



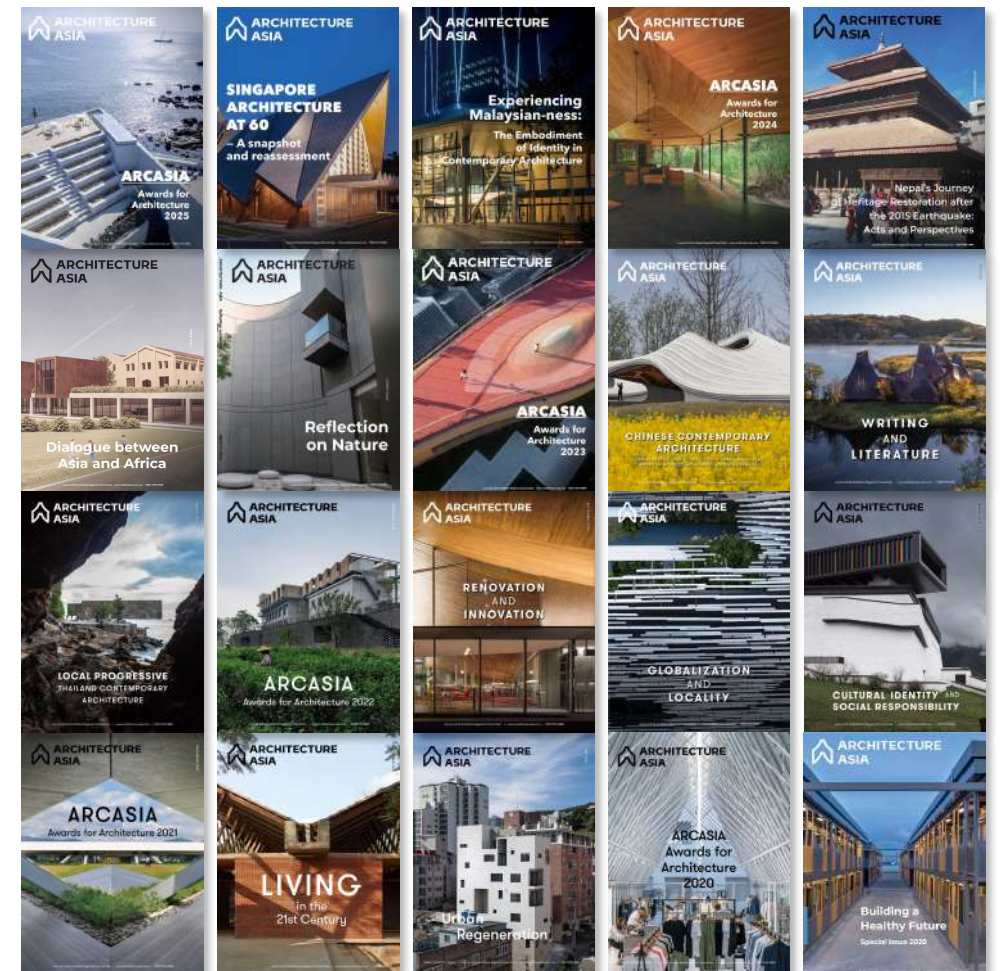
Bid for *ARCHITECTURE ASIA*

Architectural Society of China, ASC

What We Achieved in the Past Five Years

- AA has published 20 issues, including 14 themed issues and 5 special issues on AA Awards, featuring contributions from more than 70 scholars and 300 architects from 18 ARCAISA member institutes.

	March	June	September	December
2020				COVID-19 Special Issue 2020: Building A Healthy Future
2021	ARCASIA Awards for Architecture 2020	Urban Regeneration	Living in the 21st Century	ARCASIA Awards for Architecture 2021
2022	Cultural Identity and Social Responsibility	Globalization and Locality	Renovation and Innovation	ARCASIA Awards for Architecture 2022
2023	Local Progressive Thailand Contemporary Architecture	Writing and Literature	Contemporary Architecture by ASC, HKIA and AAM	ARCASIA Awards for Architecture 2023
2024	Reflection on Nature	Dialogue Between Asia and Africa	Conservation of Architecture in Nepal	ARCASIA Awards for Architecture 2024
2025	Experiencing Malaysian-ness	SINGAPORE ARCHITECTURE AT 60 – A snapshot and reassessment	ARCASIA Awards for Architecture 2025	



What We Achieved in the Past Five Years

Exploring Asia Issues ¹

From the exhibition of architectural design works to the in-depth discussion of Asian architectural academics

Guest Editor Network ²

From the discussion of architectural topics to the focus on the member countries of ARCASIA

