

### Livable Kuala Lumpur

Sarizal Yusman Yusoff & Azizah Salim Syed Salim

### Milieu and Objectives

Traditionally, since it first started in 2007, the UPM Bachelor of Architecture program has conducted various urban studies on Malaysian cities and town centers which are outside of Kuala Lumpur and the Greater Kuala Lumpur conurbations. As this was the inaugural fifth year architectural group of students to occupy a new 'enlarged' studio space at the UPM Faculty of Design and Architecture, it is decided for the studio to also shift from the 'traditional' norm and be valiant to identify the Malaysian capital as the chosen city of study. As Kuala Lumpur is a relatively sizeable and dynamic international urban centre, detailed urban studies of only three chosen urban centers within the city, which are Bangsar, Pudu and Sentul are proposed. These three localities present their own rich and localized diverse historical and cultural prosperity that would provide the students with ample research avenues of the lifestyles and socio-cultural concerns affecting the KL urbanites.

#### Bangsar, Pudu and Sentul studies

The first semester was delineated via the ARC 4002 Advanced Architecture Studio program primarily for macro site specific urban historical and contextual studies of the three urban centers with micro analytical studies of chosen

individual sites. In line with the theme of 'Livable Kuala Lumpur', each group was then initially tasked to propose public urban amenities rejuvenation programs with architectural and/or social strategies and propositions that could elevate and invigorate the living qualities and further appreciation of each of the three urban centers.

The 2011-2012 Year 5 group of 21 students was evenly divided into three groups for the entire duration of two semesters of ARC 4002 and ARC 4003. The site analysis of Bangsar, Pudu and Sentul was carried out as a collective effort among the 7 members of each group, with great encouragement and emphasis on students working on sites which would or could be neighboring to each other. This was quite successfully done with the Bangsar group of students of whereby 4 of the group members worked creatively on the former Lever Brothers land at Jalan Bangsar, designing schemes that actually link thematically and physically, while the Pudu and Sentul group were quite individualistic to a certain extent. Subsequently each student was required to develop and propose several potential projects and typologies with probable sites for their individual 'Comprehensive Design Project'. All projects were encouraged to 'fall back' on the theme of making Kuala Lumpur more liveable as a city.

As the name implies, the UPM Department of Architecture Year 5 ARC 4003 architectural student project was designed for a comprehensive study of architectural, construction engineering, economic, social and cultural solution and to be site and context specific in an existing urban fabric. More importantly, the students are expected to have reached and matured to an acceptable level of artistic and technical competency, sufficient to satisfy the needs and expectations of the international architectural and building industry standards. They must also conform to the full requirements of the Malaysian Board of Architects standards of an architectural education.

ARC 4003 is the ultimate design exercise in the formal education of every architectural student learning at UPM. It tests every student's ability first and foremost, as a team member and as an individual designer, towards achieving a personal competency to work on accomplishing a detailed analysis of a chosen site. Inclusive of understanding and interpreting all the design requirement of a chosen building design brief and provision of appropriate spatial and functional aspect, establishing and demonstrating the construction design criteria and methodologies and/or alternative novel technical architectural detail solutions. Those design solutions could have various environmental and economic advantageous or disadvantageous implications on the typology or chosen building type and achieving the most appropriate aesthetic response that satisfies successfully the design aspirations and original intent of the author.

The final architectural design solution should eventually demonstrate the student's ability to appreciate design appropriateness in terms of the specific needs of the typical building user, environmental, social and cultural context in relation to the existing surrounding urban environment. A matured understanding and appreciation of economic values, life-cycle cost in relation to design and construction with an environmentally sensitive architectural solution using Malaysian based green rating tools are also encouraged to be demonstrated by the architectural students of ARC 4003.

