



BRIEF HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTE

The Institute's Mission is *"To champion excellence in architecture and the built environment"* and our vision is to see *"Singapore as an Architecture Capital"*.

The Institute's general objectives are:

- **To generate** in our community a greater awareness and appreciation of the value of a sustainable approach in good design and the built environment
- **To advance** the theory and practice of architecture through the support and reward for quality research and innovation in architectural design, practice and education
- **To continually upgrade** through the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Programme, the level of professionalism among architects in order to better serve our community
- **To promote and provide** a common template among architects through a collective vision of working towards a dignified and caring profession that upholds a high standard of professional conduct and ethics

Strategic Plan

Four key strategic development strands will help SIA to fulfill its mission:

- **Design** – Principally to attain design leadership, to promote excellence in architecture through recognition and awards, education and continuing professional development, research and innovation
- **Practice** – The key aspects include promoting design competition, to promote equitable conditions of appointment, to promote technical competency, to engage in proactive policy formulation
- **Education** – The key aspects include continuing professional development and promoting quality architecture education.



- **Institution** – The main emphasis is to enlarge membership, to increase opportunities, to enhance SIA-industry partnership, to promote globalization, to promote positive image of the profession

COUNCIL 2012/2013

President	Theodore Chan
First Vice President	William Lau
Second Vice President	Chan Kok Way
Honorary Secretary	Seah Chee Huang
Honorary Treasurer	Laurence Liew
Immediate Past President	Ashvinkumar

Council Members

Darren Benger	Angelene Chan	Chan Seng Kee
Changarothe N Suneeth	Cheong Yew Kee	David Chung
Kuan Chee Yung	Richard Lai	Law Yoke Foong
Patrick Lee	Lim Choon Keang	Loh Ju-Hon
Catherine Loke	Ong Eng Liang	Ong Tze Boon
Song Yew Kee	Richard Soon	Christina Thean
Mark Wee	Wo Mei Lan	

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH

1472 with 826 voting members

LEGAL STATUS OF THE INSTITUTE

The Institute is recognised as the sole body representing the architectural profession in Singapore. However, it is a professional body with no statutory power.

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Promoting good relations with architectural institutes in other countries is a key objective of the Institute. This is conducted through maintaining regular rapport and exchange of information. The SIA is a member of the International Union of Architects (UIA), the Architects Regional Council of



Asia (ARCASIA) and the Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA). These professional organisations have enabled the Institute to keep in touch with the development of architecture and the profession in other parts of the world and have provided a forum for exchange and sharing of views with sister institutes.

MAJOR PROGRAMS OF THE INSTITUTE

ARCHIFEST

Festival of Ideas About the City

Happening from 6 – 31 October 2012, Archifest is a month-long festival that celebrates the urban environment and the communities that makes it alive. This sixth edition of Singapore's only architecture festival returns with new programs to engage a wider audience in conversations about the city and will be more than just about beautiful buildings and neat streets.

2012 Theme: RETHINK SINGAPORE

To imagine a city of the future, old urban moulds must be shed and new definitions made and Singapore, regarded as a model of urban planning and a city of possibilities, is the perfect place to do so.

With Rethink Singapore, Archifest 2012 hopes to place Singapore under new light and be seen through new lenses, rethinking and reframing it as an urban ecosystem, beyond singular architectural projects. Through this month-long festival, we also hope to engage different communities to step up, collaborate, participate and rethink the city for we believe that the city belongs to everyone.

Practice Convention

The Practice Convention is an annual event with the purpose to serve as "catapult of minds" on matters concerning architectural practice in Singapore as well as in the global arena. Practice Convention strives to promote its objective to bring together the general membership especially small practices to exchange and share information and experience on the latest development of practice and the regulator environment.



“An Integrated Approach” was the theme for 2012 Practice Convention which was held on 7 March 2012. It was the first step to be integrated through partnership with Association of Consulting Engineers Singapore (ACES) in organizing the Convention.

The Convention brought together a lineup of senior speakers who have many years of experience in building industry and legal environment who shared their thoughts, insights and viewpoints on the built environment sector and the emerging issues of integrated practice.

SIA 50th Anniversary

Founded in 1963, SIA is celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2013. A slew of events are being planned throughout 2013 to celebrate this joyous occasion. Some of the highlights include a commemorative book documenting the architecture development of Singapore from colonial period to present, gala dinners, etc to mark this significant milestone of the institute.

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN COMPETITIONS / AWARDS

SIA-GETZ Architecture Prize for Emergent Architecture in Asia

The SIA-GETZ Architecture Prize for Emergent Architecture in Asia honours bi-annually an architect who creates an impact with his contribution to emergent architecture in Asia. Launched by SIA and Getz Bros. & Co (Singapore) in 2005, the award has received entries from over 10 countries within Asia including China, Japan, India, Thailand, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Vietnam, Pakistan and the Philippines. SIA would like to thank ARCASIA Member Institutes for their support.

