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About WOHA

The architecture of WOHA, founded by Wong Mun Summ and Richard Hassell in 1994, is notable for its constant evolution and innovation. A profound awareness of local context and tradition is intertwined with an ongoing exploration of contemporary architectural form-making and ideas, thus creating a unique fusion of practicality and invention. WOHA conceptualizes all aspects of the architectural process, and environmental principles have always been fundamental to the work of the practice, which is guided by a commitment to responsive place-making and to the creation of an invigorating and sustainable architecture.

WOHA have developed a unique approach to tropical architecture and urbanism, weaving landscape and community space through porous structures. WOHA launched a new book at the 2016 Venice Biennale, called Garden City Mega City, which shares strategies for the exploding mega cities of the tropical belt. In the book, WOHA show how integrated landscape, architecture and urbanism can improve quality of life within high density environments. In the book WOHA propose 5 new ratios for evaluating the success of projects - Green Plot Ratio, Community Plot Ratio, Ecosystem Contribution Score, Civic Generosity Index, and Self Sufficiency Index - to ensure projects achieve social and environmental sustainability.

WOHA's built projects – throughout Southeast Asia, China, and Australia – range from apartment towers to luxury resorts, mass-transit stations, condominiums, hotels, educational institutions, and public buildings. The practice has won a number of architectural awards, most recently the 2019 Urban Habitat and Best Mixed-Use Building awards from the Council of Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) and 2018 World Building of the Year for Kampung Admiralty. Their Oasia Hotel Downtown tower received the 2018 Best Tall Building Worldwide title from the CTBUH. The Platinum Green Mark-rated PARKROYAL on Pickering hotel, since opening in 2013, has become one of Singapore’s most iconic buildings, receiving the 2015 Urban Habitat Award from the Council of Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat, the 2014 Design for Asia Award Grand Award and the 2013 World Architecture News Hotel of the Year Award.

The practice currently has projects under construction in Singapore, India, Australia and China. WOHA exhibited "Garden City, Mega City", an invited, solo show at The Skyscraper Museum in New York from March - September 2016. The exhibition also traveled to Mexico in 2017 and was on show again in the United States at the Austin Central Library in Texas in 2018. A travelling exhibition devoted exclusively to their works opened at the Deutsches Architekturmuseum, Germany, in December 2011, and four substantial monographs – WOHA: The Architecture of WOHA, WOHA: Selected Projects Vol. 1 and Vol. 2, and WOHA: Breathing Architecture – have already been published.
Design Philosophy

WOHA is interested in creative solutions to the big issues that face all of us - how to build sustainably; how to create diverse and delightful environments; how the built environment can create and enhance a sense of community; how we can achieve density yet improve amenity; how do we make buildings meaningful and loved; what do we mean by a good building? WOHA continues research into these broad issues, while delivering specific crafted projects that incorporate the results of this speculative process into their fabric. WOHA’s projects aim to be generous, benefitting the owner, the end user, the precinct, the city at large as well as the broader environment.

WOHA’s architecture is not based on any house style or set of solutions, but allows the architectural expression to emerge from the answers to these big questions. WOHA’s architecture emerges from a profound awareness of local context and tradition, as well as an ongoing exploration of contemporary architectural forms and ideas, a unique fusion of deep connection and playful invention. Environmental principles have always been fundamental to WOHA’s designs, and are deeply embedded in the concept rather than a technological overlay.

WOHA believes good design must arise from this thoughtful process of study and research, which is combined with technical knowledge, social and political understanding, then synthesised through creative skill and artistic judgement. The unavoidable random and unforeseen events that occur in every project do not derail the process, rather they allow the possibility of adding richness and surprising solutions to the design. Robustness, attention to detail, proportions, and scale, together with common sense, stoicism, and a sense of humour ensure a completed project that is a step towards a better world.

Services

WOHA is focused on integrated design for the built environment, encompassing a continuum through masterplanning, architectural, landscape, interior and lighting to furniture design. WOHA’s particular focus is in innovation towards better futures, rather than specific building types. WOHA has won international awards in diverse categories, including education, institutional, transport, residential, interiors and hospitality.

WOHA has been involved in projects around the Asia Pacific region, including Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Taiwan, Australia and China.

The tropics is a unique climatic zone, where WOHA has particular expertise.

