

# Malaysia Landscape Architecture Awards 2013 Honouring the Unsung Heroes of Malaysia's Development Projects

Text by Raymond Martin and Charles Teo

Images as credited/ Courtesy of Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM)

Each year, the Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM) presents the Malaysia Landscape Architecture Awards (MLAA) to outstanding Malaysian landscape architecture firms, developers, government agencies, contractors, researchers, and students for projects, research papers, or design work, completed in Malaysia and abroad. These awards honour the best in landscape architecture from various aspects of the industry. The awards are open to all project submissions completed at least one year previously and that have not won any previous ILAM MLAA Awards.

Landscape designers, developers, government agencies, contractors, researchers, and students are awarded Excellence, Special Honour, Honour, or Merit awards in eight categories:

1. Landscape Design
2. Landscape Analysis & Study
3. Landscape Innovation
4. Landscape Construction
5. Landscape Planning & Development
6. Green City
7. Landscape Research
8. Student Design

Projects are evaluated on criteria, such as, for the "Landscape Design" category: design idea and concept (30%); environmental sensitivity and sustainability (20%); planting design (15%); hard landscape and lighting (15%); professionalism in presentation (10%); and contribution to body of knowledge (10%). Other criteria include: inventory

and analysis for "Landscape Analysis & Study"; out-of-the-box idea for "Landscape Innovation"; quality of construction for "Landscape Construction"; and affordances to users, culture and community for "Green City", among others.

The jury process for the awards is "blind". In other words, the identities of the entrants and creative teams are not revealed to the jury. Members of the jury, as well as the firms, organisations, and the agencies they represent, are not eligible to enter the competition as professional entrants. The jury takes three days to review all of the official entries, a total of 79 in 2013, as well as three days of site visits to decide the Excellence Award winners. One "Project of the Year" and a total of 36 awards were presented in 2013.

For more information: [www.ilamalaysia.org](http://www.ilamalaysia.org)

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

**Excellence Award  
(International Project)**

**name** My Waterway @ Punggol  
**award recipient** Surbana International Consultants Pte Ltd (Landscape Architect/ Planner/ Architect/ Engineer)  
**location** Punggol, Singapore  
**completion date** 2011  
**client/ owner** Housing and Development Board Singapore  
**landscape main contractor**  
 Kuan Aik Hong Construction Pte Ltd  
**waterway structure main contractor**  
 Koh Brothers Building & Civil Engineering Contractor (Pte) Ltd  
**footbridge main contractor**  
 Lek San Construction Pte Ltd  
**iconic bridge main contractor**  
 Eng Lee Engineering Pte Ltd

The Punggol Waterway has enabled Punggol Town to be labeled as “a waterfront town of the twenty-first century”, the first in Singapore. With a good mix of commercial, residential, cultural, and recreational facilities, the design integrates “waterfront living” with water-based recreational activities for residents living in the north-eastern part of Singapore. With three key design elements, green, water, and people, this effective stormwater management programme brings people closer to water, provides a beautiful environment for all to enjoy, creates communal spaces, and offers water-based recreational activities, which all play an important role in the success of the waterway.



1. Along the Educational Trail of the mangroves at My Waterway @ Punggol (Photo: Surbana International Consultants Pte Ltd).

2. Aquatic plants at My Waterway @ Punggol (Photo: Surbana International Consultants Pte Ltd).

3. Cyclist on Sunrise Bridge at My Waterway @ Punggol (Photo: Surbana International Consultants Pte Ltd).

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Excellence Award  
(Malaysia Project)

**name** Taman ADDA Heights ("ADDA Heights Garden")

**award recipient** Malik Lip & Associates Sdn Bhd (Landscape Architect)

**location** Johor Bahru, Malaysia

**completion date** 2011

**client/ owner** Southern Gateway Sdn Bhd (JB)

**contractor** Esthetic Natural Sdn Bhd (Hard & Soft Landscape) and Shamrock Arena (M) Sdn Bhd (Playground Works)

The centrepiece of ADDA Heights is a 25.86-acre-large public park that creates a place of interaction, with elements shaped by the forces of nature. ADDA Heights is conceived as an up-market mixed residential development within the established and vibrant Tebrau Corridor in Johor Bahru. The park comprises a central lake, created from the extension of a retention pond, with a small wetland as its upper stream. Two bridges gracefully span the lake, together with water cascades and a weir, clad in river boulders. A silt trap and wetlands filter the water with aquatic and semi-aquatic plants, improving the water quality of the lake. The park also incorporates rainwater harvesting for its toilets and has created a green open swale to replace conventional, open drains. An island habitat sanctuary sits serenely upon the lake, creating a visually peaceful vista for the eye.





