ARCHTERNATIVE

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Definition of architectural and alternative:

Ar·chi·tec·tur·al
1. relating to the art or practice of designing and constructing buildings.

Al·ter·na·tive
1. available as another possibility or choice.
2. relating to activities that depart from or challenge traditional norms.

The CHARCH Graduation Show 2020 'Archternative' showcases the Architecture students of Chu Hai College of Higher Education's work, seeking creative ideas and feasible solutions to real-life architectural challenges. The exhibition showcases new visions, that invite our visitors to experience 'architectural alternatives' in Hong Kong.

FOREWORD

The exhibition features both M.Arch design theses and selected final year design projects of the B.sc (Hons) in Arch programme. The wide spectrum of student-initiated design theses are categorized into separate themes, of 'Envisioning the Future', 'Architecture as a Media', 'Community and Culture' and 'Revitalization and Reinventing'. Each issue is being addressed and illustrated by a profound construct of concepts and materializations of both form and space.

The Department of Architecture of Chu Hai College of Higher Education has over 55 years of history in Hong Kong. To date, both the M.Architecture and the B.sc (Hons) in Architecture programmes have the Hong Kong Institute of Architects and Architect's Registration Board's professional accreditation status. The curriculum centers around issues of sustainability, giving grounding in professional knowledge, utilizing digital tools and scientific methods to investigate how architecture design advances with limited resources on earth. The Department nurtures students who are versatile, competent and progressive, to serve in the many diverse challenges to the architectural profession by advocating and delivering sustainable and quality living environments.

Sky Reclamation
Habitation in the Sky

Kiu, CHUI Long Kiu

This thesis explores an alternative to tackle the demands of living in Hong Kong by embracing extraordinary building height. Only by understanding the practicality of super tall buildings, visions of future living and impacts of mega structure could society advance forward.

Farming City
Developing Sustainable City through Urban Farming

Phoebe, HUEN Yim Kwan

Due to the foreseeable international food crisis that is predicted around 2050, Hong Kong needs to seek solutions to boost the amount of food production. This thesis explores the potential of urban farming to uphold sustainability vision and reinforce local communities' resilience.

Nuisance Neutralization
Waste Incineration in our Backyard

Vincci, LIU Wang See

This thesis explores the relationship between the location of waste treatment provisions within the urban structure. The comparison of urban relationships provides new grounds for revolutionary systems which introduces challenging ideas, and provides an incentive towards improving solutions for the treatment of waste.

Reactivating the Green Belt
Daily Integration with Urbanature

Manson, FUNG Ho Hin

This thesis investigates the strategy for reactivating the Green Belt to enhance the integration between the Green Belt and the urban fabric through an intervention system. It will generate a new dimension to rethink the quality and quantity of public space.

Saving the Dark
Urban Stargazing

Justin, WONG Tsz Hin

Every night in Hong Kong, the urban areas suffer from light pollution, brought by various light sources. This thesis focuses specifically on blocking external light by an envelope, through careful consideration of the form, patterns and material of the façade.

Ageing in Community
Intergenerational Interaction in Communal Space

Jenny, YEUNG Sin Ling

Ageing issue has been exacerbated by passive reactions and large aging groups. This thesis studies the Nam Shan Estate and its inhabitants from a broader social-science perspective to foster intergenerational interaction in communal space.

Light Rail Leftover Space
Reconsidering Obsoleted Light Rail Infrastructure

Osmond, WONG Fuk Tong

The thesis starts from the hypothetical observation that the Light-Rail infrastructure is a cause of neglected space within its 'developed area' in the train-turning space and obsolete sub-terminus. Various identified locations along the tracks are revitalized with communal space, contributing to sustainable development.

REMAKE
Transformation of Maykong Godown for Future Factory

Kaho, WONG Ka Ho

Unleashing the potential of a frozen time of space from the 1960s, this thesis examines the transformation of industrial elements via re-injecting a new life. The process in the transformation is further explored to define a new factory typology, for considering further future usage re-assignments.

Sea to Society
A Dried Seafood Hub in Tai O

Kelsey, CHEUNG Hang Chi

The hunt for unique food experiences has attracted many people's interests recently. This thesis proposes a new and comprehensive model for the dried seafood industry in Tai O, with the aim of modernizing and reactivating this declining traditional food industry.

Plug-in System in Retail Space
Essence of Product & The Ideology of Fast Shopping

Edward, TAI Chun Ho

Retail space is a key element of Hong Kong's urban fabric. The fast shopping culture, its environment, and ideology shape our behaviors and cause other effects. This thesis explores a new retail space construction system with a plug-in structure for a certain autonomy for individual 'brands'.

Living Alley
Sustainable Transformation of Urban Alleys

Mike, YU Tsz Lok

'Back-alleys' [connection Spaces to the rear of developed sites] pose health, safety, and environmental hazards, so they appear to most people as a wasted resource. This thesis strives to create a significant transformation that encourages community participation.

