

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND ADAPTIVE REUSE

18TH DECEMBER 2022 | SUNDAY
10AM – 4PM

ARTS AND CRAFTS GALLERY
LEVEL 2, BORNEO CULTURES MUSEUM

THE SPEAKERS



Ar. Tan Bee Eu



Ar. Au Tai Yeow



Rosli Bin Haji Nor

Ar Tan Bee Eu

Adaptive Reuse Case Studies - Penang and Kedah Digital Libraries

This topic discusses working specifically with the restoration of old colonial bungalows. Here, the speaker shares her award-winning journey in the design of the Penang and Kedah digital libraries—where old buildings find new functionality in the realm of community use. The design concept of these adaptive reuse projects centre on being heritage-sensitive, celebrating nature and paying homage to the cities' historical urban fabric.

Ar Au Tai Yeow

Heritage Conservation and the Challenges for Penang

This talk delves into the events that led to George Town' listing as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The cornerstone of Penang's conservation efforts place importance in the authenticity of its living and built cultural heritage. A considerable revitalisation effort aims to enhance the future economic, social, and educational development of its diverse cultural landscape. Learning from these ventures will form valuable lessons for Sarawak's own conservation journey.

Rosli Bin Haji Nor

Heritage Management: Penang & Melaka Experience

By training, Rosli Bin Haji Nor is an experienced Conservation architect. His industrious career has spanned the states of Melaka and Penang, places rich in Cultural and Architectural Heritage. Rosli has formulated and drafted many bills which have led to the conservation and preservation of National Monuments and Archeological Sites such as Suleiman Royal Mosque and The Stadthuys. His experience in managing and developing conservation strategies is remarkable and here, he endeavours to impart his knowledge and share about his undertakings.



Registration Link:

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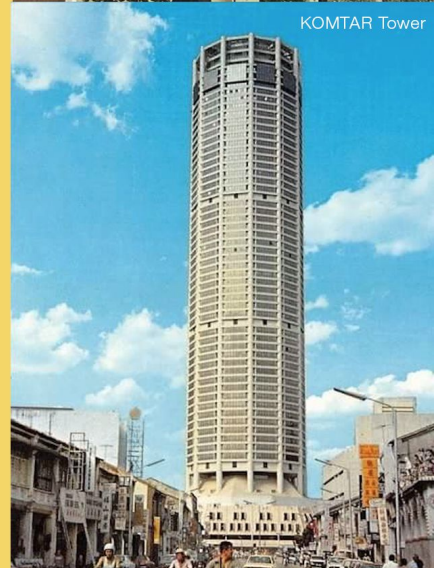
Official Venue:



123 Macalister



Malayan Railway Building



KOMTAR Tower



Kedah Digital Library



Penang Digital Library

SPEAKER PROFILES



Ar. Tan Bee Eu

Bee Eu Tan, the founder of BETA (BEu Tan Architect), is an award-winning architect recognised for her work in restoring heritage buildings in her native Penang and beyond. Her maiden project in Alor Setar, the Kedah Digital Library, won gold at the PAM Awards 2022's Adaptive Reuse Category, giving her a total of seven design awards and a third gold at the PAM Awards in the last four years.

Tan's remarkable trajectory had its humble start in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur where she built a diverse portfolio to include local and international projects involving concept design, masterplanning and project management.

Upon returning to Penang, she established her own boutique practice focusing on honest architecture and back to basics design. Her first project, restoring the Penang Institute's colonial Annex Bungalow, kick-started a career in architectural conservation, followed by The Penang Digital Library.

Tan continues to share her vision for preserving built heritage as the organiser of Pechakucha Penang, a global networking event that originated in Tokyo where architects, designers and artists share ideas.



Ar. Au Tai Yeow

Ar. Au Tai Yeow helms Architect T.Y.Au, a boutique practice dedicated to providing personal attention to detail and design that was established in early 1998 in Penang, Malaysia. It is a practice which has chosen to remain small in the belief that design quality, and principles will be diluted the bigger a firm becomes.