Social Media Platforms ³

From traditional paper publications to multi-platform architectural media

Architecture Asia Forums ⁴

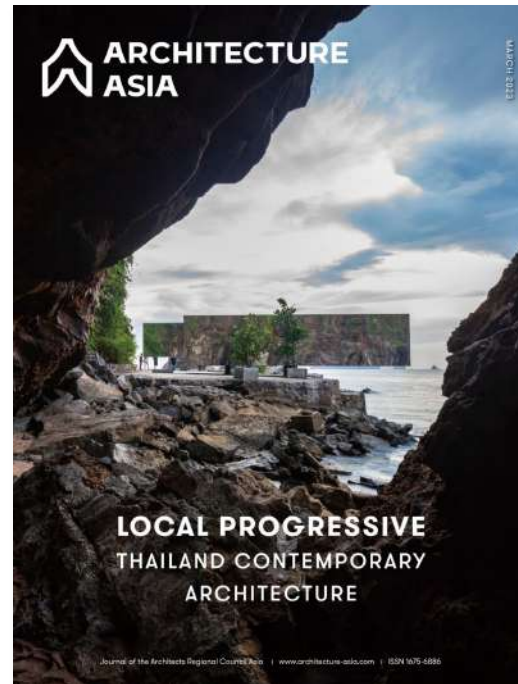
From one-way information dissemination to multiple forms of meeting expansion

Exploring Asia Issues

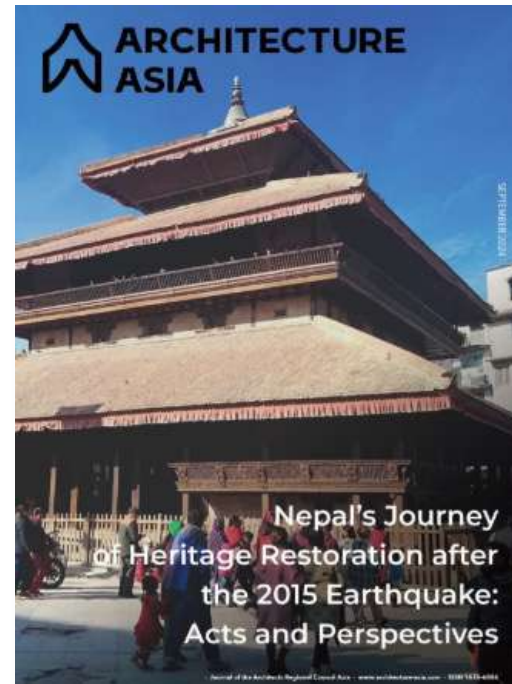
- AA continues to explore cultural contexts, social impact, and future development trends in Asian architectural practice.



2022 Jun.
Globalization
and Locality



2023 Mar.
Local Progressive Thailand
Contemporary Architecture



2024 Sept.
Conservation of
Architecture in Nepal



2025 Mar.
Experiencing
Malaysian-ness

Exploring Asia Issues

- AA has expanded its structure to include academic articles, architectural projects, and most recently, the architect interview section.



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Reaching New Heights: The Story Behind Merdeka 118 Interview with Dato' Teng Ab. Aziz and Ar. Ahmad Farid Baharuddin

DATO' TENG AZIZ, AZIZ TENGKU MIMING (DAUGHTER OF THE MERDEKA YOUTUBER, AHMAD FARID BAHARUDDIN) (PILIPINO) AND THE STORY BEHIND THE DESIGN AND PERCEPTIONS OF MERDEKA 118 AND THE SUSTAINABLE PROJECT. Interview by Dato' Teng Ab. Aziz and Ar. Ahmad Farid Baharuddin. Merdeka 118 (Merdeka 118) is a landmark skyscraper in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Photographed by Dato' Teng Ab. Aziz.

Being 68 metres above Kuala Lumpur, Merdeka 118 is the world's 4th and a striking new symbol of Malaysia's ambition. Developed by a subsidiary of Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) — a state-owned — the tower contains a Ploch's precinct on the historic site of Merdeka Square, Malaysia where the nation's independence was declared. It houses public spaces, retail, hospitals, and workplaces, Merdeka's southern edge of the city's historic core. The architecture of this tower, on the site of the old PNB, an international architecture studio behind landmarks such as the Petronas Tower in Architects Side Blvd, one of Malaysia's leading architectural practices participated in the development. Together, they have combined to collaborate with local insight, crafting a tower that is both world-class and rooted in its cultural context. In this feature, we speak with Dato' Teng Ab. Aziz, Tengku Maimun, Merdeka Works, and Ar. Ahmad Farid Baharuddin (AFB). Ploch shares their insights on this landmark project and its sustainable contribution to the city's future.



Landscape Architecture Firm: Sungai Design Atelier
 Project Manager: Nur Azahra PNW
 Design Team: Mohamed AHMISE, Aqilwan AZHAR, Nik Nur AZLIN, and four other architects/interiors designers
 Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 Area: 14,000 sqm
 Completion Date: 2021
 Photographer: Sungai Design Atelier



INNOVATION
 DT What do you deem to be the major innovations introduced in the project? Can you give some innovations that were the world first and innovations that were new to Malaysia?
 AF We're engineering played a crucial role. We conducted extensive field tests to optimize the design and reduce steel loads. The tower's unique design helps lower its wind patterns, making the structure more stable.
 We also introduced advanced fire protection systems. Instead of traditional fireproofing materials, we designed a staggered evacuation plan that allows people to move safely in the event of an emergency before proceeding further down. This system is based on international best practices and was validated by the engineers from the LUL.
 IA The Merdeka 118 project features several key innovations in design, engineering, and sustainability. It integrates advanced building technologies and sustainable solutions, some of which are new to Malaysia, including a floating and the overall experience for both visitors and those based in the tower.
 Designed with a forward-thinking approach, Merdeka 118 remains relevant a decade after its inception, demonstrating how architectural vision can stand the test of time. It is also built with sustainable and resilient features, including an advanced BIM system designed for use during emergencies, a fleet of EVs for the country, Merdeka 118 tower is now LEED Platinum certified and is actively seeking towards net zero carbon emissions, demonstrating its commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility.