SIA Architectural Design Awards

The SIA Architectural Design Awards is the most prestigious award conferred by SIA to promote and encourage distinction in architectural design. The Awards recognizes the achievements of SIA members in their pursuit of architectural excellence and motivates architects to push the boundaries with innovative solutions. SIA hopes to imbue architects with the relentless mindset of continually achieving greater heights, leading to the vision of Singapore architecture being acknowledged as world class standards. The Awards also aim to heighten the appreciation and patronage of good architectural design from both the architectural fraternity as well as the general public.



Selected from 112 submissions, 22 recipients of the 12th SIA Architectural Design Awards were honoured on 18 May 2012 at the SIA 51st Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony was held at Resorts World Convention Centre.

Submissions of the 12th SIA Architectural Design Awards are evaluated based on attributes such as originality and innovation, sensitivity to context, sustainability, response to climate, response to users' needs and elegance of construction and detail; by a judging panel of industry professionals comprising

- Mr Ashvinkumar (Immediate Past President, Singapore Institute of Architects),
- Ms Fun Siew Leng (Group Director, Urban Redevelopment Authority)
- Mr Clifford Pearson (Deputy Editor, Architectural Records)
- Ar Saifuddin Bin Ahmad (President, Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia),
- Prof Wong Yunn Chii (Head, NUS Department of Architecture),

Moderator

Mr Laurence Liew (Chair, SIA Awards Committee / Director, DCA Architects)

RESOURCES OF THE INSTITUTE

The Institute publishes regularly the following:

SIA e-Newsletter

This is a monthly e-Newsletter featuring newsworthy items to inform members on events, activities and other related matters.

Singapore Architect

This is a bi-monthly magazine, with the December Issue incorporating the profiles of member firms. This professional magazine publishes articles related to architecture and the built environment as well as commentaries on professional and academic matters. It is distributed free to members and also available in bookshops or by subscription.



Capability Profile

This annual publication seeks to profile firms with indication of the strengths, expertise and countries of operation. This will provide a suitable platform for firms to mutually seek out working partners. More importantly, it allows international clients and developers to easily find the right capabilities and practices for their projects.

Members' Directory

This is an annual publication featuring Members' listing. It is distributed free to members together with the Institute's Annual Report.

RCS News

An in-house circular to inform members on the latest development on government rules, regulations, codes and standards pertaining to the building industry. This is a useful source of information for architects and building professionals. In 2005, the Institute's created RCS Online Archive Service to allow members to search all the circulars received from the government agencies.

Other Publications

There are numerous other publications published from time to time, such as SIA Architectural Design Awards, SIA Form of Contracts, Conditions of Appointment and Mode of Payment, Specimen Forms and Certificates for use in conjunction with the Main Contract. etc., which are for sales to members and the public. The Institute had also produced Guidance Notes for the Main Contract as well as for the Nominated Sub-Contract.

KEY ISSUES FACED BY THE PROFESSION AND ARCHITECTS

Sustainable Fees

An important aspects of doing business in Singapore, especially for the public sector projects, is in submitting a Quality Fee Method (QFM) bid for rendering professional services. Whilst the transparency of the system in appointing architects suited for the project is greatly appreciated,



one of the challenges is to educate the members to offer professional fees that are sustainable in order to ensure continual improvement in the quality of architectural services.

Design Competitions

Design Competitions for prestigious or culturally significant projects are strongly encouraged as it can provide the best option to achieve the goals of a promoter. For the past few years, SIA has been actively engaging Government Agencies and Institutions to conduct design competitions for key projects. Some of the design competitions that SIA assisted to organize include Punggol Mosque and Al Ansar Mosque with Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura (MUIS), Bukit Panjang Hawker Centre with National Environment Agency (NEA) and Indian Heritage Centre with National Heritage Board (NHB).

Marketing and Branding

The world economics today is Asia driven. Yet, we find that local architects are not given opportunities to design important and iconic buildings as there is still a preference amongst developer to appoint foreign consultants. One glaring issue is the lack of marketing and branding by local architects. The profession has to take it upon itself to navigate the market place and place itself on the world architectural map through marketing and branding.

FUTURE PLANS

Over the years, SIA has been working collaboratively with the industry, both in the private and public sectors, and in consultation with the government agencies to further elevate Design and Practice to a higher level locally and internationally. Design and Practice remain core thrusts that sustain the profession. Over the past years, Design featured more dominantly and did well to profile the profession. Beginning 2009, Practice, together with Design, played an equally important role to engage within and also profile the profession in the next lap forward. SIA will continue in the collective efforts to steer the profession in the right direction and in the process create a platform where members can adapt better to the demands of an ever-changing dynamic market and create a better future.

Sustainability, Continuity and Engagement will remain as barometers of the Institute's work wherein the emphasis is to reach out to new members by structuring activities to be value add to



the member's professional development. Simply put, the Institute is more effective as a group, within and outside the profession. The Institute has to further harness the on-going support of various stake-holders in order to be relevant, play an integral part in its overall development and remain sustainable.