WOHA has upgraded to ISO: 9001:2015 (Quality Management System) and received certification for BS EN ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental Management Systems) in 2018.
Selected Awards

Aga Khan Award for Architecture
Awarded by Aga Khan Trust for Culture
2013 – The Met, Bangkok, Thailand (Shortlisted)
2007 – No 1 Moulmein Rise, Singapore (Finalist)

Annual Hospitality Design Awards
Awarded by Hospitality Design Magazine
2016 – Oasia Hotel Downtown, Singapore (3rd Place)

ArchDaily Building of the Year
Awarded by ArchDaily
2014 – 48 North Canal Road, Singapore (Award Winner)

AR Awards for Emerging Architecture
Awarded by The Architecture Review
2006 - Tan Quee Lan Suites, Singapore (Honourable Mention)
2004 - No 1 Moulmein Rise, Singapore (Commended)

ARCASIA Awards for Architecture
Awarded by ARCASIA
2005 - 2006 - Overall Commendation Award

Awards for International Architecture
Awarded by Australian Institute of Architects
2017 – SkyVille @ Dawson, Singapore (Award Winner)
2017 – Oasia Hotel Downtown, Singapore (Commended)
2011 – School of the Arts, Singapore (Award Winner)

Best of Year Awards
Awarded by Interior Design Magazine
2013 – PARKROYAL on Pickering, Singapore (Award Winner)

Best Muller Award
Awarded by E Architect
2013 – PARKROYAL on Pickering, Singapore (Award Winner)

CTBUH Best Tall Building Award
Awarded by Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat
2019 – Kampung Admiralty, Singapore (Winner, Best Mixed-Use Building and Urban Habitat Award)
2018 – Oasia Hotel Downtown, Singapore (Winner, Best Tall Building Worldwide and Best Tall Building Asia & Australasia)

Design for Asia Award
Awarded by Hong Kong Design Centre
2017 – Enabling Village, Singapore (Grand Award with Special Mention)
2010 – Bras Basah MRT Station, Singapore (Bronze Award)

Emporis Skyscraper Awards
Awarded by Emporis
2016 – Oasia Hotel Downtown, Singapore (3rd Place)

FIABCI Prix d’Excellence Awards
Awarded by International Real Estate Federation
2009 – Newton Suites, Singapore (First Runner-Up)

FIABCI Urban Design Awards
Awarded by International Real Estate Federation
2005 – No 1 Moulmein Rise, Singapore (Award Winner)

FIABCI Urban Design Awards
Awarded by International Real Estate Federation
2005 – 2006 - No 1 Moulmein Rise, Singapore (Special Recognition)
2005 – 2006 - House at Rochalie Drive, Singapore (Gold Award)
2004 – Conserved Shophouse at Emerald Hill Road, Singapore (Gold Award)
2004 – House at Merryn Road, Singapore (Honourable Mention)

FIABCI World Award
Awarded by International Real Estate Federation
2005 – 2006 - No 1 Moulmein Rise, Singapore (Special Recognition)
2005 – 2006 - House at Rochalie Drive, Singapore (Gold Award)
2004 – Conserved Shophouse at Emerald Hill Road, Singapore (Gold Award)
2004 – House at Merryn Road, Singapore (Honourable Mention)

FIABCI World Award
Awarded by International Real Estate Federation
2005 – 2006 - Overall Commendation Award
Selected Awards

**Gold Key Award for Excellence in Hospitality Design**
Awarded by International Hotel, Motel & Restaurant Show

2013 – PARKROYAL on Pickering, Singapore (Honourable Mention)

2011 - InterContinental Sanya Resort, Hainan Island, China (Triple Award Winner)

2010 - Alila Villas Uluwatu, Bali, Indonesia (Award Winner)

**Good Design Award**
Awarded by The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies

2017 - Oasia Hotel Downtown, Singapore (Award Winner)

2016 - SkyVille @ Dawson, Singapore (Award Winner)

2013 – PARKROYAL on Pickering (Award Winner)

**Green Good Design Award**
Awarded by The Chicago Athenaeum and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies

2017 - Oasia Hotel Downtown, Singapore (Award Winner)

2016 - SkyVille @ Dawson, Singapore (Award Winner)