URBAN CONTEXT
 DT How do you see this tower in relation to the urban context and the surrounding neighborhood?
 AF This tower is located in the heart of KL, in Brunting Street, one of Kuala Lumpur's most famous tourist spots, and it's right next to Stockton Square and Dataran Merdeka, and Chin Woo Stadium, which are important cultural landmarks.
 It is also part of the Golden Triangle, in the heart of the city's modern business and shopping districts. Cherasan is located on Brunting Street, featuring modern, unique shops and numerous local restaurants that attract not only locals but also tourists seeking a unique experience in Kuala Lumpur.
 Here, the tower was a kind of bridge between these two areas, the old and new, being a step up from Brunting Street and the old modern view of the business district. Bringing them together with a prominent new tower like this one will help shape a more connected and dynamic urban space for the city and its continuous to grow and develop.
 DT Does the tower offer inspiration from the local context or architecture?
 AF Yes, the design of the tower seamlessly incorporates elements of local architecture, reflecting deep connections to the region's rich culture and heritage. The building's unique facade, composed of woven organic elements, is inspired by traditional crafts, particularly the intricate woven mats which feature braided and repetitive patterns. This design language extends throughout the interior, including the main foyer, where interlaced patterns are also evident. The main reception desk in the lobby draws inspiration from the intricate patterns of a traditional Sarawak. The overall look is a blend of traditional Malay architecture, featuring a unique approach to modern design in Malaysia. Its vertical, woven facade has become a symbol of cultural identity and stands as a testament to the rich history of Malaysia and its future. During the recent USG's course, an alumnus member named Datu Fendi in the tower's iconic form was inspired by the image of Kuala Lumpur's skyline. While the silhouette of the building does indeed bear a resemblance to Kuala Lumpur's skyline, the tower's design was not intended to replicate it. Instead, it was a unique and innovative interpretation of the local context and architecture. As a result, it has added a new dimension to the city's skyline, contributing to its rich cultural and architectural heritage. This inspiration has inspired the public to engage in meaningful discussions. As a result, it has added a new dimension to the city's skyline, contributing to its rich cultural and architectural heritage. This inspiration has inspired the public to engage in meaningful discussions. As a result, it has added a new dimension to the city's skyline, contributing to its rich cultural and architectural heritage.



