entire nation, influencing how a society functions and interacts.

Our business is about the experience of travel. Connecting people to the places they need to be. Ultimately having a hand in transforming a promising country into a flourishing nation.



It is our goal to turn countries into flourishing nations, connecting people to the places they need to be, so they can get to where they want to go.

Going Downtown

Singapore continues to expand her already enviable communications network by grafting new lines and stations onto the existing system. The newest sections of the Downtown Line includes three stations completed by ONG&ONG. Tan Kah Kee (TKK), Sixth Avenue (SAV) and King Albert Park (KAP) stations all boast design elements that are both contemporary and sensitive to the environment.

For these projects, the proximity of a UNESCO Heritage Site in the form of the Botanic Gardens, along with the Green Corridor and residential enclaves which encompass the Bukit Timah area, presented the design team with a unique challenge.

We sit down with leaders of the ONG&ONG team - Senior Director Steven Low, Director Andrew Lee, Director Wendy Tan and Associate Director Erick Suarez - as they give some context and recollection to a highly demanding project.

Singapore MRT Stations Downtown Line

- Sixth Avenue
- Tan Kah Kee
- King Albert Park
- Telok Ayer
- Macpherson
- Ubi
- Mattar
- Kaki Bukit
- Circle Line
- Nicoll Highway



Tan Kah Kee Station



King Albert Park Station



King Albert Park Station



Telok Ayer Station

"When mapping out the plan for the ground level of the TKK station there is a park next to the entrance that had to be considered. We could not encroach onto that space or remove any trees, so the entrance path to the station has to deviate from a direct route," elaborated Low.



Pedestrian bridge & walkway

"You can imagine that there were bound to be local sensitivities concerning the impact of the stations," Lee recalls, "but with public focus groups, residents soon accepted that the stations would maintain the quality of their environment."



King Albert Park Station

The proximity of the station to Hwa Chong Junior College means that TKK will become a point of contact for the students who pass through the station on a daily basis. "We have created a wide, open bridge," designers explained, "that we envisage becoming a meeting point for the students." Because of its elevated, airy, open position it will attract people."



Telok Ayer Station



Telok Ayer Station



Sixth Avenue Station

Moving People

Keeping on track: the process of creating a rail link network

the station is located in a tight corridor, where careful consideration has to go into the decision as to where to site the ventilation building – an absolute necessity for underground stations. It may be that in a built-up area, the authorities will have to acquire a plot of land for this purpose. This initial phase of the planning process may take anywhere from six months to a year. At the end of this phase, having approved the proposal, most governments will hold a public exhibition allowing feedback, comment and questions from the community.

First Singapore, then Jakarta and KL; our infrastructure projects are starting to bridge people and places across Asia.

As the Southeast Asian region develops, most of its countries have been busy investing in efficient infrastructure to ensure efficiency and competitiveness. Part of the upgrading process entails the construction of an efficient rail network linking communities, commercial centres, and eventually countries. For those who step into the new stations and on to the high speed trains that will whisk them to their destinations, all they see is the finished product. What most people don't appreciate is the complex, carefully planned design process that goes into the final creation.

Many architects and designers may argue that the next phase – the designing of the stations – is the most rewarding, and it is the outcome of this effort that the public has most direct interest in; if the designers get it right they will love the stations; if they get it wrong the newspapers and complaint columns will be debating it for months! If the designers have the mandate to design from the beginning, the team will usually begin by developing a series of different typologies or prototypes for the stations. These will determine where all the parts are placed, and the designs are then put forward for consideration. In some cases there may already be pre-decided and approved designs that are given to the architects and sub-contractors as design and build schemes. They may have to make adjustments depending on the site conditions.

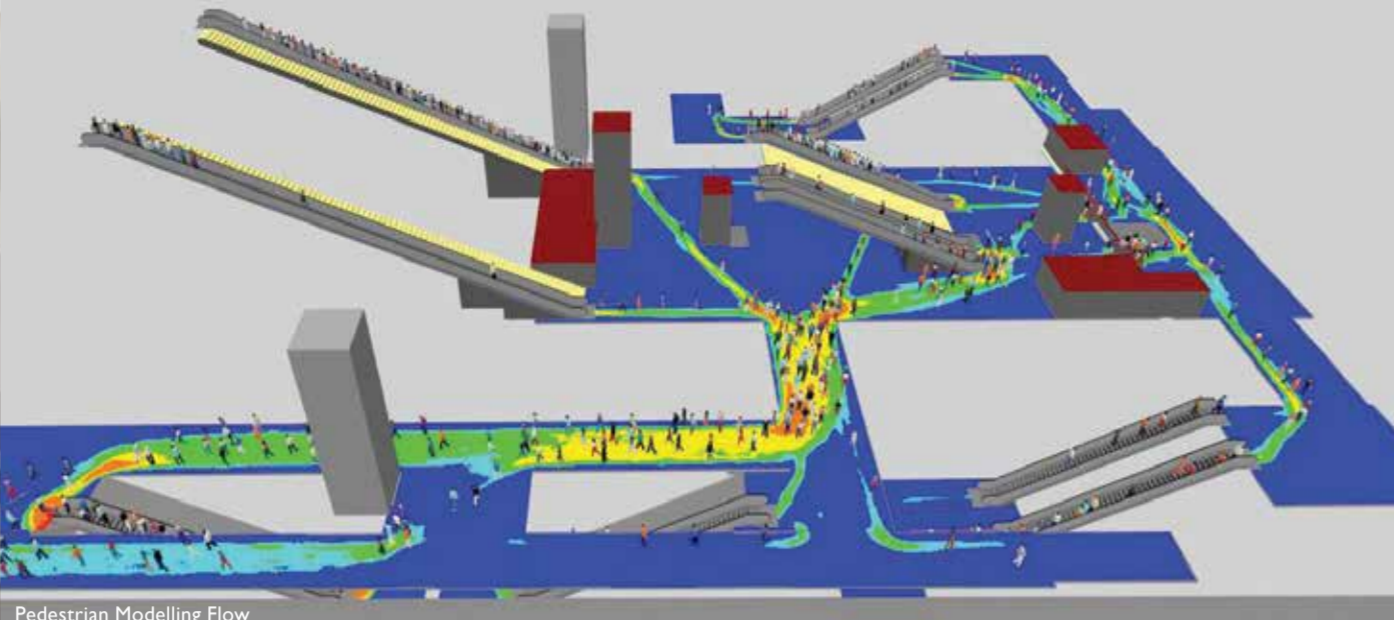
Each country has to plan according to its own needs, often determined by its size; Singapore, for example, may plan an average 16 stations on a line, Malaysia perhaps 30, whereas India may have to consider over 200. Then the route that the line will take has to be decided, and in some cases land may have to be acquired. Certain considerations about passing through residential areas may mean planning a slight detour rather than resetting people. The line, moreover, may entail three different sections: underground, ground level, and often also elevated tracks passing over roads, for example.

Architects and designers much prefer to reveal their creative skills by designing from scratch. Even so, there are certain set considerations that have to be taken into account: where do they place the entrance for handicapped travellers and transfer points: the bus stops, taxi and pick-up points. Many stations need overhead pedestrian links from one side of the road to the other, taking passengers to the ticketing hall. Many designers today talk of adopting a classical approach to this overall design, arguing that if carefully considered and well designed, minimal signage will be needed as passengers will be able to find their way without them. The ONG&ONG architects prefer, if possible, to remove engine and mechanical rooms from the ends of station platforms if they are elevated. This enables passengers to enjoy clear vistas up and down the track and clearly see when trains are approaching.

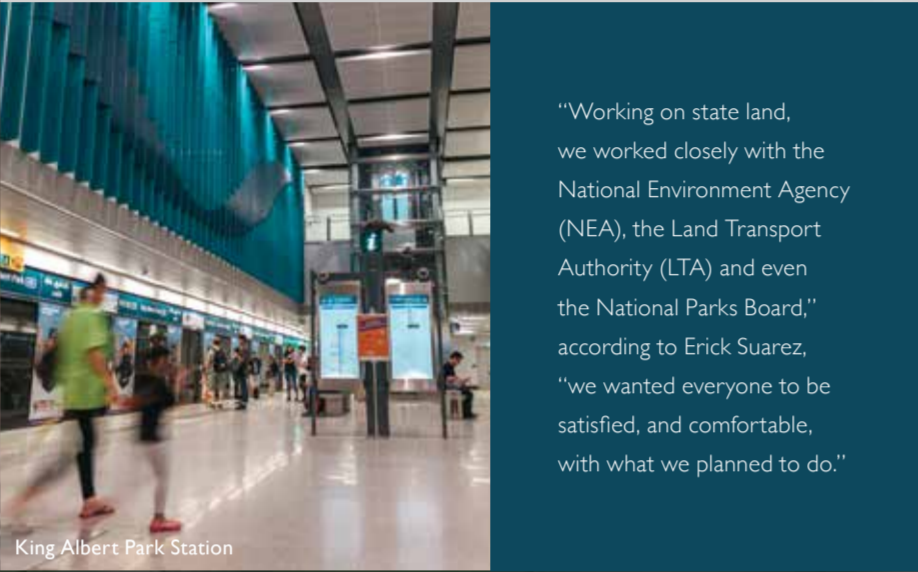
This where track alignment engineering plays a role. The engineers have to determine the vertical alignment so that the gradient is efficient and within working parameters. After all, no-one wants to plunge down a steep incline into a station, or strain uphill on board a train! The different stations are placed along this line and have to be built at points where the track is completely level. The architects will work closely with the track alignment engineers, for they need to ensure the exact placing and heights of a platform during design. Who wants to take a step up or down from a train when boarding or disembarking?