**INSIDE Festival**
Awarded by INSIDE Festival

2013 – PARKROYAL on Pickering, Singapore (Award Winner)

2012 - Wilkie Edge, Singapore (Award Winner)

2012 – The Hansar, Bangkok, Thailand (Award Winner)

**MIPIIM Asia Awards**
Awarded by Reed MIDEIM

2009 - Newton Suites, Singapore (Award Winner)

**President's Design Award**
Awarded by DesignSingapore Council and Urban Redevelopment Authority

2018 – Oasia Hotel Downtown, Singapore (Design of the Year)

2016 – SkyVille @ Dawson, Singapore (Design of the Year)

2016 – Enabling Village, Singapore (Design of the Year)

2013 – PARKROYAL on Pickering, Singapore (Design of the Year)

**MIPIIM Architectural Review Future Project Awards**
Awarded by The Architectural Review

2011 - Alila Villas Uluwatu, Bali, Indonesia (Award Winner)

2011 - School of the Arts, Singapore (Award Winner)

2010 - Stadium MRT Station, Singapore (Award Winner)

2009 - Newton Suites, Singapore (Award Winner)

2009 – Oasia Hotel Downtown, Singapore (Design of the Year)

2009 - Genexis Theatre, Singapore (Design of the Year)

2008 - Wong Mun Summ and Richard Hassell - WOHA (Designer of the Year)

2007 - No 1 Moulmein Rise, Singapore (Design of the Year)

2007 - Church of St Mary of the Angels, Singapore (Design of the Year)

2006 - Church of St Mary of the Angels, Singapore (Design of the Year)

2009 - Alila Villas Uluwatu, Bali, Indonesia (Award Winner)

2008 - Wong Mun Summ and Richard Hassell - WOHA (Designer of the Year)

2007 - No 1 Moulmein Rise, Singapore (Design of the Year)

2006 - Church of St Mary of the Angels, Singapore (Design of the Year)
Selected Awards

**RIBA International Awards**
Awarded by Royal Institute of British Architects

2011 - Alila Villas Uluwatu, Bali, Indonesia (Award Winner)
2011 - School of the Arts, Singapore (Award Winner)
2010 - Bras Basah MRT Station, Singapore (Award Winner)
2010 - The Met, Bangkok, Thailand (Award Winner)

**RIBA Lubetkin Prize**
Awarded by Royal Institute of British Architects

2011 - The Met, Bangkok, Thailand (Award Winner)

**SIA-Getz Architecture Prize for Emergent Architecture**
Awarded by Singapore Institute of Architects and Getz Brothers

2010 - Wong Mun Summ and Richard Hassell, OMA, Singapore (Award Winner)

**The International Highrise Award**
Awarded by City of Frankfurt, Deutsches Architekturmuseum and DekaBank

2018 - Oasia Hotel Downtown, Singapore (Global Award Winner)
2011 - Alila Villas Uluwatu, Bali, Indonesia (Finalist)
2010 - Alila Villas Uluwatu, Bali, Indonesia (Finalist)
2010 - Newton Suites, Singapore (Award Winner)
2009 - Crowne Plaza Changi Airport, Singapore (Winner)
2009 - Newton Suites, Singapore (Finalist)

**ULI Awards for Excellence: Asia Pacific**
Awarded by Urban Land Institute

2017/18 - Oasia Hotel Downtown, Singapore (Global Award Winner)
2011 - Alila Villas Uluwatu, Bali, Indonesia (Finalist)
2010 - Alila Villas Uluwatu, Bali, Indonesia (Finalist)
2010 - Newton Suites, Singapore (Award Winner)
2009 - Crowne Plaza Changi Airport, Singapore (Winner)
2009 - Newton Suites, Singapore (Finalist)

**The Jorn Utzon Award for International Architecture**
Awarded by Australian Institute of Architects

2011 - School of the Arts, Singapore (Award Winner)
2010 - The Met, Bangkok, Thailand (Award Winner)