Cover & Content

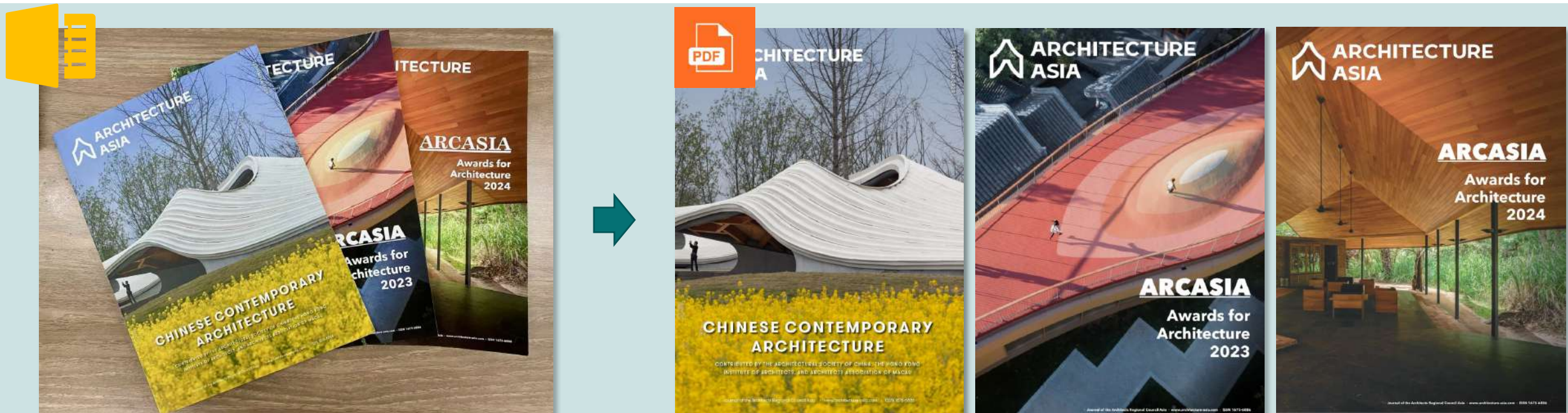
Articles

Projects

Interviews

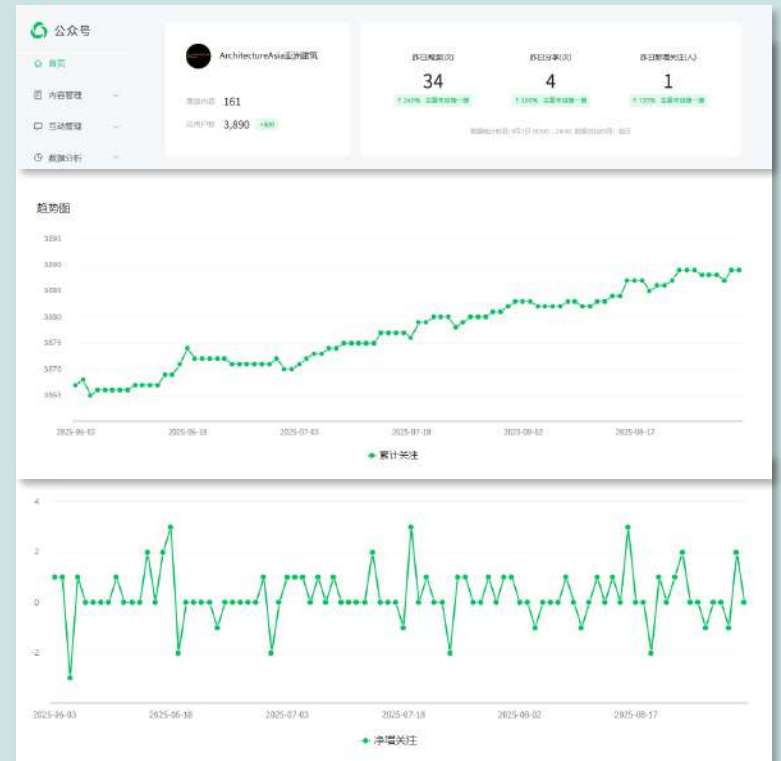
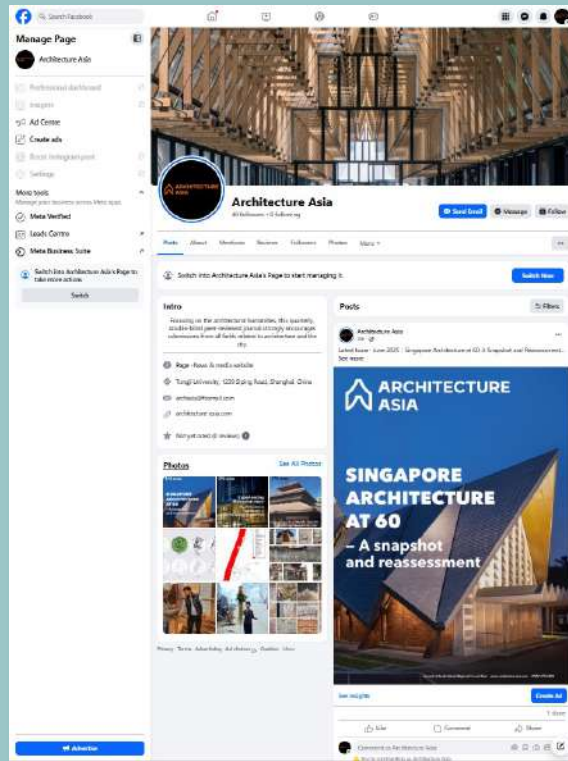
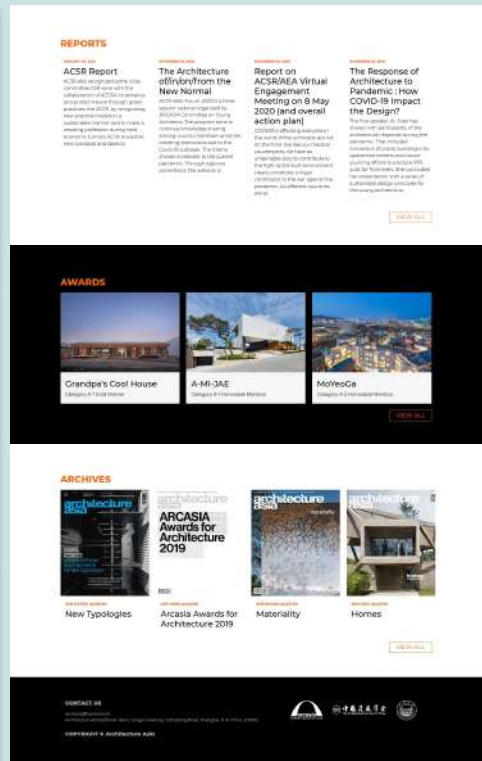
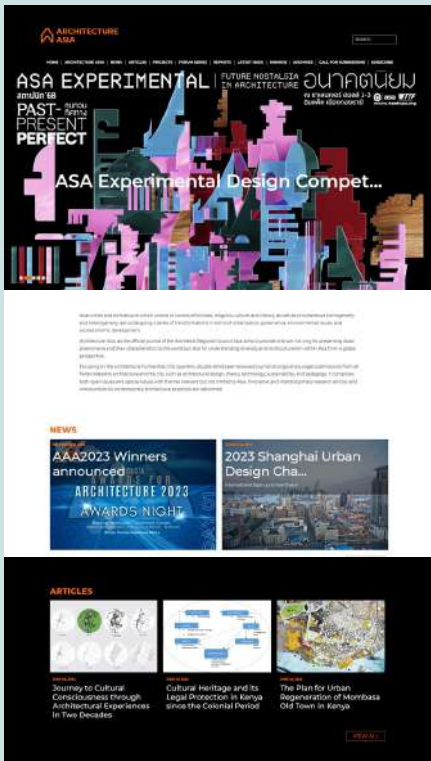
From Print to Digital Publishing