This is the point when the architect planner steps in. Every station is treated as a box of a fixed size: around 120 metres by 20 metres, and may have central or side platforms. The central platform is generally treated as the preferred model. The box may stand at ground level, or be partially or wholly underground, depending on the location. The architects usually have some leeway as to the exact siting of the station; being able to move it up or down the line by a certain margin. These kinds of considerations have to be made if there is a shopping centre, for example, as the planners will desire easy access from the station to the centre. The architects will also have to look at areas where

A recent design project that was presented to ONG&ONG entailed the design of a string of stations along a 50 – 60 kilometre stretch passing through built up and rural areas. The design team looked first of all at the locations and surrounding identities of the sites. They then considered creating station designs in keeping with the identity of place. Cultural considerations are always important, and vernacular architecture may provide the first point of reference. A vernacular roof style, for instance may be adopted and used as an initial inspiration, or if the station is near a forest canopy, an echo of that canopy may be incorporated into the design.



Pedestrian Modelling Flow



"Working on state land, we worked closely with the National Environment Agency (NEA), the Land Transport Authority (LTA) and even the National Parks Board," according to Erick Suarez, "we wanted everyone to be satisfied, and comfortable, with what we planned to do."



Telok Ayer MRT



Andrew Lee explains, "pushing the line through a green corridor was a unique challenge, and although the line itself was underground, the entrances and overhead pedestrian bridges linking the entrance structures meant that the 'footprint' of the stations had to be carefully considered. It was this, perhaps more than anything else that determined the form the stations would take."

Tan Kah Kee Station



Telok Ayer Station



King Albert Park Station



Telok Ayer Station



Sixth Avenue Station



King Albert Park Station



Setiabudi Station



Istora Station

Jakarta MRT Stations
 Under Construction

- Bendungan Hilir
- Istora
- Senyan
- Setiabudi



Senyan Station



Bendungan Station

Some ideas may find their way onto the drawing board, where many are inevitably rejected. Eventually a selection will have survived the process and the team will then try out site drawings: computer technologies are invaluable here. The designs may be tested and tweaked.

The architects are usually looking very clearly at the line and station identity. Even this may be pre-determined, with some lines requiring individualised stations, and others a uniform identity. In Singapore the stations on the Northeast line are all site specific with unique identities, whereas those on the Downtown Line stipulate that they should all have one kind of entrance. Once the commissioning body, ultimately a government department, has approved a design or designs, the architects will put the all the final touches in place. This will include rainwater harvesting systems, mechanical and engineering strategies, system maintenance and lighting strategies.

It is now the turn of the builders, construction engineers, and all the other contracting services, to come in and

"Of course, the client always want the designs to be robust. I mean these jobs need to be designed to last a 100 years. We have to look at it in terms of the durability and maintainability of the whole job," according to Wendy Tan.

make the ideas and plans reality. Most of us take for granted the network of stations that make our lives more convenient, allowing us to get around easily. Perhaps when we realise just how much effort, planning and careful consideration goes into the process of creation, we will allow greater appreciation.



Siem Reap Botanic Residences & Lifestyle Mall

ONG&ONG elevates luxury lifestyle in the classic Khmer city. **Cambodia**

Director:
Andy Goh Kee Joon *Architecture*

Team Members:
Ong Qi Rong, Puttajun Tippisuit & Ildefonso Tanio Baisa *Architecture*

With the draw of the world renowned Temples of Angkor, the Siem Reap Botanic Residences & Lifestyle Mall resides within an exclusive node, neighbored by fellow luxury establishments, and only a short stroll from other notable attractions.

Excellent placed near Siem Reap River, the new development's prime location is supremely accessible from the city's transportation networks. Conceptualised using green architectural language, the final design concept preserves much of the existing site context - illustrating environmental consideration that maximises tree clusters and terrain inherent to the site.

Consisting of six 3-storey buildings lining two central clubhouses, the site's front programme is easily located, allowing guests to escape the bustle of the city, and retreat into the tranquility of within.

All the residential structures were raised, secluding the buildings for greater exclusivity and privacy. Individual courtyards were also hewn within each building, allowing more natural light to penetrate. Vernacular roofs designed for modern tropical living were also implemented to regulate internal temperature levels and maximise comfort.

With the Botanic Lifestyle Mall, architects endeavoured to create an accessible multi-frontage design that was predicated on porosity. The commercial space's design encourages circulation in the area, with central spaces balanced by smaller avenues and passages, cultivating an intricate retail experience.

Featuring a central square and a treetop dining experience, the mall promises to be Siem Reap's preeminent retail and dining experience - elevating the lifestyle offerings found within Cambodia's hippest city.



SIEM REAP BOTANIC RESIDENCES



SIEM REAP BOTANIC LIFESTYLE MALL

Brand engagement has also been hard at work in the old city with a new boutique hospitality concept. Stay tuned!



The WAF Experience

— Andy Goh, CEO Emerging Markets

After spearheading the team that created the ground breaking Siem Reap Botanic Residences and Lifestyle Mall, Andy Goh found himself front and centre at the World Architecture Festival (WAF) in Berlin. Before a distinguished panel of judges made up of architectural heavy weights, and competing against other famous names of the design world, Andy presented the delightfully imaginative Cambodian lifestyle project set in the heart of historic Siem Reap.

We sit down with Andy as he reminisces about the experience, giving his thoughts on challenging for honours at the summit of global architecture.



Congratulations on being shortlisted in the future projects category, what was the idea or inspiration behind the project?
AG: The main idea was to integrate the site (both physical and cultural context) with our product (service apartments and retail mall). We wanted to respond to the questions, "What would such a product look and feel like in such a context?" and "What product would arise from the site context?"

What were the strengths of the Siem Reap project that made it stand out? Any aspect of the project's design you'd perhaps change or improve?
AG: It stood out in a

way that the project did not or would not look foreign in its surroundings. It was a fine balance of intervention between doing "too much" and "too little". Several people, who were at WAF and had been to Siem Reap, came up to us saying that this is just the right amount of intervention.

Can you give us a little insight about the experience of presenting to the judging panel? Anything that worked particularly well, or that maybe you'd like to change in hindsight?
AG: It was good to present amongst international players. We had SOM and BIG presenting with us in the same category one year. All the presentations of different categories

happened concurrently and it is not possible to catch all speakers. The projects that made the final shortlist were high on quality, any aspects of the other competing shortlisted projects that stand out? **AG:** The amount of design rigor we put into the projects will show. Beyond the glitz of the highly rendered perspectives is design depth. Yet if there is too much philosophy, the design may become obscured. A good balance must be struck between design depth and expression.

In a sense, you were representing the firm and Singapore on a global stage, how do we stack up against the rest of the world?
AG: We feel that we are

as good as some of the winners. We are not far off and we are better than some.

Q: Anything from the experience in Berlin that you will use as a lesson or as inspiration for the future?
AG: Berlin's WAF entries were slightly more Eurocentric, whereas the WAF in Singapore was a bit more Asia-centric. I feel the location of WAF has a bearing on the entries and judges, and so our presentation needs to cater accordingly.

Q: Being shortlisted and presenting at the finals is an achievement in itself, besides perhaps winning one of the WAF prizes in the near future, what are your hopes going forward?
AG: We will submit five entries this year.

The Scotts Tower

Bringing a stunning UNStudio design to life. **Singapore**

Director:
Ong Tze Boon & Raymond Tan Eng Teik *Architecture*

Team Members:
Natapon Akomsoontorn & Sally Tan *Architecture*

Located at the corner of Scotts and Cairnhill Roads, The Scotts Tower (TST) sits in close proximity to the Orchard Road shopping district. Containing 231 residential units spread over 31 floors, TST was envisioned as an exclusive vertical city. This UNStudio design combines a contemporary 'Live. Work. Play.' concept with spectacular views of the surrounding urban landscape.