**World Architecture Festival**
Awarded by World Architecture Festival

2018 – Kampung Admiralty, Singapore (World Building of the Year)
2016 – Kampung Admiralty, Singapore (Winner)
2016 – Oasia Hotel Downtown, Singapore (Finalist)
2016 – SkyVille @ Dawson, Singapore (Finalist)
2016 – BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh (Finalist)
2016 – Vertical Stacked City, Shenzhen, China (Finalist)
2013 – PARKROYAL on Pickering, Singapore (Finalist)
2013 – 48 North Canal Road, Singapore (Finalist)
2012 – Space Asia Hub, Singapore (Finalist)
2011 – InterContinental Sanya Resort, Hainan Island, China (Finalist)
2010 – Alila Villas Uluwatu, Bali, Indonesia (Award Winner)
2010 – School of the Arts, Singapore (Award Winner)
2010 – iluma, Singapore (Finalist)

**WAN Asia Award (Residential)**
Awarded by World Architecture News.com

2015 – Goodwood Residence, Singapore (Award Winner)

**WAN Hotel of the Year Award**
Awarded by World Architecture News.com

2013 – PARKROYAL on Pickering, Singapore (Award Winner)
Architect's Statement

This 50 suite hotel and 35 residential villa development is a Green Globe 21 rated ecologically sustainable development. Located on the Bukit Peninsular in Bali Indonesia, the development proposes luxury as delight and enjoyment of the natural beauty and sense of place, rather than excessive consumption. The design combines the delights of traditional Balinese pavilion architecture and rural landscapes with modern dynamic treatment of space and form.

A terraced roof was developed using Balinese volcanic pumice rock. These low terraced roofs keep open the site’s unique wide panoramas. All large trees are maintained or transplanted. Site vegetation was surveyed and documented, a site nursery propagated the native plants for use in the landscaping. These native gardens require far less water, and support local animals and birds. Materials are all sourced locally – the walls use stones from the actual site from the road cuttings, while all other materials are either from Bali or Java. Only recycled Ulin timber and bamboo was used.

View project online
Architect’s Statement

Sited on an urban lake, the vision is to present an innovative and sustainable inner city campus that exemplifies tropical design strategies in response to the hot, humid, monsoon climate of the Bangladesh region while demonstrating the sensitive integration of nature and architecture.

The design strategy is to create two distinct programmatic strata by floating the Academia above the lake and revealing a Campus Park below, reflecting the synergistic coexistence between mankind and mangrove. Through perforating the building form with breezeways, porous facades and garden terraces, and by sculpting the building section to direct breezes to sheltered gathering spaces, the campus is designed to breathe, with cross ventilation and indirect natural daylighting making tropical learning spaces without air-conditioning possible. Landscaping applied vertically and horizontally exemplifies the potential in multiplying greenery and open spaces within a dense, urban site and sets the direction that must be embraced to make Dhaka a modern, liveable, sustainable and humane city.

View project online
Architect’s Statement

The Church of St Mary of the Angels was designed to include the Church, the St Anthony Friary, the Poor Clare Monastery and an extensive columbarium. The scope of services encompassed the masterplan of the entire site, and included the renovation of the existing Friary and the retention of the existing Parish Centre.

The design was derived from a simple concept – creating an outdoor space that would form a forecourt to all the various institutions, and enable community spirit to develop. This diagram was developed through three architectural languages – white boxes with metal screens, concrete linking structures, and rough brown walls reminiscent of the Franciscan Friars’ robes. WOHA designed the architecture, interiors, landscape and lighting for the complex.

The design was inspired by the liturgical reforms of the Catholic Church and the focus of the Franciscan Friars to create a fresh and outward-looking space for worship – first to the garden and surroundings, and then to the wider community.

View project online
Architect’s Statement

This project comprises 210 units of luxurious apartments within two 12-storey interlocked L-shaped buildings. The blocks define and enclose a series of courtyards that first draws its residents through an intimately scaled tree-lined boulevard that wraps around a pair of foliage screened tennis courts, leading to a formally scaled cobbledstone entrance courtyard featuring a cluster of majestic raintrees, and finally opens out from under the canopies into an expansive central open lawn/swimming pool.

The ground floor units are designed with generous outdoor terraces that open up to the central lawn, giving the impression of an exclusive landed property. Fifteen units have specially-designed tree-house cabanas nestled amongst lush trees overlooking the central lawn. These features serve to further immerse the residents in the site’s natural environment.

Another innovation for the typical apartment units is the operable façade screens. Inspired by traditional woven textiles, the operable screen allows residents to control the measure of desired sun-shading or privacy, allow good cross-ventilation and help to animate the façade.