The design atelier is well respected in Penang and also recognized by its peers for its architecture and interior work. Its clientele range from private owners to multi nationals as well as other Malaysian corporate companies.

Ar. Au Tai Yeow graduated with honors from Washington State University in 1990 and also spent a year at the DIS program at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark as a Rotary Undergraduate Scholar in 1989. In 1991, he obtained his Masters in Architecture and Urban Design at Washington University at St. Louis.

Ar. Au Tai Yeow is actively involved in promoting architecture for the public and architects via the local architecture institute. He has organized talks by Malaysian and international architects in Penang.



Rosli Bin Haji Nor

Rosli Haji Nor is a conservation architect by training. He started his career in architectural field with a private firm in Kuala Lumpur. He then headed the Conservation Division at Department of National Heritage.

Being one of the team members that involved in the nomination of Melaka and Penang for the World Heritage listing, he was offered to lead the Melaka World Heritage Office in 2011 to overseeing the state of conservation of the World Heritage site of Melaka.

He works together with the George Town World Heritage Incorporated (GTWHI) to coordinate the management of the World Heritage Sites of Melaka and George Town. Rosli is the contact person for UNESCO's flagship programme on UNESCO's World Heritage Youth Volunteers, and Dutch Trading Posts Heritage Network.

He is member to ICOMOS (International Council of Monuments and Sites), Malaysia, and working committee for the nomination of New Villages of Malaysia for World Heritage listing.

Rosli is now the Penang State Heritage Commissioner since October 2021.



Photo courtesy from Ar. Chris Yap's Facebook.

Ar. Philip Chang received his official appointment as a Board Member of Lembaga Arkitek Malaysia (2022-2023) from the current LAM President, Datin Ar. Yong Razidah bt. Rashid on the 5th Dec 2022. Every year, one representative from Sarawak & Sabah (proposed by each chapter by rotation) will be appointed as one of the three from the nomination list submitted by the Council of PAM under Section 3(2) (d) of Architect Act 1967.

Notice to JTCC Meeting

PAMSC PGL (Practice & Government Liaison) Sub-committee is compiling agendas to be tabled for the next JTCC Meeting by the Ministry of Public Health, Housing & Local Government (MPHLG). If you have any issues relating to Local Councils or the Department of Irrigation (DID), please write to us (best with a paragraph of synopsis or explanation) to info@pamsc.org.my attention to PGL Sub-committee. Thanks.

MUDeNR Lab on TOD & Plot Ratio



Presentation by Group 2 of the Lab by MUDeNR on the final day. PAMSC was represented by Ar. Stephen Liew and Ar. Chai Si Yong.

In view of Kuching City Local Plan 2030 and upcoming ART development, MUDeNR (Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development) organised an intensive 3-day lab to discuss guidelines on Transit Oriented Development (TOD) and Guidelines for Plot Ratio in Sibu, Miri and Bintulu.

PAMSC as one of the key members of the lab was invited and attended the lab from 13th Dec 2022 onwards at Planning War Room, Menara Pelita, Kuching. The group discussion commenced 2 days after a short briefing from MUDeNR and representatives from Sarawak Metro. The findings of the lab were presented by each group to conclude the lab on the final day. This draft will be refined by another level of the workshop before being presented to the SPA.





Ar. Tan Bee Eu on Adaptive Reuse Case Studies – Penang and Kedah Digital Libraries.

On Heritage Conservation and Adaptive Reuse – Heritage Speakers Series

Written by Alyssa Lou

‘**H**eritage Conservation and Adaptive Reuse’ was the latest in an extensive series of talks – Heritage Speakers Series by the Sarawak Heritage Society. SHS has been actively working towards their goal of raising awareness about Sarawak’s cultural heritage and advocating for its sustainable conservation, safeguarding and management since 2006.