Offering a range of residential units, homes within TST were conceptualized with customizability in mind. Four different unit types - City Loft, City View, Park View and the Sky Park Penthouse – are clustered and grouped at different intervals within the building, ensuring that TST can cater to a variety of lifestyle pursuits and needs.

The design team pictured TST as a neighbourhood in the sky. The new development features communal recreational facilities that are integrated seamlessly with tiered landscape features which gently rise from the ground-level deck to beckoning sky terraces on the 2nd and 25th floors. The underlying intention was to use innovative design to embody the spirit of community and home within a modern milieu.



SSA: Singapore Sustainability Academy

At ONG&ONG, going green gets top priority. **Singapore**

Director:
Steven Low *Architecture*

Team Members:
Ong Hwee Jin, Belinda Wong & Mae Ang Zi Ya *Architecture*

The Singapore Sustainability Academy (SSA) is located at the roof terrace of City Square Mall (CSM), Singapore's first eco-mall. An extension of the Sustainable Energy Association of Singapore (SEAS), a non-profit NGO that promotes renewable and sustainable energies, they tapped on ONG&ONG and Rankine&Hill to undertake design and engineering work for the new project.

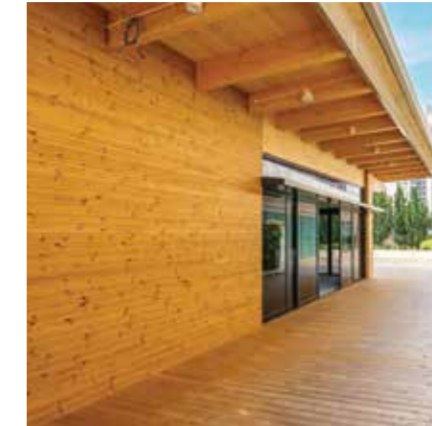
The first People, Public and Private (3P) ground-up initiative, the SSA is a zero-carbon footprint building, intended to showcase sustainability in construction and everyday use. The modernist design features the simple geometry of an elevated box, complemented by a bold overhanging, curved roof.

The SSA was constructed using Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) and Glulam. CLT is a material harvested from sustainably managed forests, and fabricated by bonding layers of timber together with structural adhesive. These components were pre-fabricated off-site, allowing for more accurate assembly, while also reducing pollution, manpower costs and construction time.

The SSA contains an exhibition gallery, two classrooms and an office. While the interior is designed to be air-conditioned, external spaces use aluminium sliding windows to allow for natural ventilation. With additional passive green strategies coming in the form of large roof overhangs to provide shade.

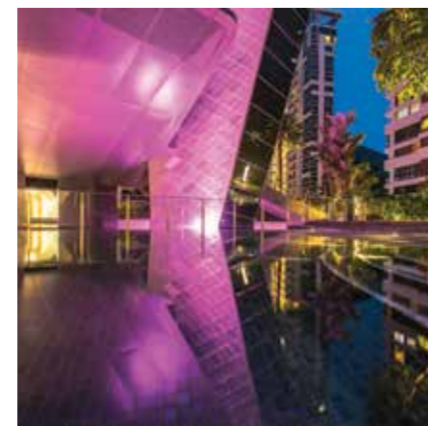
Active green strategies were integral to the SSA design. As a zero-energy building, the SSA will utilise extensive solar technology, with 3,230 sq ft of photovoltaic panels expected to generate an annual energy yield of over 60,000 kWh. It will also house monitors to track real-time energy generation and consumption, together with a building automation system that will adapt lighting and air conditioning to maximise energy savings while maintaining full comfort.

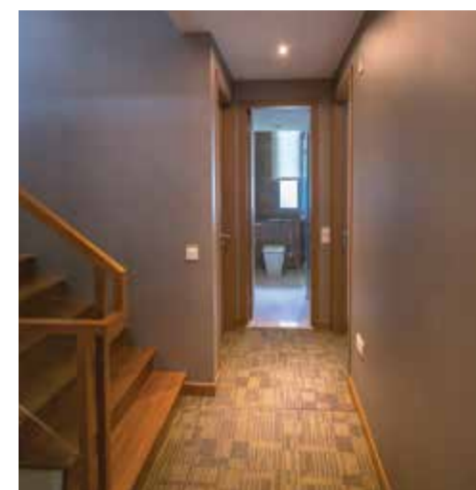
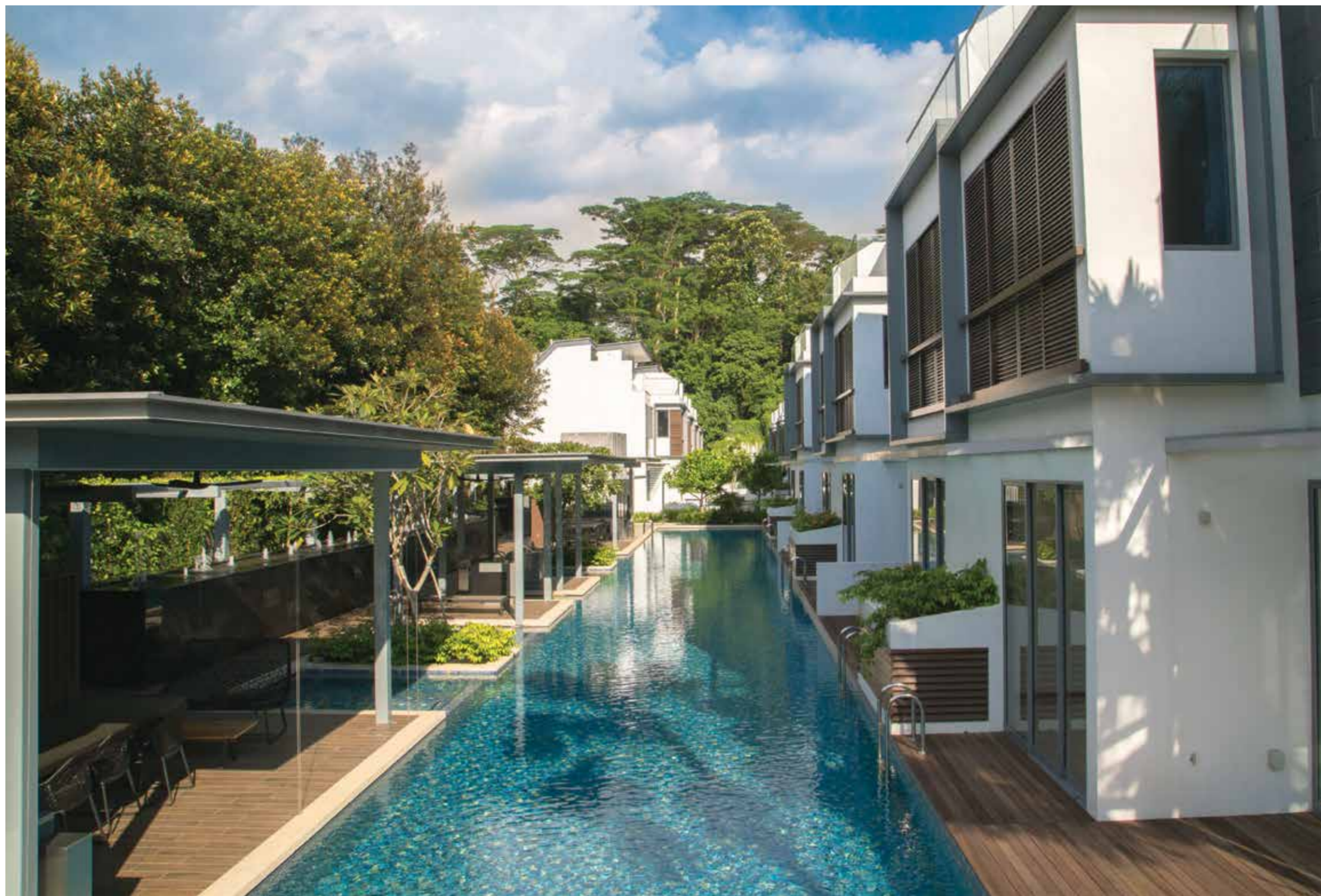
The hope for the SSA is to raise awareness for sustainable design, and to promote a low-carbon economy, resource efficiency, and sustainable practices among businesses and the community, in particular, the nation's youth.



Architects introduced Vertical Skyframes as an architectural motif, shaping TST to suit its surrounding urban context. Residential clusters are programmed into the Vertical Skyframes providing TST with added structural definition, which resulted in the creation of private balconies for each residential unit. This framework also works to accentuate the building's facade, forming an arresting tapestry characterised by physical and spatial variations.