View project online
Iluma – Singapore

Architect’s Statement

Iluma is an entertainment and retail development, located at the Bugis District in Singapore. The design contrasts a rectilinear block against a curvaceous sculpted form. The rectilinear element accommodates components of the car park, retail anchor tenants and cinema, while the curved form accommodates smaller retail and entertainment activities along meandering paths. The dialogue between the two elements is heightened by the architectural treatment, with vibrant hot colours animating the rectilinear block and monochrome shades of grey and white cladding the curvilinear block.

The project features a custom-designed, artistic Crystal Mesh media façade composed of faceted jewel-like fixtures that glitter in the day and glow in the night. The façade is treated as stacked, undulating strips that overlap and recede, the interstitial spaces forming gardens and terraces overhanging the street. The crystal media façade is a three dimensional canvas on which media artists, art students and even the public can apply fast moving, legible images, text and graphics and architectural treatments, all at the scale of a city block.

View project online
Architect’s Statement

The Intercontinental Sanya Resort comprises a hotel with 350 rooms and related facilities.

One third of the rooms are located in a 10-storey curved linear block that frames the arrival space. Two thirds of the rooms are located in huge water courtyards, and are more resort-like in feel. These rooms are an innovative hybrid of detached villas and room blocks. Each room has a private open-air garden bathroom and a detached cabana accessible via a bridge or garden. The cabanas sit within the huge watergardens, each a hectare in size.

The design combines masterplanning, landscape, architecture and interiors to set up a series of views and vistas to the sea, framed by coconut trees, reflected in water, and then reframed again with stone, timber and fabric.

The entire resort is designed as a patchwork of inhabited gardens, inspired by Chinese screens, palaces and compounds, interpreted in a contemporary fashion. The huge precast concrete screen is an aperiodic mathematical tiling.

View project online
Kampung Admiralty is Singapore's first integrated public development that brings together a mix of public facilities and services under one roof. This one-stop integrated complex maximises land use, and is a prototype for meeting the needs of Singapore’s ageing population.

Located on a tight 0.9Ha site with a height limit of 45m, the scheme builds upon a layered ‘club sandwich’ approach. A “Vertical Kampung (village)” is devised, with a People’s Plaza in the lower stratum, a Medical Centre in the mid stratum, and a Community Park with studio apartments for seniors in the upper stratum.

The People’s Plaza is a fully public, porous and pedestrianised ground plane, within which the public can participate in organised events, join in the season’s festivities, shop, or eat at the hawker centre on the 2nd storey. The breezy tropical plaza is shaded and sheltered by the Medical Centre above, allowing activities to continue regardless of rain or shine.

Residents can actively come together to exercise, chat or tend community farms at the Community Park, an intimately-scaled, elevated village green. A total of 104 studio apartments are provided in two 11-storey blocks for elderly singles or couples. The units adopt universal design principles and are designed for natural cross ventilation and optimum daylight.

View project online
Newton Suites  
– Singapore

Architect’s Statement

This 36-storey development is a study in tropical environmental solutions to high-rise living that adopts a variety of issues to control the climate in a passive way. The building sits at the edge of a high-rise zone and fronts a height-controlled area that affords expansive views of the central nature reserves.

The design integrates several sustainable devices, such as sunshading elements and creeper screens, into a contemporary architectural composition, creating a sustainable, contemporary addition to the city skyline. Landscape is used as a material – rooftop planting, skygardens and green walls were incorporated into the design. Horizontal and vertical surfaces are landscaped; creating an area of landscaping that is 130% (110% planted) of the total site. Newton Suites represents a refinement of vertical living in dense metropolitan cities that achieves high quality of life for both the residents and the neighbourhood. The environmental elements added to liveable apartments and extensive communal areas combine to achieve Singapore’s national vision for a green city and an improved living environment for the inhabitants.

View project online
Architect’s Statement

The project brief called for a boutique office via an addition of a new contemporary rear wing and the reconstruction of a pair of heritage-listed shophouses.

The open plan offices was lifted up within the upper 4 floors where the floor plate size is maximised, higher headroom is gained, better views are enjoyed and more natural daylight is accessed from the sides. Every flat roof area is also transformed into roof gardens with the attic featuring the office’s recreational lounge.