Though efforts have been ramping up in recent years, heritage conservation in Sarawak seems to suffer from scant heritage management and limited personal interest; a far cry from states such as Penang and Melaka, where living and built heritage are often diligently championed and protected. Invites were extended to architects from Penang that are prominent in the heritage conservation and adaptive reuse scene. Each speaker was well versed in a different facet of heritage conservation – be it heritage management, conservation policies and preservation through adaptive reuse.

The Sarawak Museum Department, a consistent patron and collaborator of Sarawak Heritage Society rallied by generously sponsoring the venue for this talk – the Arts and Crafts Gallery, Borneo Cultures Museum. The talk kicked off at 10:30AM on the 18th of December to an audience of about 70 with two opening speeches by the Sarawak Museum Department representative and James Yong, SHS President.

Our first speaker, Encik Rosli Bin Haji Nor, Penang’s Heritage Commissioner, was well received by the audience. Through light-hearted jokes and a sunny disposition, he highlighted crucial lessons learnt from his years of experience managing the heritage sites of Melaka and Penang. Though the heritage journey of Melaka has seen many triumphs and accomplishments, Encik Rosli illustrated that the hard-fought preservation of living and built heritage faces the impending threat of overtourism. Penang’s most glaring problem remains the gentrification of its heritage buildings and streets, where inauthentic measures are taken to beautify buildings without adhering to the set guidelines. In cities like Penang and Melaka, where cultural heritage runs rich, Encik Rosli called attention to the urgency to transform tourism into a tool for heritage conservation while maintaining the balance between authenticity and innovation.



James Yong, SHS President with Ar. Au Tai Yeow, T.Y. Au Architects.



Ar. Au Tai Yeow on Heritage Conservation and the Challenges for Penang.

The lunch break provided ample time for the speakers and SHS Committee members to converse and share ideas, stories and aspirations. At around 1:30PM, Ar. Tan Bee Eu of Beta Architects began a sharing session on her personal journey in adaptive reuse architecture, sharing with us a few of her standout projects. Ar. Tan exemplified that a careful touch and thoughtful problem solving allows for a new lease of life for heritage buildings whilst gaining increasing community involvement. In her projects, there was a common vein of sustained interest and continued investment - caring for the building's purpose and its patrons long after project completion. The treatment of heritage buildings requires no less than a delicate approach. Ar. Tan showed how simple themes can give rise to articulate ideas and how thoughtful, rather than flashy design may just be exactly what the community needs.

Ar. Au Tai Yeow of T.Y Au Architects has been a staunch advocate of heritage conservation in his hometown of Penang. His talk was an honest depiction on the challenges of heritage management in Penang - showcasing the good, the bad and ugly of its extensive journey. Amongst the many exemplary and successful endeavours, there remain many examples of built heritage that have failed to be protected and preserved. Ar. Au attributes these to the mismanagement of resources by the responsible parties. Selective enforcement and lack of monitoring have contributed to the mishandling and mistreatment of heritage buildings, some to the point of no return. Ar. Au also spoke briefly about how economic and demographic changes are intertwined with the preservation of living cultural heritage in Penang. It may be challenging to manage conservation in a heritage area as big as Georgetown, but many, like Ar. Au, remain passionate about the cause and carry out major outreach and advocacy to preserve their cultural inheritance.

It was heartening to see the turnout, especially on a Sunday, that ranged from architecture students to heritage advocates and to members of the public that chanced upon our talk and decided to participate. It was an enlightening experience for all involved as we had the opportunity to examine the considerable revitalisation effort that has swept the shores of Penang and Melaka over the years.

In the near future, Sarawak Heritage Society will undoubtedly continue on with their successful Heritage Speakers Series, with these programmes anchoring on the themes of awareness, advocacy and advisory. I heartily believe that learning from these ventures will form valuable lessons for Sarawak's own conservation journey and bring forth our shared passion for our living and built heritage.

END



Question & Answer Session.



Rosli Bin Haji Nor on Heritage Management - Penang and Melaka Experience.



Group Picture featuring Speakers, SHS Committee members and participants.