The interconnectivity of the landscape and living spaces reflects the manner in which architects worked to integrate TST into the surrounding urban fabric. Internally the main objective was to provide versatile living spaces that are as flexible as they are luxurious – epitomizing the finest in contemporary high-rise living.





Greenwood Mews

ONG&ONG harmonises home and nature at this residential gem. [Singapore](#)

Directors:

Ong Tze Boon & Ashvinkumar Kantilal *Architecture*
Lena Quek *Landscape*
Tan Peck Khoon *M&E*

Team Members:

Juraida Binte Jumahat & Shahidah Binte Shahjihan
Architecture

Kalandar Naina Mohamed Mohamed Jawith,
Shahrom Bin Mohamed Ariff & Chng Wei Xiang *M&E*

Ma Nora Matienzo Dawinan *Landscape*

LIVING SPACES THAT FACE LARGE WATER POOLS SHARED BY ALL RESIDENTIAL UNITS WITHIN THE UNIQUE DEVELOPMENT.

Greenwood Mews



Greenwood Mews is a 62-unit cluster housing development located in a leafy neighbourhood within the Bukit Timah suburb. Flanked by low-rise landed estates and semi-detached homes, with a backdrop of lush greenery and the sprawling shade of mature trees, Greenwood Mews features a collection of townhouses that blend seamlessly into their locale.

Named after the neighbourhood in which is situated, Greenwood Mews was conceptualised with nature as its main theme. Prioritising sustainability and green design, architects were inspired to create a residential development that very much harmonised with its tranquil setting.

Swathes of cool, watery blues and verdant hues of green complement a palette of earthy tones and neutral greys, with touches of timber and wood adding warmth to the entire development. Styled to suit contemporary tastes, Greenwood Mews

features generous living spaces with European-inspired design elements. As comfortable as they are stylish, all Greenwood Mews residential units will boast main living spaces that face large water pools shared by all residential units within the unique development.

Epitomising modern tropical living, Greenwood Mews places an equal emphasis on both form and function. Unique features include evaporative cooling, where the pool-facing main living spaces within each home are cooled by their proximity to water.

At Greenwood Mews, sustainability is further realised through meticulous site planning and contemporary green design. Where appropriate passive cooling strategies - including the building orientation, ventilation, evaporative cooling, and even convective air movement - are adopted in order to reduce overall reliance on mechanical cooling systems.



Katong Square

ONG&ONG adds to eastern Singapore's vibrant cultural tapestry. [Singapore](#)

Katong Square is a landmark mixed-use development that sits along a vibrant section of East Coast Road. Containing commercial, hospitality and retail spaces, including two hotels – the Hotel Indigo Katong and the Holiday Inn Express – together with a host of dining and entertainment options, the new development is certain to elevate the array of lifestyle choices available in one of the most historic parts of Singapore.

Architects applied sustainable regionalism as the main architectural response to a unique site. The project saw the conservation of the former Joo Chiat Police station, together with the addition of newer structures. Regionalism in the Katong Square project can be seen through elements of the neighbourhood's rich Peranakan (or traditional Straits Chinese) culture that were imaginatively woven into the new property.



HOTEL INDIGO KATONG & HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS



Traditional Peranakan patterns and motifs were interpreted through a contemporary lens – serving both aesthetic and functional purposes. This is particularly evident in the 'fins' that line the exterior of the Hotel Indigo guestrooms, which are reminiscent of traditional shophouse screens. Peranakan inspired motifs also adorn the perforated metal ceiling that lines the pedestrian canopy at the site's main entrance. Here, sunlight is gently diffused into the high, ventilated space, allowing guests to soak in the buzz of the surrounding neighbourhood while shielded from the harsh tropical heat.

Awarded Green Mark Platinum status by the Singapore Building and Construction Authority (BCA), Katong Square boasts a host of features that prioritised sustainability. From the incorporation of abundant greenery to mitigate the humid tropical climate, to the use of energy efficient fittings and sustainable construction materials, many aspects of the project worked to fulfil contemporary green design ideals.



The Parque Residences

A classy addition to Klang Valley. **Malaysia**

Director:
Tan Kee Keat *Architecture*

Team Member:
Lu Chun Wei *Architecture*



The Parque



The Parque Residences sit on 308 acres of undulating land in Kuala Lumpur's Klang Valley. Elevating the mesmerising spirit of the Eco Sanctuary development, the Parque Residences represents a new standard of high-rise living, and embodies the finest in modern luxury.

Envisioned as a low-density enclave, the new development contains six residential towers built on a 27-acre plot. In keeping with the eco-spirited development, almost half the acreage within the Parque Residences' grounds will be kept as natural parkland.

Totalling 12-acres, the parkland allowed for the creation of a private rejuvenating living environment. Highlights of the Parque Residence's resort-style setting include a clubhouse surrounded by a 6-acre man-made pond, gazebos, jogging tracks, a forest park and water-themed playground, and even a lagoon-pebbled beach.

Designed to cater to professionals and young families, the Parque Residences will feature a range of one, two and three-bedroom apartments. Configured on

an 11ft gridline module, apartments were stacked atop one another. Modules of the two and three-bedroom apartments were repeated, allowing for the implementation of double-volume living room spaces within the larger units. All units will offer unimpeded views of the sweeping green space, particularly from main spaces such as the living rooms, bedrooms and kitchen, with back of house areas kept towards the corridor spaces.

The three-bedroom apartments also feature generous 8ft long private balconies. Designed in a staggered formation, balconies feature soft touches of timber composite panels that wrap around the space - forming the box-feature façade that helps create the Parque Residences' unique silhouette.

The distinctive design will see the inclusion of a 28ft wide courtyard at the centre of each tower in order to break away from conventional corridor areas. Viewing decks were also placed alternately at 5-floor intervals to further capitalise on the Parque Residences' verdant parkland setting.

Residen



Setiabakti House

Form meets function with this ONG&ONG KL dream house. **Malaysia**

Director:
Tan Kee Keat *Architecture*

Team Member:
Ahmad Syazli *Architecture*



Sitting on a v-shaped lot which opens wide in front and narrows toward the rear, the Setiabakti House design was derived solely from the landform. Conceptually, the house is formed by two flanking blocks that intercept each other at the centre, with interaction space created in between.

The function of spaces, public vs. private, is oriented based on the sun's angle. The East block is prioritised for public areas - living & dining, circulation and gallery – in order to allow the morning sun into the house. While the bedroom block is placed on the western side, but with windows placed on the north and south facing wall.

The two blocks were given different facade treatments for emphasis and visual contrast. Within the public area, living and gallery spaces feature a bare concrete finish. Conversely, the private area features a composite panel that creates a double skin effect, protecting bedroom walls from the western sun.

To maintain both security and transparency front fencing is minimised. By elevating the lawn level at the living area above the road level and offsetting the handrail inwards, a layer of shrubs could act as another passive barrier. The house can be approached via a series of garden steps. Leading to the large main door, which opens to reveal the double volume space inside.

Vertical connection through the staircase and lift are placed at the centre of the East block, linking all spaces within the house. Designed to be the centrepiece of the house, the staircase appears to float, providing interesting shadow play in the morning.





Digital Content Studios

SCA design delivers groundbreaking digital facilities. **Singapore**

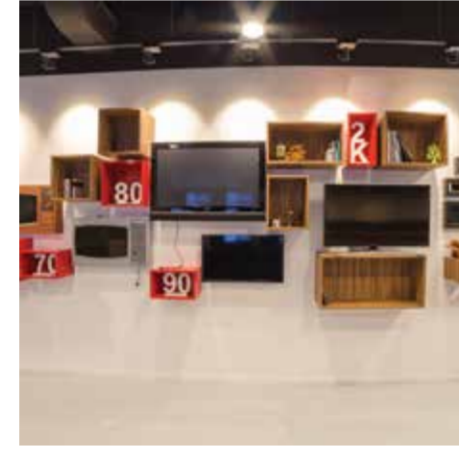
Associate Director:
Kee Choon Yen Interior

This project is Singapore's first dedicated facility for digital content creators and game developers. The initiative was developed as a means to nurture a new generation of local storytellers by providing them with access to digital tools and a framework of support to pursue their ambitions.

The new studio was constructed with support from the government, and will be operated by a local academic institute. Boasting shared production facilities and innovative training programmes, the facilities will support a vibrant eco-system – providing content creators the means to turn ideas into commercially viable concepts and enterprises.

The studio occupies one level and features three main sections: the Office, Training and Meeting Area; the Production Area; and the Collaboration Area. In addition, there will be shared production facilities including green screens, editing suites and studios, as well as themed areas that include a bar, a kopitiam and even a vintage 50s diner that all double as film sets and collaboration areas.

