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Round Table Forum

Chua Beng Huat



Chua Beng Huat is a Provost Professor and the Head of the Department of Sociology at the National University of Singapore. He is concurrently the Cluster Leader of the Cultural Studies in Asia program at the Asia Research Institute (ARI).

Chua studied biology and chemistry in his undergraduate years. After completing his degree, he realized that the isolated life of a lab scientist was not for him and switched to postgraduate studies in sociology, obtaining his PhD from York University, Canada.

He has written extensively on Singapore's development experience, including the publications: Communitarian Ideology and Democracy in Singapore (Routledge, 1995); and Political Legitimacy and Housing: Stakeholding in Singapore (Routledge, 1997).

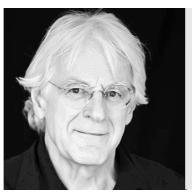
His current research efforts are focused on three key areas: multiracialism and multiculturalism, public housing policies, and East Asian pop culture.

Carolyn Steel

Carolyn Steel is an architect, lecturer and writer. A director of Kilburn Nightingale Architects in London, she has taught at the London School of Economics, Cambridge and Wageningen Universities. Her 2008 book, Hungry City: How Food Shapes Our Lives, is a key text in the emergent field of food planning. Carolyn is much in demand internationally as a speaker on Food and Cities, and is currently developing her concept of 'sitopia' (food-place) as a design tool.



Dieter Läpple



Dieter Läpple is professor emeritus of International Urban Studies at the HafenCity University Hamburg. For many years he directed the Institute for Urban Economics at the University of Technology Hamburg. He is also an advisor and contributor to the 'Urban Age Programme' of the London School of Economics and a member of the board of trustees of the International Building Exposition - IBA Hamburg. In 2007, he received the Award for Urban Culture of the Architectural Association (BDA Hamburg Baukulturpreis).

Tay Kheng Soon

A graduate of Singapore Polytechnic, Tay Kheng Soon is a practicing architect and adjunct professor at the National University of Singapore's school of architecture. He was president of the Singapore Institute of Architects and founding member and chairman of SPUR (Singapore Planning and Urban Research).

His civic activities include being a member of the advisory panel of the Government Parliamentary Committee on national development, and a member of the advisory panel of the Singapore Institute of Policy Studies. In 1997, he was appointed adjunct professor of architecture at RMIT Australia, and in 1998 made adjunct associate professor at the National University of Singapore.

Today, he continues to churn out creative, out-of-thebox ideas that he personally sees through to reality via his architectural practice Akitek Tenggara in Singapore, which he founded in 1976.



Tay Kheng Sooi

Ng Wun Jern



Ng Wun Jern served the Faculty of Engineering at the National University of Singapore as Vice-Dean and then as Dean until 2003. From 2003-04, he was the founding Director of the Environmental Science & Engineering Program (ESEP) and in 2007 he took up the position of Executive Director at the Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute (NEWRI), Nanyang Technological

His research interests are largely in the area of water and wastewater management. These investigations span the water quality spectrum - ranging from ultra-pure water to high strength and potentially inhibitory wastewaters.

Wong Yunn Chii

Wong Yunn Chii is the Head of the Department of Architecture at the National University of Singapore, where he teaches architectural design and lectures on architectural history and theory.

He is an editor of the Journal of Southeast Asian Architecture and the Singapore Architect and is actively involved in the works of mAAN (modern Asian Architecture Network), an organisation that promotes the study, documentation and conservation of Asian modern buildings and environments. He was lead curator for Singapore's inaugural international architectural exhibition at the Venice Biennale 2004.

His current research focuses on the architecture and urban history of Raffles Place / Commercial Square in Singapore..