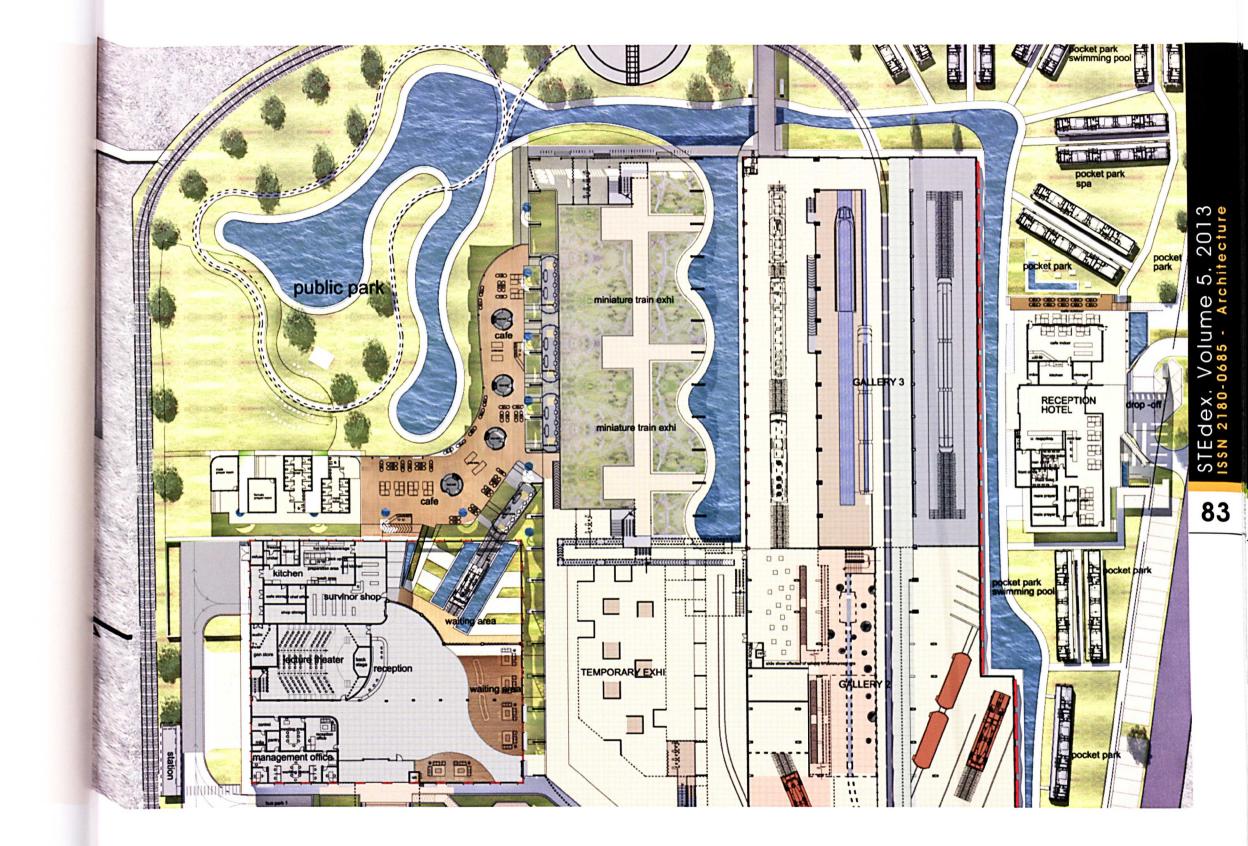
### **Individual Projects**

The selected projects in this publication are from the Sentul group, namely the National Railway Museum at KLPac by Khairul Asri, the Sentul Indie Film Centre by Tan Lay Peng and the Sentul Botanical Research Institute by Dave Tan. Each is from the Bangsar and the Pudu group. The single submission that both represent the Bangsar and Pudu groups were short-listed candidates for the 2013 Tan Sri Chai Sau Lai architectural students' award (national). The drawings and artefacts of both the Angkasapuri Symphony Arena by Azharol Kaspol and the Pudu Creative Hub by Nurlaila Izyan were displayed at the Kuala Lumpur 2013 Archidex Exhibition together with the other short-listed candidates from other architectural schools in and outside of Malaysia.