The second level of the facility will house a one-stop resource centre for Singapore-based SMEs to develop and prototype games. Serving as a game incubation centre for the budding local industry, it will contain flexible spaces in the form of reconfigurable game development studios. Able to accommodate groups as small as 5, or as large as 20, these versatile spaces boast gaming touch points as decoration – an ideal setting that encourages game developers to connect and collaborate.



DAX



DAX: DBS Asia X

Digital Banking done right with SCA design. **Singapore**

Associate Director:
Kee Choon Yen Interior

Team Member:
Belnice Chua Interior

The new DBS Innovation Centre, aptly named DBS Asia X or simply DAX for short, represents a modern, tech-driven approach to digital banking. Located at the Sandcrawler building in the Fusionopolis tech-haven, DAX represents a radical take on the modern banking experience.

Innovation and interaction lie at the heart of the project. DBS tasked SCA Design to create a collaborative environment that would bring bank employees closer to clients – a space that would position DBS at the forefront of the modern consumer banking experience.

The theme of technology and life intertwined was the main inspiration behind the design. DAX uses a vibrant colour palette filled with orange, and of course the signature DBS red. The space also features a range of carefully selected materials, stylised slogans, and tech-themed artwork all working to energise the space.

DAX contains a number of key design features, where inverted gardens and secret portals are combined with co-working spaces in the form of co-creation labs and project pods, to give the office the feel of a tech start-up. The highlight of the DAX facility is also the heart of the space, a 40-seat auditorium, dubbed the Theatre of Reimagination – reflecting the synergistic atmosphere that DBS hopes will encourage collaboration and innovation.





Starhub Innovation Centre

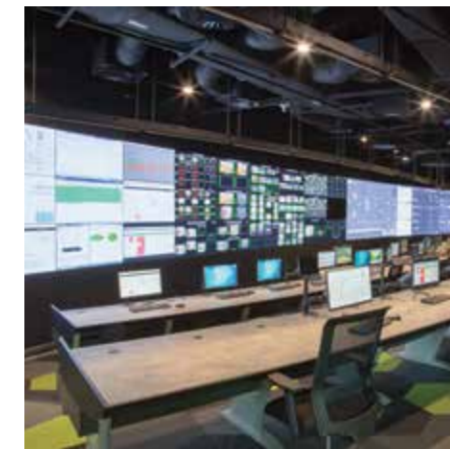
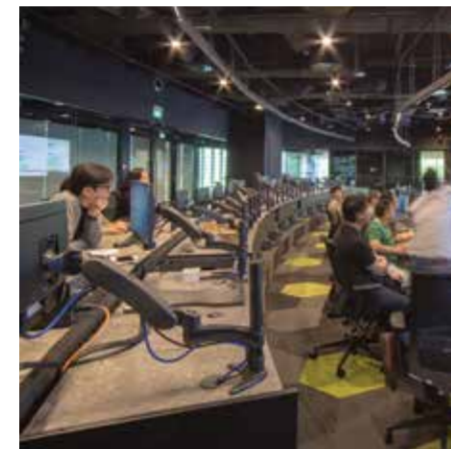
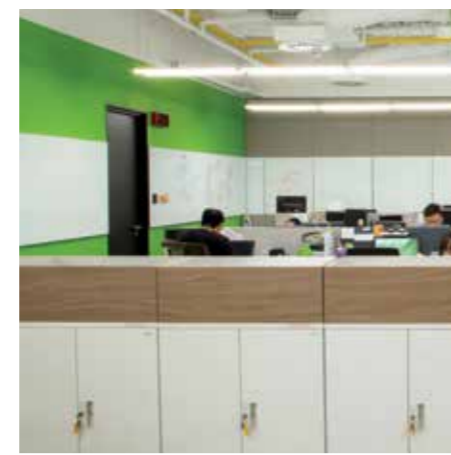
SCA adds innovative style to Starhub's cutting edge facility. **Singapore**

Associate Director:
Kee Choon Yen Interior

Team Member:
James Loh Interior

The new StarHub Innovation Centre is spread over 28,000 square feet within Mediapolis. One of Singapore's leading telecommunication companies, StarHub will utilise the space to introduce the latest technological applications. Using the interconnectedness of modern living and technology as inspiration, SCA Design implemented the concept of an indoor garden.

The StarHub Innovation Centre includes a variety of audio suites and offices, with the master control room serving as the backbone of the space - elevating the user experience through the cutting-edge innovations. The space also features customized woven vinyl flooring finish, acoustic panels in the ceiling, and laser-cut timber strips arranged in intricate shapes to provide a touch of natural warmth.



Synergy is one of our strengths. Many of our projects are the result of collaboration, realised by the collective creativity, knowledge and talent of a dedicated group.

Crocs

SCA captures a company's essence. **Singapore**

Associate Director:
Kee Choon Yen Interior

Located at Metropolis, the new Crocs offices embody the identity of a fun, high-energy brand. SCA Design conceptualised an inspiring professional environment that not only had a cool, contemporary feel, but would also work to invigorate staff and visitors alike.

The space was designed with a vintage feel, where fittings on the walls and floors, as well as lighting and furniture were all carefully selected to create a retro-inspired look. Contemporary touches of glass and concrete highlighted by accents of bright corporate colours were also introduced, with tones of oak and walnut providing the space with a touch of warmth. The office also contains cosy breakout spaces to relax and unwind, especially through comfy seating and green hanging plants that were placed along windows to give the office a laidback vibe.



Aviva Digital Garage

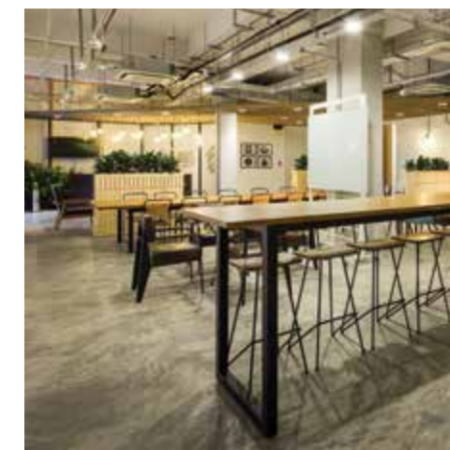
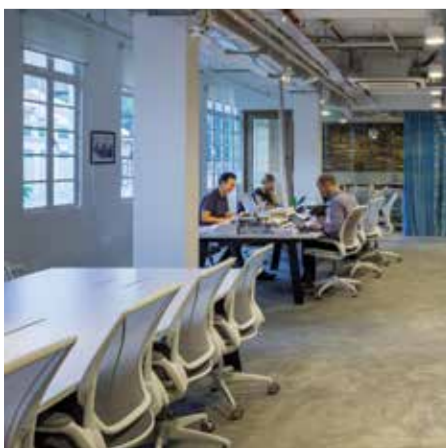
SCA design gets creative juices flowing. **Singapore**

Associate Director:
Kee Choon Yen Interior

Team Member:
James Loh Interior

Housed within a classic 1930s art-deco shophouse in the heart of Singapore's eclectic Arts and Heritage precinct, Aviva Digital Garage draws inspiration from the area's rich history and culture. The Garage features a raw industrial design concept infused with soft touches of local flavour, as the design team created an open and connected innovation centre perfect for creativity and collaboration.

The Aviva Digital Garage features a variety of spaces that cater to team collaboration including Hijackable Areas, Scrum Spaces, and Super Tables, which are all plug and play ready. The centrepiece of the office is The Loft, a multi-function entertainment hub geared towards sparking communication and buzz amongst Aviva's Digital Partners, visiting clients and in-house consultants alike.



IMMORTAL Retrospective

Local history told through cherished family memories, Peter Wee shares the richness of Peranakan culture in his new autobiography. Get it hot off the presses now!



27 years of Brand Engagement. Singapore

Directors: Saxone Woon, Stanley Tan, Theresa Yong & June Lee

EXPLORE
ENGAGE
ENDURE



The process is analytical, but also calls for imagination. Brand engagement is about of crafting experiences that foster relationships between brands and consumers. After nearly three successful decades, IMMORTAL's client list reads like a cross-industry who's who. In every instance, each client had individuated concerns, requiring personalised strategies tailored to meet their specific needs.



Having worked with Tangs, Tangs Studio, Marina Square, Junction 8, the ION Orchard, and even Crystal Galleria in Shanghai, the team's retail experience is substantial to say the least. IMMORTAL has led numerous name creations, from The Apiary and Barang Barang to Kasara and WE Cinemas. And if you notice those illuminated light-box stacks that sit prominently in malls across Asia, know that those are an IMMORTAL point-of-sales innovation.