The main design strategy was to invert the shophouse typology by carving out valuable floor area to create an externalised public pocket park at the very heart of the office. A café, break-out areas and meeting rooms are organised around this park.

The formal architectural language of fractal, triangulated geometry originated from the need to comply with authority requirements of having splayed corners as the building is bounded by three roads. Shading was also built into the formal language by means of an integrated sunscreen within the curtain wall system and a series of perforated aluminium panels.

View project online
Architect’s Statement

1 Moulmein Rise residential tower is the first project in Singapore to receive the Aga Khan Award for Architecture. The jury’s citation stated “Moulmein Rise is a design that could be regarded more as a design approach than solely a form.”

This apartment building re-interprets climatic device of vernacular housing, including the orientation, internal planning, overhangs, cross ventilation, shading and perforation. A traditional device used in the Dayak longhouses in Borneo was developed into a 'monsoon window'. In the tropics, it is coolest and breeziest during the rainy monsoon season. To take advantage of the weather and reduce the use of air-conditioning, this horizontal window allows breeze into the house while keeping the rain out.

This project aims to express individuality of the inhabitants. Using the analogy of DNA, the façade was created through complex re-combinations of simple elements. The façade is high-technology and human, traditional and innovative.

View project online
Architect’s Statement

Sited within a densely built up area, Oasia Hotel Downtown combines innovative ways to intensify land use with a tropical approach that showcases a perforated, permeable, furry, verdant tower of green in the heart of Singapore’s Central Business District (CBD).

The client’s brief called for a distinct SOHO, Hotel & Club rooms. WOHA adopted a club sandwich approach by creating a series of different strata, each with its own sky garden. Each sky garden is treated as an urban scale verandah, sheltered at high level by the preceding sky garden and open sided for formal and visual transparency. Generous public areas for recreation and social interaction are also interspersed throughout the high-rise.

Landscaping is used extensively as an architectural surface treatment and forms a major part of the development’s material palette both internally and externally, achieving an overall Green Plot Ratio over 1000%. The building form is softened by a living green façade of creepers and flowering plants, one that is tropical, urbanistically sensitive and humanistic.

View project online
PARKROYAL on Pickering
– Singapore

**Architect’s Statement**

Designed as a hotel and office in a garden, PARKROYAL on Pickering is a study of how we can increase the green replacement in a highrise development in the city center and multiply it in a manner that is architecturally striking, integrated and sustainable.

A contoured podium responds to the street scale, drawing inspiration from a combination of landscaped bonsai arrangements that mimic natural landscapes and mountain rock formations and that of the contoured padi fields of Asia. Greenery from the nearby park is drawn up in the form of planted valleys, gullies and waterfalls. The top of the podium is a lush landscaped terrace housing the development’s recreational facilities.

A total of 15,000m² of skygardens, reflecting pools, waterfalls, planter terraces and green walls were designed, extending the green areas from Hong Lim Park and encouraging biodiversity in the city.

This project is awarded Singapore’s Green Mark Platinum, the nation’s highest environmental certification. The hotel officially opened in January 2013.

[View project online](#)
Architect’s Statement

This project is a hybrid between a specialist arts high school and performing arts centre, and is a machine for breezes, located in dense, tropical inner city Singapore.

The podium contains a music auditorium, drama theatre, black box theatre and several informal performing spaces. The sectional relationship between gathering spaces on different levels allows for easy ventilation and a comfortable microclimate, with barrier-free access incorporated throughout the building.

The academic blocks are designed for natural ventilation with breezeways in between the blocks. Gardens on the top of decks cut out heat gain, absorb carbon, and provide shady outdoor break-out spaces and play areas, while green facades cut out glare and dust, keep classrooms cool and dampen traffic noise. These seamless indoor-outdoor spaces with comfortable microclimates allow different sized groups to interact and relax without leaving the secure environment of the school.

View project online
Space Asia Hub  
– Singapore

Architect’s Statement

Space Furniture’s new Asia hub is housed within a cluster of heritage buildings in a gazetted conservation area. It comprises two conserved buildings – a villa and a shophouse - flanking an existing infill unit. A contemporary retail showroom is created with expanded lifestyle facilities while retaining heritage elements. The design strategy contrasts old and new and prioritizes spatial clarity and reading of the old forms as archetypal forms. New timber trusses provide free spans to reveal high volume, column-free showroom interiors. Parts of the existing party wall were taken down and new staircases introduced across the 3 developments to integrate the showroom.