- AA has been continuously exploring publishing models to expand the journal's reach.
- Since 2021, AA had partnered with **The Images Publishing Group**, a world-leading publisher of books on architecture, art, photography, and design, to streamline the editorial process and distribute globally through platforms like Amazon and ACC Art Books.
- In late 2023, to enhance the journal's timeliness, AA transitioned to **digital-only publication**. PDF versions of the latest issues are emailed to members, the board, authors, and readers upon release. Each issue is also **available for free on the website**, with **downloadable watermark-free PDFs**.



Social Media Platforms

- AA established an official website, Facebook page, and WeChat account, reaching around 4,000 followers and continuously sharing updates on ARCASIA and AA magazine.



Official Website
<http://architecture-asia.com/>



Facebook
Architecture Asia



Wechat Account
Architecture Asia 亚洲建筑

Digital Publication

- Through these platforms, AA regularly publishes new issues, forums, and newsletters from member institutes. We welcome contributions from **MORE** member institutes.

Website Publications

The screenshot shows the Architecture Asia website with a top navigation bar and a main content area divided into 'ARTICLES' and 'PROJECTS' sections. The 'ARTICLES' section includes titles like 'Journey to Cultural Consciousness through Architectural Experiences in Two Decades' and 'Singapore Architecture at 60: A Snapshot and Reassessment'. The 'PROJECTS' section features 'Woodcarver's House', 'Datan Museum Tourist Toilet', 'Aluminum Grotto and Public Ground', and 'Yada Xishan Hotel Yixing Landscape in Miniature'.

Articles

Projects

Latest Issues

A grid of award issue covers for ARCSIA Awards for Architecture 2022. The covers are categorized by year and theme: 2023 (ARCASIA Awards for Architecture 2023, Chinese Contemporary Architecture, Writing and Literature, Local Progressive—Thailand Contemporary Architecture), 2022 (ARCASIA Awards for Architecture 2022, RENOVATION AND INNOVATION, GLOBALIZATION AND LOCALITY, CULTURAL IDENTITY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY), and 2024 (Awards for Architecture 2024, Nepal's Journey of Heritage Restoration after the 2015 Earthquake: Acts and Piers, Dialogue between Asia and Africa, Reflection on Nature).

The screenshot shows the ARCSIA Awards for Architecture 2022 website. It features a large banner image of a building, a 'CALL FOR SUBMISSION' section with QR codes, and a 'Wechat Account' section with a QR code and contact information. The website is in Chinese and provides details about the award process and submission guidelines.

Wechat Account

The screenshot shows the ARCSIA Awards for Architecture 2022 Facebook page. It includes the organization's logo, a post about the award ceremony, and a large image of a building with the text 'ARCASIA Awards for Architecture 2022' overlaid. The page also features a 'CALL FOR SUBMISSION' button and a QR code.

Facebook

Connect to ARCAISA Member Institutes

- AA has established a model combining journal publications, architect networks, and the AA Forum series, successfully connecting institutes such as IIA, SONA, ASA, PAM, SIA, AAM, ASC, HKIA, and KIRA.

Zone A	 	IIA The Indian Institute of Architects
		SONA The Society of Nepalese Architects
Zone B	  	ASA The Association of Siamese Architects
		PAM Malaysian Institute of Architects (Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia)
		SIA Singapore Institute of Architects
Zone C	  	ASC The Architectural Society of China
		HKIA The Hong Kong Institute of Architects
		KIRA Korea Institute of Registered Architects

Architects
Network

Journal
Publication



Architecture Asia Forum Series

Guest Editor Network

- AA sets up the guest editor network with the recommendation from member institutes. The guest editors led national or regional issues, highlighting each institute's visibility and showcasing diverse developments across Asia's architectural professions.



2023

Mar.

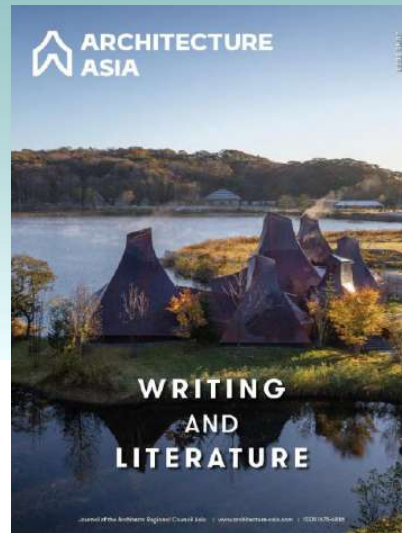
Kulthida Songkittipakdee (right),
Jenchieh Hung (left) , ASA



2023

Jun.