We can count Caltex, Citigroup, CMG, Kim Eng Holdings, Parkway Health and Prudential among our many corporate clients. From classic brand work with collaterals, to digital engagement that is a mainstay today, ensuring brand consistency across the corporate sphere is what we do.

Our love for lifestyle and hospitality brought the chance to work with The Four Seasons Bali, Montigo Resort in Bintan, Canareef Resort in the Maldives, and the likes of Raffles Town Club, Mandarin Oriental, Ritz Carlton, Marina Bay Sands, and JW Marriott South Beach at home in Singapore. We have worked with clients the world over, resulting in experience that spans a diverse array markets and cultures.

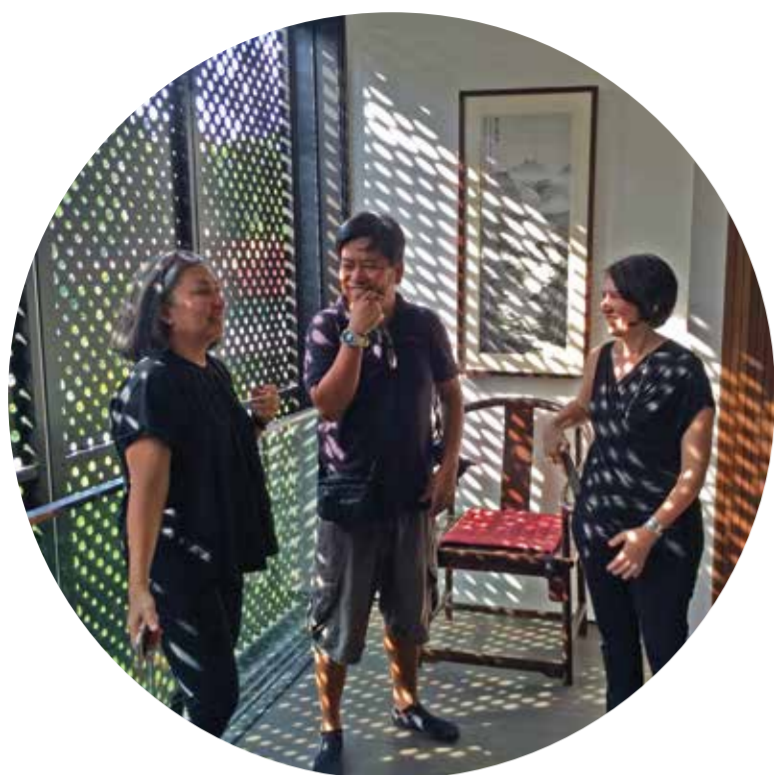


Whether it is complete full-scale brand expression, from land tender to post-opening, like we did for Sentosa's exclusive One's15 Marina yacht club or packaging work for the likes of ABC Sauces, Indo Cup Noodles, Khong Guan, Kimberly Clark, Motorola and NTUC, know that we can help transform your brand.

After all, to give a brand true longevity and staying power necessitates creating a connection with the consumer. A brand needs a story, a narrative if you will, to give it identity. Because there is no permanence without reinvention, and no continuity without imagination, so go forth with IMMORTAL and EXPLORE. ENGAGE. ENDURE.



Branding



Hosting BluPrint Philippines

In many ways design is about the exchange of ideas. Growth and evolution come by way of inspiration and influence. And one sure way to ensure the free flow of knowledge between creative minds is through collaboration.

ONG&ONG embarked on one such venture, teaming up with respected Filipino design journal BluPrint on an upcoming book centred on tropical architecture. Hosting the team that included editor-in-chief Judith Torres for a few days and showing them the sights and sounds in Singapore. Visiting a selection of ONG&ONG's landed residences; the BluPrint team saw firsthand the ONG&ONG approach to tropical residential architecture.

In the spirit of collaboration, we sat down with them for a quick chat, where we learned a little more about the Philippines.



ONG&ONG: Please give us a little background on BluPrint the magazine, and tell us about the collaboration and this visit to Singapore.

Judith Torres (JT), Editor: BluPrint is 17 years old and its considered the design source book in the Philippines. Our book where ONG&ONG is going to be featured is our second tome called Tropical Architecture for the 21st Century. It will be different from your typical coffee table book because we will be including diagrams about wind flow and cross ventilation - about all the passive cooling strategies that we need in the tropics.

And the reason we decided to do this book is because many architects say they do tropical design, but it's really just too much lip service. People latch onto the idea of tropical design. They say it's tropical because they use wood, or maybe, like in the Philippines, they put in indigenous materials like shells. There will be things that will remind you of the tropics but they really are just talking in surface material.

Angel Yulo (AY), Writer: Yes, There's nothing about the structure itself, which is important.

JT: So this was really for our benefit, in our setting, to challenge our architects and designers. We wanted to visit different countries, featuring homes from Singapore and Malaysia. We plan to explore the different strategies that people have used. A lot of it is based on indigenous knowledge, because we've all lived in the tropics for centuries, and a lot of it comes from the wisdom of ages ago. And we want to show how a lot of those principles can and should be used in a modern way.

AY: A lot of people say we use low-e glass, or kind of ceramic frame to cool things down. But it shouldn't always be about the choice of material. What we are after is how the structure can be designed to let wind flow through properly, how to let heat escape, or how to make the house convenient when it rains.

O&O: What have you learned so far from the Singapore scene, and which aspect do you feel are the most applicable to the Philippines? Is there anything that you feel sets ONG&ONG apart?

JT: There are too many houses in the Philippines that rely on air-conditioning, but on a good day you still want to be able to enjoy nature. And that's what I appreciate about the designs at ONG&ONG. I really enjoyed talking to the designers, and I love how the owners want a particular lifestyle, and your designers work to provide the option of allowing clients to really enjoy nature more, and live within the natural tropical setting.

AY: Not just that, it's how passive-cooling techniques are integrated as well. It's more natural and allows you to spend less on air-conditioning.

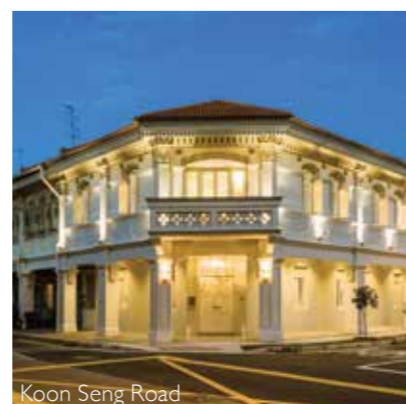
O&O: Environmental concerns are increasingly important here, is that becoming a bigger concern in the Philippines as well?

JT: It is a concern, but its not enough. Right now it feels like people only have a glancing appreciation of these concerns. We would like to see more thoughtfulness in design. There's a lot of concern about aesthetic, a lot of concern for composition. Not enough for the practical matters like comfort and convenience.

O&O: I guess it's about finding that balance between aesthetics and utility, where do you think the Philippines is right now in terms of that?

JT: We're at extremes (laughs). Our market is different, we have such a huge population, and so it's very different from the situation here. And families are larger. Plus the level of education and literacy. Singapore is more exposed to international cultures. The socioeconomic makeup is so much more varied and the range is much wider here. There are a lot of people who still aspire towards the western style of design, because that's what they think that progress looks like.

AY: That just doesn't work for our weather, because structure, orientation of the house and ventilation, methods are different for the tropics.



Faber-House

Tropical Architecture

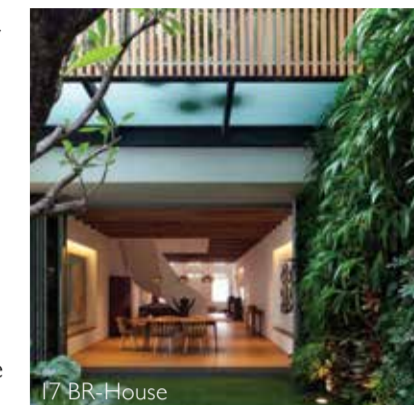
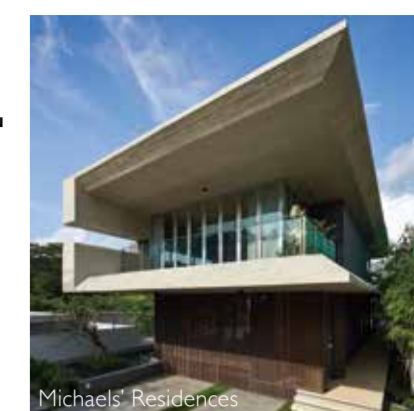
O&O: Things definitely feel like they're on the up and up in the Philippines, ONG&ONG is currently ramping up effort to build its presence there, can you give us a sense of what the temperature of the local market is, maybe some insight into the more sophisticated Filipino mindset?