Making Future Cities

Future Cities Laboratory First International Conference 12-14 September, Singapore

14 September PM **Round Table Forum**

of the Future City Labora- are from Singapore. With Ng city's future change over the tory's First International Wun Jern, Wong Yunn Chii, course of Singapore's urban Conference, the organising Tay Kheng Soon and Chua boom? To what extent has team has a pleasure and Beng Huat the roundtable Singapore become the model an honour to invite you to a group represents a strong city of the future for new urban Round Table Forum, gather- showing from Singaporean environments across Asia? ing the FCL's distinguished intellectuals, architects and Conversely, what kind of guests. As a counterpoint to engineers. the FCL's themes and projects seen in the past two and ting we would like to open city's plausible and desirable a half days, the roundtable the discussion with two no- futures? MILICATOPALOVIC will offer valuable reflections tions that have been central from the outside. All of the to both FCL and Singapore: guests are from outside FCL, the notions of the future city and most, apart from Dieter and of an urban laboratory.

SINGAPORE - At the ending Läpple and Carolyn Steel, How did the visions of the

urban future is Singapore pur-In this exceptional set- suing for itself? What are the

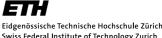
FCL – Future Cities Laboratory

GAZETTE

09 Singapore, Hyrdology, Architecture, Conservation, SPUR, Food, Sociology, Water, Sustainability 14/09/2011 **Executive Editors: Franz Oswald and Stephen Cairns Editor: Milica Topalovic** Copy-Editor: Kevin Lim Published by Fold. Punch. File FCL - Future Cities Laboratory Singapore ETH Centre for Global Environmental Sustainability (SEC)



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 $Lau\ Pa\ Sat.\ Image,\ pass the fish sauce. word press.com$

Epilogu

As it stands, the Singapore model [...] is now poised to metastasize across Asia. The sparkle of its organization, the glamour of its successful uprooting, the success of its human transformation, the laundering of its past, its manipulation of vernacular cultures present an irresistible model for those facing the task of imagining — and building — new urban conditions for the even more countless millions. More and more, Singapore claims itself a laboratory.

Rem Koolhaas, 'Singapore Songlines' (1995)

Given its success, Singapore has been deemed worthy by many as a 'model'. However, the ideological consensus generated by a common apprehension toward collective 'survival' as an island-nation that sustains an competent, efficient, financially non-corrupt, less-than-democratic, party-state is the open secret of Singapore's success – one that is not replicable. 'Singapore as Model' cannot be and is not a desire for mimicry, for cloning. Chua Beng Huat, 'Singapore as Model' (2011)

Lau Pa Sat

Former Telok Ayer Market (now Lau Pa Sat). Date of Construction: 1890-1894 Date of Gazette as a National Monument: 28 June 1973

Address: 18 Raffles Quay Singapore 048582 Architect: James MacRitchie, Municipal Engineer, Public Works Department Engineer/ Builder: Riley Hargreaves and Co.

The first market in Singapore was located on the south bank of the Singapore River. The land there was soon required for commercial use, and Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles

ordered the market to be moved to Telok Ayer. This area was then along the seafront, and a market on piles over the sea, was built by 1824. In the 1830s, there was a need for a bigger market. G.D. Coleman won the commission to build it, and his market was ready for use by 1838. But Coleman had failed to take into account the powerful surf at Telok Ayer Bay, and his market over the water was structurally weak. The ornamental columns at the entrance of this octagonally-shaped market were a small but necessary luxury according to Coleman because the market was going to be a landmark, and would face houses that were neat and respectable in appearance. Coleman's market was used

for some 40 years until it was encroached upon by land reclamation works at Telok Ayer. In 1894, a new market was built on reclaimed land. Also octagonal in shape, it was meant as a tribute to Coleman's market. The designer was the Municipal Engineer, James MacRitchie, who has given his name to a reservoir. The ornamental cast work used in its construction was imported from Glasgow. Today the market is known as the Lau Pa Sat, a food centre popular with both tourists and locals alike.

Adapted by Silke Langenberg from Edwin Lee's *Historic Buildings of Singapore* (1990),