# Jury Review

Ahmad Nizam Radzi

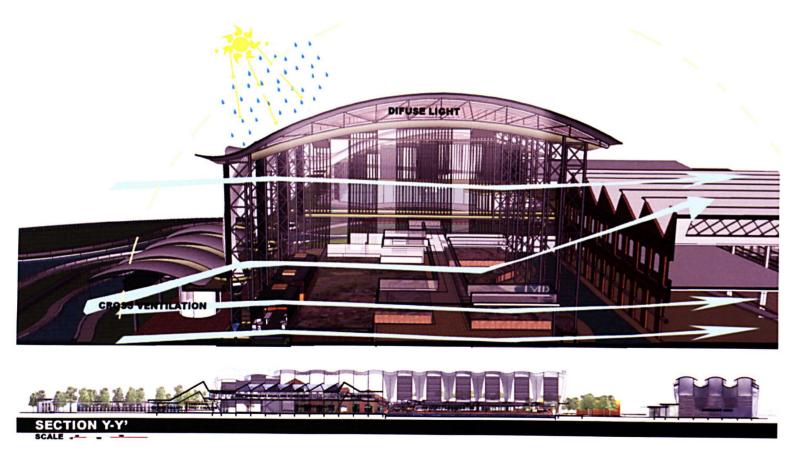
The project highlights the National Railway Museum as a historical museum which is part of the Keretapi Tanah Melayu Berhad (KTMB) building. The students were successful in preserving both the physical elements and heritage of railways in Malaysia. They have creatively put together and presented the railway system's historical development through its chronological time period. The outcomes are captivating educational museum design masterpieces which will no doubt could bring in visitors to experience the exhibition spaces along a educational chronological references.

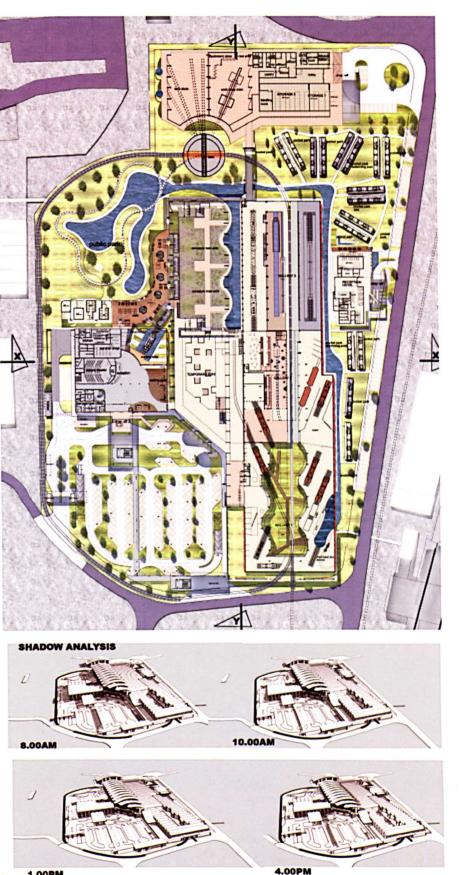


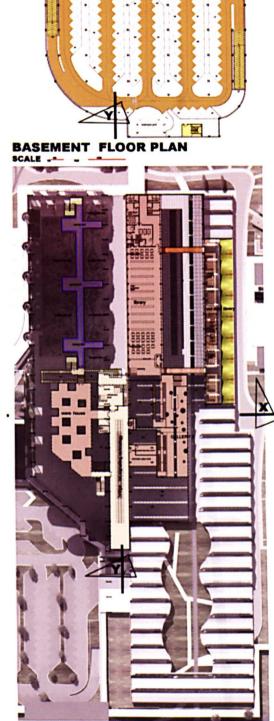
# Sentul 1: National Railway Museum Chronological Experience Azizah Salim Syed Salim & Sarizal Yusman Yusoff

The National Railway Museum is a historical museum which is part of the Keretapi Tanah Melayu Berhad (KTMB) building. The showcase reflects the development of railway transport in Malaysia and its impact on the society. It is the home of national collections of historically significant railway vehicles, as well as collections of other artifacts. The museum preserves both the physical elements and heritage of railways in Malaysia. It also conducts research and development for the railway industry in the country. This museum exhibits the industrial history of development of railway system and at the same time introduces the historical background of each period with displays of actual models. It is also an educational museum that can create an interest to the visitors by experiencing the exhibition space that has been designed chronologically with reference to the railway development in Malaysia from the British colonial era until today. Visitors can get to know and experience railway principles, systems, and the latest technologies (including future plans) through models, simulations and play equipment.