Apurva BOSE DUTTA,
IIA



2023

Zhu Xiaofeng,
ASC

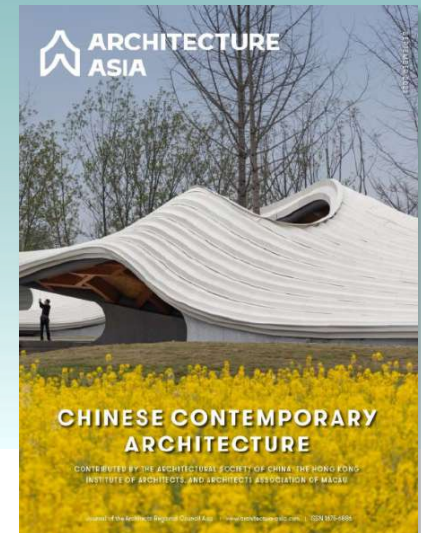


Nuno Soares,
AAM



Sept.

Zhong Hongliang,
HKIA



Guest Editor Network

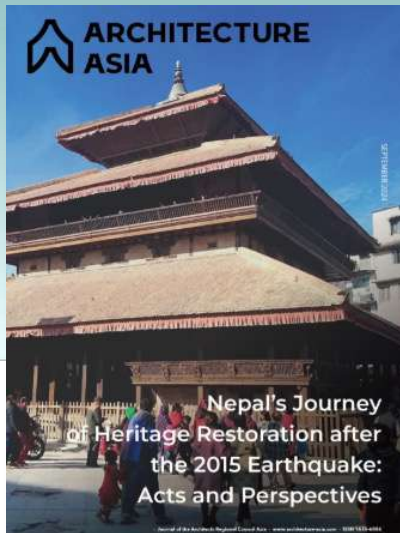
- AA sets up the **Guest Editor network** with the recommendation from member institutes. The guest editors led national or regional issues, highlighting each institute's visibility and showcasing diverse developments across Asia's architectural professions.



2024

Sept.

Padma Sundar Maharjan,
SONA



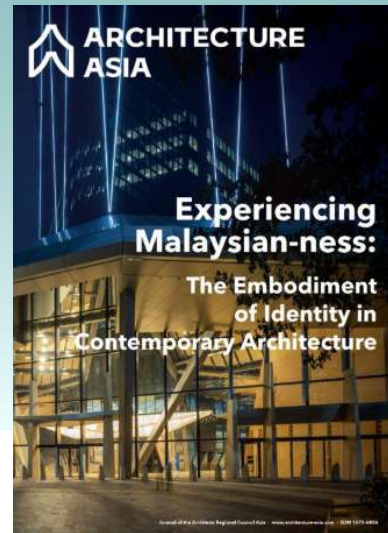
2025

Mar.

David Teoh,
PAM



Veronica Ng Foong Peng,
PAM



2025

Jun.

Fong Hoo Cheong,
SIA



Architecture Asia Forum

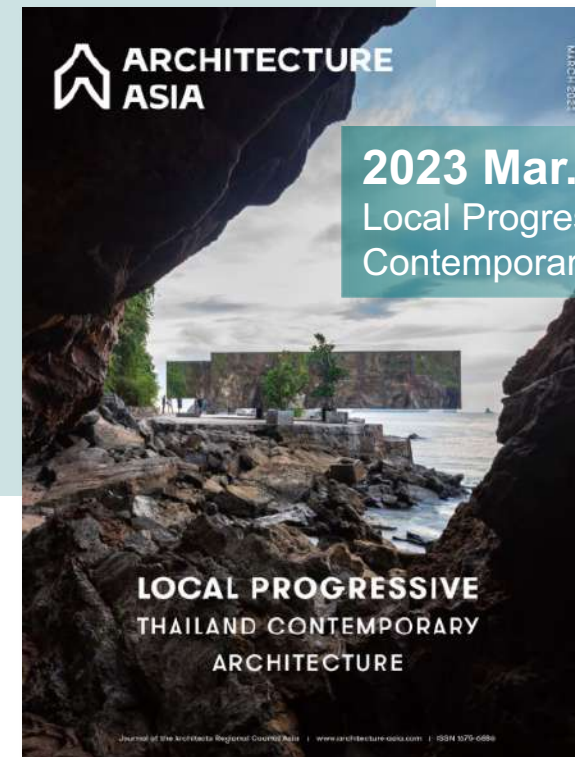
Thailand Contemporary Architecture Forum (Dec 3, 2022, online)

- Attracted nearly 5,000 attendees worldwide.
- Addresses by ARCASIA President Ar. Abu Sayeed M. Ahmed and ASA President Ar. Chana Sumpalung.
- Broadcast via YouTube, Bilibili, and WeChat.