AY: Creativity in the Philippines feels like it's blossoming. In the history of the Philippines, just like in the 70s when art and music really grew, there's real change from the younger people. Its creativity that I think is very new, that's reactionary to the situation. It's the mindset of an artist, and it's the same for a lot of the architects and designers. Of course it's a different medium, but there's pressure to start thinking about how are we going to help people live better, how we can I give them more comfort. They're really looking to tap more into creative inspiration.

O&O: Any advice from a business perspective? As ONG&ONG's operations get going, are there any market segments to be optimistic about in terms of potential for growth, or typologies that we should maybe focus on?

AY: I'd say focus on the young couples who are just starting to build their families. They're more open to bigger and different ideas, and new things. And there's room to grow there, and you're not looking at a smaller lot. And they usually have a budget set aside for their plans.

JT: Maybe medium rises and high rises could do quite well. But I think people are looking for spaces that are more humane, more inclusive. I find a lot of our vertical



developments lack spaces that give people room to think and breathe, space for solitude. Some of the things here that work well include having a core of light, and walls of green, you guys design to conceal a lot of the ugly parts of bigger development. We need to maybe improve on scale as well. Our developers could be more generous in terms of ceiling height, and giving more space. A lot of our developments feel a little too compacted.

AY: I'm still very hopeful about our economy. That's why we created the first book, BluPrint for 2050. It's a visioning exercise for our country, and how the built environment will be in 33 years. Projections for our economy, which forecasted that if we continued growing at the rate we do, we'd be a top-20 country by 2050. So that's something we presented to designers and architects. They need to start thinking big, start examining what to change, start looking for problems to solve, and to build and design accordingly.

JT: When BluPrint first came out it was a lot about capturing our design heritage. Now, it's more about problem solving. That's why we're after the more practical aspects of design - functionality, comfort, and convenience. We need to get into that kind of mindset, because it is great design that will get us moving forward. We're headed in the right direction; we're headed for progress. And that's the direction that your country's been taking.



Trending Lifestyle Projects

A bite of the Apple



Finally! Singapore's gotten its very own Apple Store. The project was one of the worst kept secrets in town, but now that it's up and running, we can at last proudly announce: Rankine&Hill were the C&S consultants on the project. Meaning we played an integral role in this highly anticipated destination.



Party On!

You know the name. You remember the original location. Now, legendary local nightclub Zouk is back with a new riverside address in Clarke Quay. Working with Phillip Connors, ONG&ONG's role as the main consultants ensured that Zouk's signature godown aesthetic was successfully retained.

Social Butterfly



Adding to the rich array of lifestyle options at Robertson Quay, the new M Social Hotel is geared towards the younger crowd. Outfitted with Philippe Starck furniture, the ONG&ONG interior design team was brought in to ensure that the rest of the property matched the distinctive Starck style.



The Go Beyond Design Challenge gets Real

Launched by the ONG Foundation early last year, the Go Beyond Design Challenge (GBDC) offered an opportunity to architects, designers and innovators from all over the world to create new-to-the-world solutions that could disrupt the status quo. The challenge put forth to designers, engineers, innovators and inventors was straightforward: could the nearly 2 million shipping containers that are annually decommissioned be converted into sustainable architecture.

If the winning entry from Stage I is evidence, the answer is a resounding yes. Announced at



the end of 2016, judges selected the design submitted by the team from Kuala Lumpur's Design Atelier Sdn Bhd as the winning entry. Beating out designs submitted from more than 27 countries, the winning design simply dubbed 'Container Architecture', impressed judges with its innovation, feasibility and scalability.

To find out more, visit <http://gobeyond.ongfoundation.org/home>

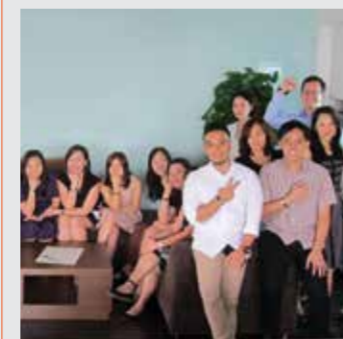


Fighting Misfit and the success of the ONG&ONG Health Programme

You have no doubt noticed them around the office, sitting on someone's wrist or ankle. It's been almost a full year since the 360FIT/MisFit program was launched as part of a wider initiative to encourage active, healthy lifestyles within ONG&ONG.

Response was strong with a total of 281 individuals signing up to participate, and if early results are any indication, better living seems to be an achievable goal for all. So far, 45 people have achieved the 130,000-point benchmark, along with the half-day extra FIT leave, with an additional wave of people also on the verge of reaching that milestone.

Fun new initiatives will soon be introduced, including cross-promotional events and the building of fitness communities, so stay tuned!



BCA-Industry Built Environment Scholarship

The BCA-Industry Built Environment Undergraduate Scholarship are programmes that give industry firms the chance to sponsor outstanding students pursuing courses of study associated with the built environment. Whether at a local university or at the BCA Academy, the greater objective is to allow graduates the opportunity to build rewarding careers in the industry.

We are proud to announce that our recipients for 2016 are:

1. *BCA-Rankine&Hill Built Environment Undergraduate Scholarship 2016:*
Ng Xhi Wei

2. *BCA-ONG&ONG Built Environment Undergraduate Scholarship 2016:*
Shi Yanjie

We wish them the best as they embark on their academic careers, and hope this serves as a good foundation for bright futures in the Built Environment sector.

The Gold Standard



Republic Polytechnic Gold Medal Award

ONG&ONG sees industry and academia as a holistic ecosystem. To this end, the firm believes in supporting promising talent in academia, who will be the champions of industry in the future.

ONG&ONG is honoured to support the Gold Medal Award for the Diploma in Design for User Experience, reflecting the firm's unwavering support for the talented designers of tomorrow.

REGIONAL AFFAIRS



Nippon Paint AYDA 2016 Indonesia

Kurjanto Slamet, Director and head of ONG&ONG Jakarta, was invited to be a juror at the Asia Young Designer Award (AYDA) for the fourth year running. Organised by Nippon Paint, the AYDA is a mentorship programme that champions budding designers, inspiring them to pursue their dreams and ambitions.

In celebration and recognition of the dedication, generosity and guidance given by more than 200 industry professionals in support of the AYDA, Nippon Paint held a grand final gala to commemorate yet another successful series, recognising the architects and designers who gave their time, experience and expertise to coach the aspiring designers of tomorrow.



Anthology Festival - Philippines

March 31 to April 2, 2017 – The Anthology Architecture and Design Festival 2017 was a three-day celebration of architecture and design. Held at the Puerta del Parian in Intramuros, the historic walled city just outside Manila, this year's festival was themed "Content and Intent".

The festival featured guest speakers, dialogue panels, designer interviews, and even an exhibition. Going from strength to strength making waves in the Filipino design scene, Michael Cu Fua was also on board to speak at Anthology Talks – the undoubted highlight of the festival.

Joining fellow design professionals to host a series of talks covering a diverse selection of pertinent design topics, Michael showcased the patented ONG&ONG 360 Solution, highlighting the benefits of our integrated, collaborative approach that deliver unparalleled environmental design services.



The ConNextReal Fest 2016 Thailand

A little palm pressing and name card exchanging never hurts when you're trying to get the word out. The ConNextReal Festival was an opportunity for ONG&ONG Director, and head of the firm's Manila office, Michael Cu Fua, was invited as the guest speaker for the evening. Introducing ONG&ONG to players in the Filipino market, Michael showcased the firm's capabilities, setting the tone as we gear up in the Philippines.



Pad Thai - GCEO Lunch with ONG&ONG Thailand

Jump-starting ONG&ONG's drive into Indochina, activity in Thailand has been picking up. GCEO Ashvinkumar Kantil spent some time on the ground in the Thai capital, getting to know the growing team at ONG&ONG's Bangkok office.