The plaza is a woven tapestry of terracotta and pebblewash strips in varying hues reminiscent of traditional materials and regional ‘sarong’ textiles, giving the development a contemporary yet distinctive character. These finishes flow into the interior, giving a perception of a continuous and inviting urban space that integrates the 3 distinct buildings, and provide generous spaces for events and activities.

View project online
SkyVille @ Dawson, Singapore is a public housing project of 960 homes completed in 2015 for the Housing & Development Board of Singapore. The project demonstrates that high density can be high amenity. Community living, variety and sustainability are the themes of SkyVille @ Dawson.

Building communities is a core aspiration for the public housing program in Singapore but the traditional form of modern high-rises, with a central core of compressed circulation space, is not conducive for social interaction. This project takes advantage of Singapore’s gentle climate to make spaces within and between high-rise towers for community interaction.

The central innovation is the public, external, shared spaces interwoven through the cluster of towers from the ground to the roof. Each home is part of a Sky Village comprising 80 homes sharing a sheltered community garden terrace. 4 vertically-stacked Sky Villages across 3 interconnected blocks giving a total of 12 villages. This innovation would work across the global tropical zone, where populations are exploding.

The apartments are designed as column-free, beam-free flexible apartment layouts, and make allowance for diverse family sizes, various lifestyles (e.g. home office/loft-living) and future flexibility. Buyers were offered 3 plan variations for each size of unit.

View project online
Architect’s Statement

Stadium MRT Station was the winning scheme in an open architectural competition for an underground train station at the Singapore National Stadium. The scheme addressed the problems of surge crowds and crowd holding areas by placing the unpaid areas at ground level, and providing a public plaza for holding crowds. The platform, although underground, relates to the exterior through the extremely direct circulation path and through skylights and the louvered walls, creating a calm, easily navigated environment.

Bras Basah MRT Station was the winning scheme in the same competition for an underground train station in front of the historic Singapore Art Museum. The scheme sought to resolve the conflicting requirements of bringing daylight into a deep station, and providing landscaping at ground level. A water-covered glass roof acts as a reflection pool at ground level, and as a huge skylight from underground. The station roof reinforces the urban axes and reflects the historic museum and Cathedral of the Good Shepherd, and provides a forecourt to the new Singapore Management University.

View Stadium MRT Station online
View Bras Basah MRT Station online
Architect’s Statement

The design concept of The Met explores ideas for tropical development at high densities. Going high in the tropics means cooler breezes, less dust, more privacy, more security, less noise, better views. To take advantage of these conditions, the design incorporates a staggered arrangement of blocks that allow cross ventilation, views to both the city and the river, and enhance gentle breezes by funneling them between towers. The gaps between the towers are bridged with sky gardens that provide exterior entertaining areas directly off living areas – pools and gardens. The apartments’ interiors interact with the exterior, with full height glazing, balconies, sky gardens and sky terraces. Sun shading and overhangs provide weather protection and screen and filter the strong tropical light. Sky gardens flow out from living spaces and bridge across breezeways. Walls of greenery provide sun shading that convert heat into oxygen, improving local air quality.

View project online
Architect’s Statement

Wilkie Edge sits at the Bras Basah – Bugis district, an arts, education and nightlife zone. Urbanistically, we wanted to address the disjunctions in scale, and contribute to the buzz of the neighbourhood.

WOHA developed a finely textured skin that filled the planning envelope, and carved out volumes that created silhouettes that are in dialogue with the scale of the buildings around them. These volumes open up light and air to the form, and allowed multiple sky gardens and terraces to be created at different levels. The carved out surfaces are aluminium sunshades and screens, which create a vertical proportion and texture relating to the historic shophouse facades. The silvery skin is a folded, perforated skin that changes with the light conditions.

The masterplan designated the corner as an “illuminated node”. The media façade is integrated into the architecture; a unique LED projection system called A:Amp (Advertising Amplifier) was developed by realities:united which creates a soft light like watercolour on the façade.

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