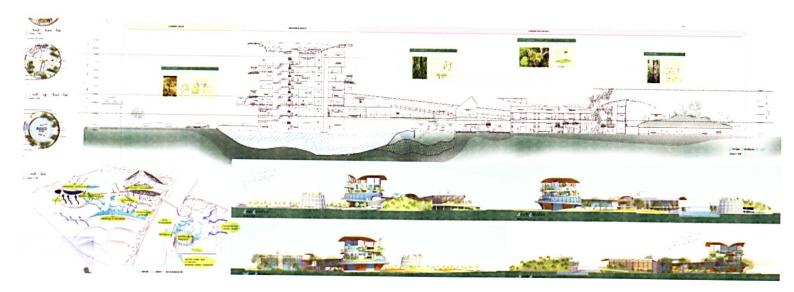


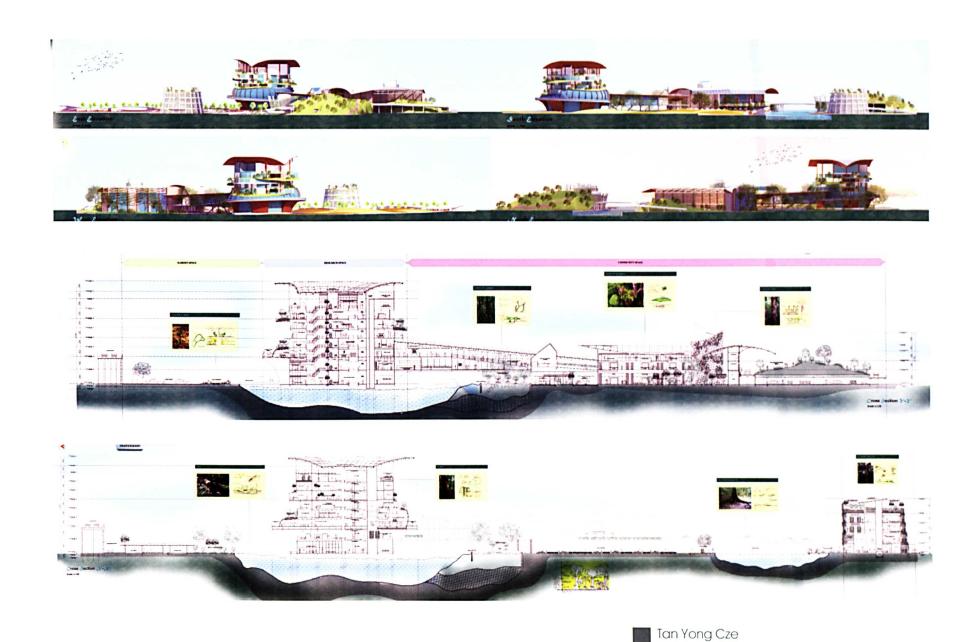


## Sentul 2: Institute Botanical Research Organic Servitude Azizah Salim Syed Salim & Sarizal Yusman Yusoff

Botanical Research Institute in Sentul attempts to provide renewable resources that could be shared within the community. The proposed green hub is designed to receive organic waste and convert them into biogas and fertilizer. The centre is equipped with waste water treatment and rainwater catchment for supplying secondary water resources required in the Sentul area. It is a scientific research centre which monitors the urban landscapes and recreational parks. It also caters from urban macro level to site micro level. The Institute is divided into three spaces including a garden and research and community spaces. The garden is a semi-private space containing foliage greeneries, broad-leafed research forest, manmade wetland and bio-fishery ponds are opened to public upon request. The main function of the research space is designated as a private area. It focussed on botany-related research fields, education and urban landscape services. The final proposed design is a combination of a botanical garden and research centre complete with green facilities. Additionally, the centre incorporates knowledge and technology about plants to serve the urban green networking.







## Sentul East: Indie Film and Music Village

Azizah Salim Syed Salim & Sarizal Yusman Yusoff

Many developments in Kuala Lumpur are moving towards the achievement of a liveable city. Sentul East lacks facilities, amenities, infrastructures and activities which promote liveable lifestyle for the local community. Hence, the development in this part of Sentul is a fortuitous opportunity for Kuala Lumpur to be redesigned and revitalised by adopting the humanity attributes of other global liveable cities. Film and music have become the common art and entertainment media which cater for different category of society in Sentul. The main key proposal in this project is to look into the provision of adequate infrastructures for fast and cost-efficient connectivity of people; and at the same time to dedicate assembly areas for art, cultural and civic amenities. Indie film and music neighbourhood parks, cinematic art galleries, and academy will be beneficial for the community in Sentul East and hence improve the current economic environment and social sustainability. The project functions as a connector and catalyst between architecture, people, nature and cinematic and performing arts industry.