Columbarium Shift
Journey between Life and Death

Mini, NG Lok Sum

What is columbarium? This thesis explores the meaning of life and death by looking at the Lamma Island Columbarium. It argues that the columbarium is not merely a place for memorizing the deceased, but a physical environment to evoke a spiritual journey of life and death, recognizing the beauty of both.

ARC Lane
Disused Air Raid Precaution Tunnels and Cavern Spaces

Fabio, HEUNG Chun Kit

Nearly half of the Hong Kong landscape resource is hilly natural terrain. This thesis examines these seemingly "uninhabitable spaces", cavern spaces are particularly investigated for a new dimension of urban expansion, to enrich the dynamic hyper-dense cityscape.

Library
Connector of People; Connector of Community

Jeff, CHEUNG Siu Kwan

The role of public libraries to act as "gateway to knowledge" has been fading since the information age. This thesis probes an alternative to flourish the library, through analysing current librarian services, and propose a revised model library layout, in a congested urban location with external landscape circulation difficulties.

Re-inventing Public Space
A New Tower Typology

Eddie, LI Tsz Hong

Can public space be vertical? This thesis explores an alternative for vertical strategy for public space by probing different spatial qualities, structural systems, and façade construction. A solution of arranging the space into multiple levels with "one vertical plane and two planes of circulations" is adapted.

Cyberpunk for Tomorrow
Architectural Representation of Collective Digital Living

Kira, CHAN Man Chung

2020 is the year of CYBERPUNK. By speculating from movies and current conditions, architectural expression in the future will merge individual experience and urban context, morphing into an undistinguishable vessel between our digital footprints and physical identities.
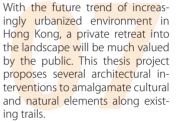
New Mariculture Justification
Rehabilitation of Inshore Mariculture

Daniel, CHEUNG Ka Ki

Urban expansion has led to an unhealthy development of the Mariculture Floating settlement. Through demonstrating the cultivation of oysters to adapt to water pollution between urban and rural buffer zones, this thesis explores an alternative way for the sustainability of mariculture.
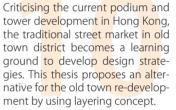
Sustainable Tourism
A Catalyst for Rejuvenation in the Rural Landscape

Jeffrey, CHIU Yat Fung

With the future trend of increasingly urbanized environment in Hong Kong, a private retreat into the landscape will be much valued by the public. This thesis project proposes several architectural interventions to amalgamate cultural and natural elements along existing trails.

Urban Layerism
Exploration of New Development Typology

Jason, LEUNG Ka Long

Criticising the current podium and tower development in Hong Kong, the traditional street market in old town district becomes a learning ground to develop design strategies. This thesis proposes an alternative for the old town re-development by using layering concept.

Ageing Well, Living Well
Generative Community Spaces

Chloe, MA Ho Yi

Hong Kong is facing an alarming challenge in garnering sufficient public support for its population ageing problem. The thesis proposes for the transformation of scattered pocket parks in older districts into a series of cohesive community spaces for the Young-Olds.

Integrated Community Infrastructure
Holistic Urban Design for Social Sustainability
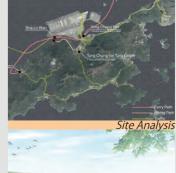
Vincent, KWOK Wing Sang

This thesis takes a hypothetical stance that urban infrastructure can be designed as an integral part of local streetscape and activities. Making use of Gascoigne Road Flyover reconstruction, a holistic design approach of urban infrastructure is achieved and connected flawlessly.

Post-War Building Conservation
Adaptive Reuse on Kowloon Flour Mills

Samuel, NGAI Sum Ming

Kowloon Flour Mills, which has high architectural value would likely be torn down after the factory closes down. This thesis focuses on the solution to adaptively reuse the flour mills into a unity of heritage conservation, urban farming and public space.

Pallego
Reusing Waste Pallet by Dismantling and Recombining

Sam, LEE Keung

Daily disposal of pallets is approximately equivalent to 7,700 trees/day. Though the way of computation and physical modelling, this thesis explores new methods of reusing the pallets into a self-standing and joint-less structure, to seek a new tectonic expression in architecture.

Expandable Space Block Residence
Flexible Housing for Different User Profiles

Miki, TSE Mei Ki

The current designs of public housing in Hong Kong are inefficient and unsustainable because of the variations in the needs of living space that varies between families. This thesis proposes a MiC system to allow flexible housing for various users that strives for sustainable modification and expansion.

S.T.E.A.M. Learning Centre
B.sc. (Hons.) in Architecture
Selected Final Year Projects

The 5 selected undergraduate final year projects, on the other hand, review the current proposals for developing Lantau Island into a tourist and leisure destination. They investigate how nature and the indigenous habitat can strategize revitalization of Sha Lo Wan Village, which is a 300-year old village, with only 50 current residents, and a mere 200m away from the Hong Kong International Airport.

Maggie, WONG Mei Kei

Matthew, CHAN Chun Hei

Site Analysis

Dyrus, HAU Wing Ho

Patrick, CHOW Wing Cheuk

Janice, CHING Yuen Ki