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DESIGN NEWS

SUMMA CUM LAUDE PRESIDENT'S DESIGN AWARD

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On 23rd November 2006, Singapore President S R Nathan awarded the President's Design Award, the country's highest accolade for designers, to its first nine recipients. Attended by some 200 industry leaders, the inaugural award ceremony was accompanied by a public exhibition showcasing the winners' works and designs.

Celebrating the recipients' achievements in architecture and urban design, fashion design, industrial and product design, interior design and visual communications design, the President's Design Award is a highlight of Creative 2006 – Reinvent Your Future, a month-long showcase to promote Singapore's creative industries.

In selecting Chan Soo Khian of SCDA Architects Pte Ltd as a recipient of the Designer of the Year award, the jury praised him for design solutions that "challenge us to remain modern yet rooted in the South-east Asian context". The other recipient of the award, Theseus Chan of WERK magazine and Comme des Garçons Guerilla Store+65 fame, was cited by the jury as being "unconventional, edgy and irreverent... challeng[ing] our thinking to the extent that we constantly expect him to surprise".

The Designs of the Year awards went to seven recipients, including Sebastian Chun of Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM) for six special exhibitions at ACM; Wong Mun Summ and Richard Hassell of WOHA Architects Pte Ltd for Church of St Mary of the Angels; Koh Seow Chuan of DP Architects Pte Ltd in association with Michael Wilford & Partners (London) for Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay; Tay Lee Soon of Architects 61 Pte Ltd for Fullerton Hotel / One Fullerton; Mylene Tjin of Hewlett Packard Singapore Pte Ltd for the HP Deskjet 460 mobile printer; Brett Cameron of Kingsmen Exhibits Pte Ltd for MINI Habitat; and Colin Seah of Ministry of Design Pte Ltd in association with DP Architects Pte Ltd for New Majestic Hotel.

Among their comments on the winning projects, the jury remarked that they "enjoyed the sense of theatre the designer has brought to [the New Majestic Hotel] project. Always provocative, the hotel is a talking point for both visitors and Singapore residents alike, and is an icon among boutique hotels". Likewise, *iSh* anticipates future President's Design Awards to become a talking point as well as a benchmark of the cream of local design.

For more information, visit www.mca.gov.sg/cvawwv2006



Chan Soa Khan & Theveus Chan



The Boulevard Residences by OPR Shoo Khuan



New Majestic hotel



Commercial display, Gurney Park 165



Alan Choo's Museum



Futuro



Exhibition, Theatres on the Bay



ATN Majestic



Church of St Mary of the Angels



HP Deskjet 400 mobile printer