2022.12

Thailand Contemporary Architecture Forum



Architecture Asia Forum

Contemporary Architecture of HKIA, AAM, and ASC Forum (Dec 10, 2023, Shenzhen)

- Nearly 15,000 online participants and 120 in-person attendees.
- ARCASIA President Ar. Abu Sayeed M. Ahmed delivered the opening address online.
- Presidents of HKIA, AAM, and ASC attended on-site and gave opening remarks.



2023.10

Contemporary Architecture
in Macau, Hong Kong, and Mainland China Forum

Architecture Asia Forum

Dialogue between Asia and Africa Forum (June 2024)

- ARCASIA Vice President (Zone C), Ar. Thomas Cheung gave the opening remarks



2024.06

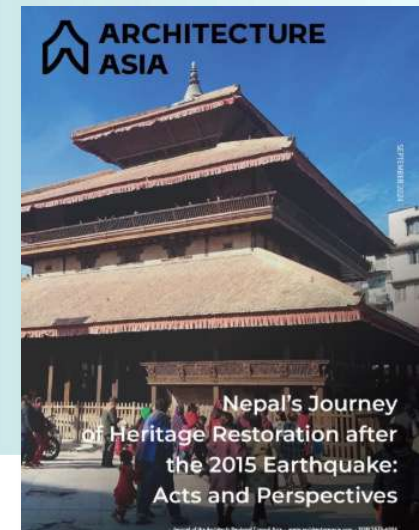
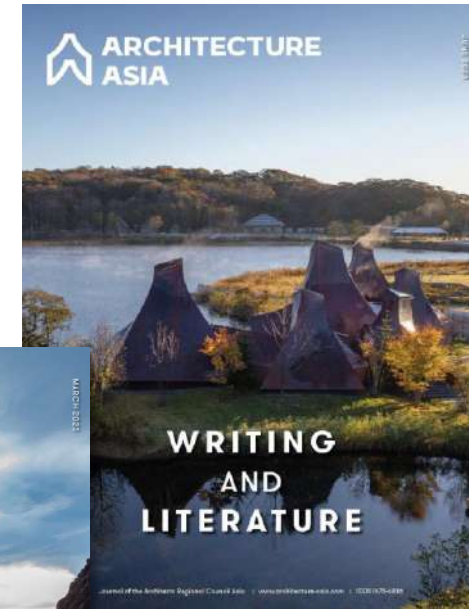
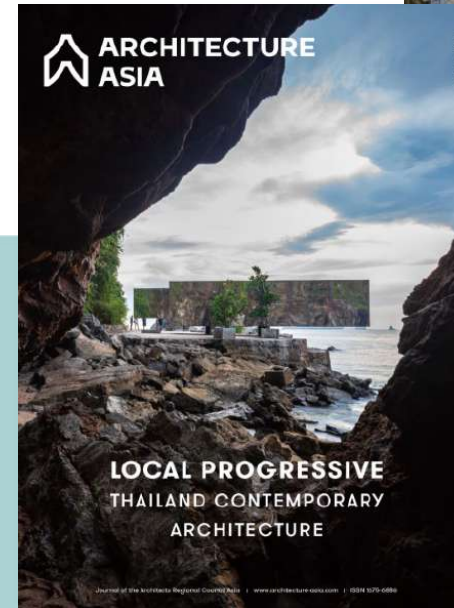
Global and Local Heritage Conservation and Urban Regeneration Forum

FUTURE PLAN 2026-2030

Expand the Theming Focus

- AA will place greater emphasis on “Asian Issues”, addressing diverse social, cultural, and environmental transformations, while aligning more closely with ARCASIA’s mission and committee fields.

- Sustainable Urban–Rural Built Environments
- Professional Practice of Young Architects
- Regional Culture and Contemporary Transformation
- Digital Technology and Innovation in Construction
- Architectural Education and Knowledge Systems
- Asian Cultural Heritage and Preservation



Selection Guide of Guest Editor

- To make the guest editor model more accessible, we will further develop work rules and procedures, circulate documents among member institutions for feedback, and invite broader participation.

Selection Criteria of Guest Editor

- a. Guest editors must be permanent residents of the member country or region of ARCASIA.
- b. Nominations must have at least five years of active engagement in architecture or related fields. Eligible backgrounds include, but are not limited to, practicing architects, faculty members from schools of architecture or research institutes, independent researchers, architectural critics, curators, or publishers.
- c. Nominations for guest editor positions must come from the respective member institutes of ARCASIA. Each nomination cycle may include multiple candidates, and an official letter of recommendation must be submitted.
- d. The nominating institute must provide the candidate's curriculum vitae, which includes information on their educational background, professional experience, institutional affiliations, and notable achievements.
- e. All nominations will be reviewed and approved by the Editorial Board.
- f. The nominating institute is responsible for overseeing the guest editor's work throughout the process to ensure the authenticity and timeliness of the content.