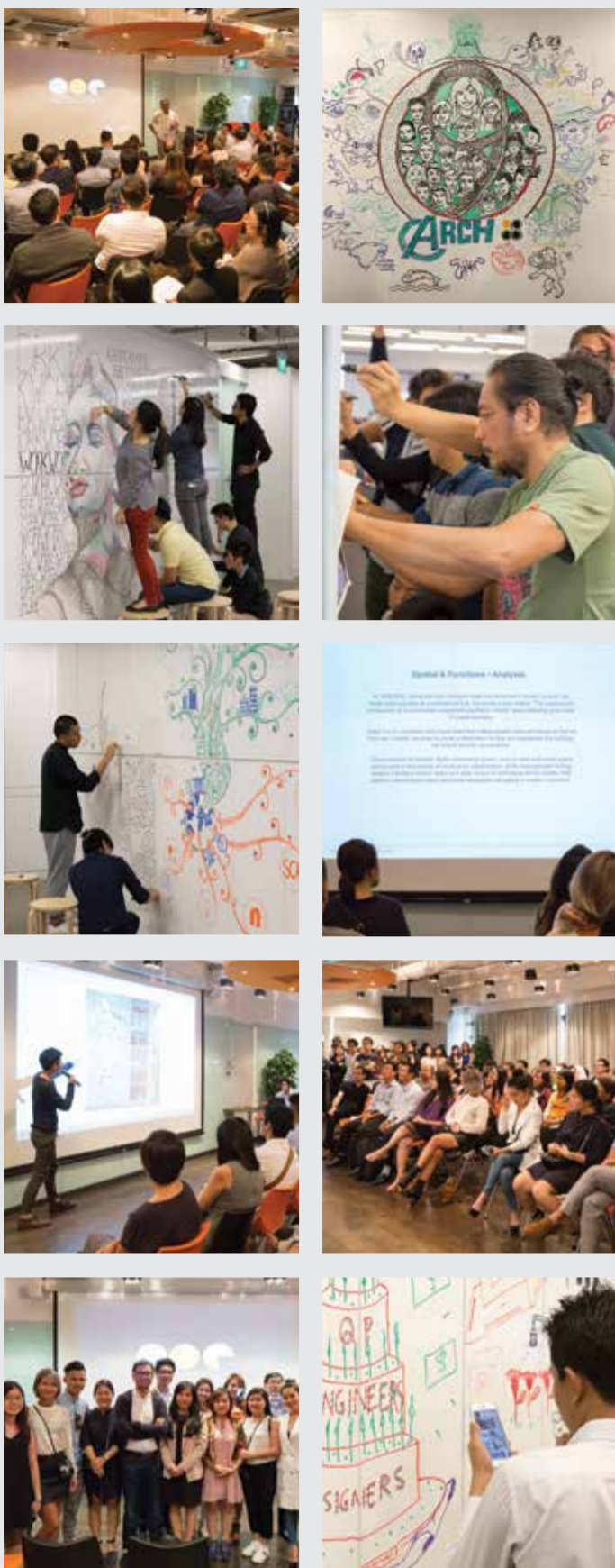
The Bangkok trip was not only a chance to get better acquainted with a new market, but was also about touching base with the talented new group assembled to spearhead our push into an exciting new frontier.



BluPrint Circles Night Philippines

December 8 2016 - Connecting design professionals with fellow industry experts, BluPrint Circles gathered architects and designers for talks on industry topics, while also giving them the opportunity to network and mingle.

In the first BluPrint Circle to be held outside Metro Manila, over 50 architects and developers gathered at Radisson Blu Cebu. ONG&ONG Director, and head of the firm's Manila office, Michael Cu Fua, was invited as the guest speaker for the evening. Introducing ONG&ONG to players in the Filipino market, Michael showcased the firm's capabilities, setting the tone as we gear up in the Philippines.



ONG&ONG Festival 2016 A Day to Celebrate Design

Mistaking our offices for a lively university campus would have been understandable had you set foot in the building during last year's ONG&ONG Design Festival. A day set aside each year to putting the fun back in design, this annual celebration of was intended to remind us all why we fell in love with design in first place.

Events centred on all things design-related were organised as the ONG&ONG staff from regional offices far and wide joined their Singaporean colleagues. The ONG&ONG Design Festival featured lectures and workshops hosted by some of our brightest up and coming designers, along with talks held by some of the firm's wily veterans in management. Those who were lucky enough to attend were privy to insights and expertise from the various design disciplines practiced at the firm.

Staff also had the chance to tap into their inner artist, as studios teamed together to create murals on walls and white spaces throughout the office. With designs that ranged from the simple to the slightly more elaborate, the firm's creative talent was on full display on a day filled with fun, laughter and fond memories.

SINGAPORE AFFAIRS



Chinese New Year Celebrations at Dalvey

Ushering in the year of the rooster brings inevitable references to new dawns. ONG&ONG might be on the cusp of exciting new prospects for 2017, but certain company traditions will always be held dear. As is the firm's custom for the Lunar New Year, business partners, clients and friends joined the ONG&ONG family at Dalvey Estate for a memorable evening.

The evening commenced with a charming welcome from Group Executive Chairman Ong Tze Boon. The festivities that followed included a customary Lunar New Years' 'Lou Hei' and a buffet dinner of sumptuous Chinese delicacies, topped off by a thrilling disco-themed Lion Dance. The highlight of the evening was without a doubt the lucky draw bonanza that saw a number of happy guests take home generous CNY goodies and hampers.



It's a pouch, it's a clutch, it's a satchel. Honestly, it's more versatile than a little black dress. Sleek, sexy leather is next on deck. Check it: shop.beyond-allthings.com

Papa's Got a Brand New Bag

The trademark dots of the ONG&ONG logo assume a highly functional form. The four ONG&ONG circles were given a subtle twist, playfully incorporated into the different corporate and lifestyle merchandise that make up our latest line of products.

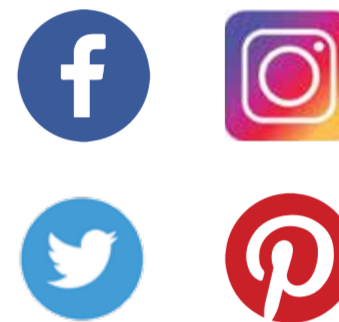
The newest additions to the O+ lifestyle line come in the form of the Eze, Tora and Kiro bags. These Japanese-inspired carry bags are constructed in sturdy felt, folded and stitched for unsurpassed durability. Characterised by clean, simple lines, and available in red, purple, black and grey, this range bags were created to cater to a variety of personalities and individual tastes. Ideal for work and play, versatility and style are now mere clicks away.

Above, Beyond and All Things in Between

Tap into the passion of the ONG&ONG ethos through our curated selection of globally sourced lifestyle products, all unified by a design-savvy edge. Visit our relaunched eShop and get inspired: <https://shop.beyond-allthings.com/>



The latest ONG&ONG corporate products were also created with style and versatility in mind. Regardless of the festive occasion, be it Christmas or Chinese New Year, all our latest products from Ang Paos to gift boxes are available to all studios for all your festive needs!



Being Social, Being Relevant!

In order to beef up our presence on digital platforms, ONG&ONG has recently jumped onto two new social media channels. Aiming to not only boost the firm's PR, the recently launched Instagram and Pinterest accounts will also serve as a vehicle to showcase ONG&ONG's designs to a larger global audience than ever before.

Give us a follow, or better yet a shout out simply by tagging or liking a post. And join in the fun as ONG&ONG embarks on an adventure through the new digital frontier.

Follow us!
Facebook ONGONG360
Instagram ONGONG_360
Pinterest ONGONG360
Twitter ONGONG360

Architours Opening the Gateway

Part of the vibrant schedule that encompasses Singapore's annual Archifest, Architours offer a behind-the-scenes look at some of the architectural gems that make up Singapore's rich urban landscape.

ONG&ONG's Gateway Theatre was selected as part of the 2016 edition of Architours. Designed by the firm's award-winning director Andrew Lee, Gateway Theatre was envisioned as a community platform to nurture talent and encourage theatrical pursuits.

Intended to serve multiple performing arts programmes, Gateway Theatre houses two main venues - the auditorium and the Black Box. The undoubted highlight of the project is the distinctive architectural facade, created by a series of overlapping green terraces that cascade from the upper levels to the ground floor, it was conceptualised as a welcoming gesture to the neighbouring community.





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2016 proved to be a testing year, but we persevered with fortitude and much heart. Now as we continue striving towards creative and professional excellence, we can focus on the future with renewed optimism.



At the end of 2015, we made a push towards regional expansion, increasing our presence in ASEAN's exciting emerging markets. I'm proud to say that our Vietnamese team were our top performers in FY15/16, showing that this strategy is already beginning to pay dividends. Hoping that success breeds success, we're stepping up leadership roles in Vietnam by appointed three new directors to spearhead efforts.

We've only scratched the surface of Asia's potential, which is why we have appointed Director Andy Goh to the newly created role of CEO Emerging Markets. Any new foray requires leadership, and with Andy's invaluable experience and proven success in Indochina, we believe he is the ideal candidate to lead us to even greater regional success.

Nation-building is very much part of the ONG&ONG repertoire, and it is our belief that by ramping up our regional presence we can play a part in laying the foundations for success just as we have in Singapore. Our expertise and track record in the realm of transportation will be increasingly integral, as we continue to lend our experience to projects in the region and beyond. Because ultimately it is my hope that in the time to come ONG&ONG will be at home not just here in Singapore, but across the Asian region.

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