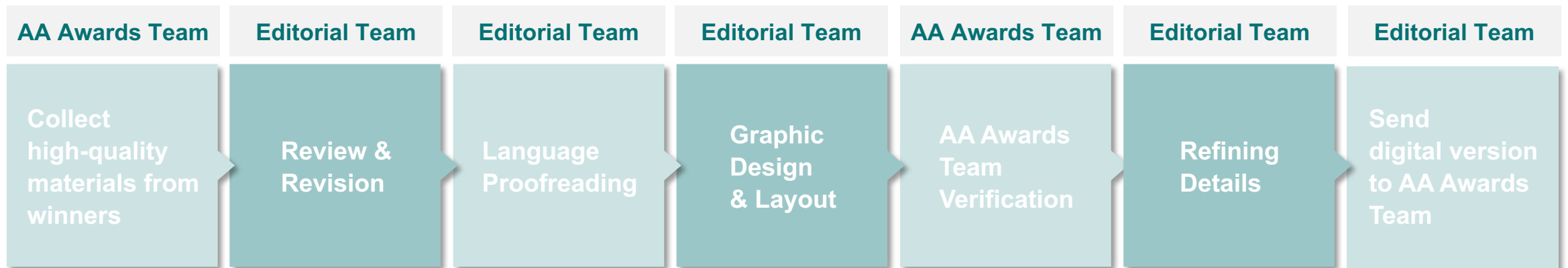
The plan on the selection of guest editors

The editorial team of the journal includes permanent editors, who will collaborate with guest editors to produce each issue. Guest editors are responsible for planning and coordinating issues dedicated to the countries or regions. Throughout the member institutes' nomination, they work closely with the journal's editorial team, managing the entire process from theme development to final publication. Their main responsibilities include:

- a. Proposing themes that reflect the unique characteristics of the architectural profession in the specific country or region, ensuring both academic value and relevance to professional practice.
- b. Preparing a thematic proposal that includes background information, scholarly significance, target readership, anticipated contributions, a list of potential authors, and a proposed timeline.
- c. Leading the solicitation of manuscripts by inviting prominent scholars, practicing architects, and other experts through personal academic networks or professional platforms.
- d. Assisting authors in understanding the journal's formatting requirements and scholarly standards, offering topic-specific suggestions or writing guidance, and ensuring the quality of submissions.
- e. Organizing the accepted manuscripts, integrating content, and composing the editorial introduction for the special issue.
- f. Collaborating with the editorial team on language, graphics, and content review to ensure compliance with publication standards and maintaining communication with authors until the issue is published.
- g. Participating in academic activities related to the special issue, such as organizing online lectures, scholarly dialogues, or social media outreach, to enhance the journal's visibility and impact.

Working with AA Awards Team

- Drawing on experience with the AA Awards and recent collaboration with KIRA, we are also preparing a work manual to streamline production of the AA Awards issue.
- The key challenge lies in the short timeline between the final jury review and the September award ceremony, which requires proactive communication between the Awards team and the AA editorial team.



Working with AA Awards Team

- Strict adherence to the agreed timeline is required from both parties.
- Coordination by the ARCASIA Secretariat is crucial to ensure that all parties are aligned with the workflow in advance.

Mid-June, within 3 days after the conclusion of the judging process

The host will provide the editorial office with the list of award recipients and project materials, including low-resolution images from the application website.

Early August

The editorial office will deliver the first layout draft.

The host verifies all information and provide feedback, after which the editorial office will adjust the layout accordingly.

Around 20 August

The final proof is completed, and the editorial office provides the host with an electronic version for promotion at the awards ceremony. If printed copies are needed, the responsibility for printing is on the host.

Jun. Final Review

End of June

The host prepares a profile of the convenor, profiles of the jury members, and an editorial authored by the convenor.

The host contacts the award recipients to request high-resolution images and a project description (300 words) that meets the journal's requirements, along with signed copyright agreements.

All materials must be submitted by the end of June, and the editorial office will then begin editing and layout immediately.

Early September

After the awards ceremony, the editorial team releases the special issue via email, the website, and social media platforms.

Sept. Award Ceremony

Annual Budget

- The total annual magazine expenditure, combining these three components, is estimated to be approximately 81,360 USD.

Editing	Item	Unit Cost	Quantity	Cost	Total
	Remuneration for Guest Editor	1,400	2	2,800	13,800
	Author Manuscript Preparation	400	15	6,000	
	Printing Fee	25	100	2,500	
	Mailing Fee	50	50	2,500	

Labor	Position	Hourly salary	Annual working hour	Salary	Total
	Editor in Chief	70	120	8,400	53,760
	Managing Editor	40	180	7,200	
	Executive Editor	28	420	11,760	
	Assistant Editor	15	1440	21,600	
	Assistant	10	480	4,800	

Travel	Expense Category	Round-Trip Flight	Accommodation	Other	Total
	East Asia	1,800	2,250	900	13,800
	South Asia	1,500	1,050	600	
	Southeast Asia	2,400	2,100	1,200	

Ongoing Work

- Editing work for the December issue, 2025.
- Special issue on Korean young architects, accompanied by a forum and field trip, scheduled for 2026.
- AA Forum of Malaysian Contemporary Architecture



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2025
The Dec. issue
of 2025



2026
The special issue
of Korea



Thank you

Architectural Society of China, ASC