7



8



9

## LANDSCAPE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

### Project of the Year and Excellence Award

**name** Verve Suites Mont' Kiara  
**award recipient** Bukit Kiara Properties Sdn Bhd (Client/ Owner)  
**location** Mont' Kiara, Malaysia  
**completion date** 2009–2011 (Blocks A–C), 2013 (Block D)  
**landscape architect** Landscape Department, Bukit Kiara Properties Sdn Bhd, and Design INC Sdn Bhd  
**contractor** Bukit Kiara Builder  
**architect** YHSA Sdn Bhd

Condominium Verve Suites Mont' Kiara is a daring new approach with dynamic energy and 100,000 square feet of recreational and green spaces. Residents are spoilt for choice when it comes to leisure options. Situated in the sought-after residential address of Mont' Kiara in Kuala Lumpur, Verve Suites is a project of luxury serviced apartments housed in four blocks. It is supported by a full complement of recreational facilities. In addition to the pool podium connecting four towers, each tower comes with its own unique sky lounge. Residents of Verve Suites will have access to all four living concepts and sky lounges: Vertigo Sky Lounge, Hypercubes Sky Lounge, Gardens of Concentrico, and Versilica Sky Beach. As such, one can imagine the suite as an extra-large bedroom, and the rest of the building as one, giant communal living room.

4. The centerpiece of ADDA Heights, conceived as an up-market mixed residential development, is a 25.86-acre-large public park (Photo: Southern Gateway Sdn Bhd).

5. ADDA Heights' park comprises a central lake, created from the extension of a retention pond, and a small wetland as its upper stream (Photo: Malik Lip & Associates Sdn Bhd).

6. Cyclists making use of ADDA Heights' tracks (Photo: Charles Teo).

7. Versilica Sky Beach, one of the four sky lounges of Verve Suites (Photo: Bukit Kiara Properties Sdn Bhd).

8. The wet reflexology area of Verve Suites (Photo: Bukit Kiara Properties Sdn Bhd).

9. Hypercubes Sky Lounge, one of the four sky lounges of Verve Suites (Photo: Bukit Kiara Properties Sdn Bhd).

LANDSCAPE PLANNING  
& DEVELOPMENT

Special Honour Award

**name** Setia Sky Residences

**award recipient** ExcelJade Sdn Bhd  
(Subsidiary of SP Setia Berhad)  
(Client/ Owner)

Also "Honour Award" in "Landscape  
Design" to Sitetectonix Pte Ltd  
(Design Landscape Architect)

**location** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**completion date** 2013 (Phase 1)

**project landscape architect**

Landarc Associates Sdn Bhd

**contractor** Crest Builder Sdn Bhd (Main)  
and Lee Landscape Sdn Bhd (Landscape)

**planner** Plano-Comp Perancang Sdn Bhd  
**architect** Arc Studio Architecture +  
Urbanism (Design) and Archimatrix Sdn  
Bhd (Project)

**engineer** SSP Sdn Bhd (M&E) and  
TY Lin International Sdn Bhd (C&S)

**quantity surveyor** JUBM Sdn Bhd

Inspired by the city's chic urban elite and their discerning lifestyle, Setia Sky Residences reflects sky-high luxury living. Setia Sky Residences, located on the fringe of the Kuala Lumpur City Centre, is inspired by rolling landforms. The sinuous geometrically curved movements and rhythmic folding patterns of the architectural facade are an interpretation of rice terraces and the organic landscape paintings by artist and landscape architect Roberto Burle Marx. The result is a sinuous water body that flows through the landscape like a stream, forming the focal spine of the entire space. The design intent is to create various perspectives from multiple angles around the outdoor space, so that views from any one point on the deck will provide different and interesting compositions for residents and guests alike.



## LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION

## Honour Award

**name** Linear Park

**award recipient** Satar Landscaping Sdn Bhd (Landscape contractor)

Also "Honour Award" in "Landscape Planning & Development" to UEM Sunrise Berhad (Client/ Owner)

**location** Puteri Harbour, Johor, Malaysia

**completion date** 2012

**landscape architect** Punt Garden Sdn Bhd

**engineer** Perunding Padureka Sdn Bhd

**quantity surveyor** ARH Jurukur Bahan Sdn Bhd

The landscape elements at the Linear Park respond to local culture and celebrate the Malaysian native landscape. The Linear Park, located at Laksamana precinct, is a public open space, which acts as a green lung and venue for public festive gatherings and events. It is the central hub for all of the open spaces in this precinct. The landscape design is bold and contemporary with passive and active spaces flowing from upstream of the wetlands to the plaza and a water play area at the lower part of the park. Soon, this park will be a green connector between commercial and retail areas, located adjacent to the linear park.



10. Aerial view of the sky deck of Setia Sky Residences shows a water body that flows through the landscape like a stream (Photo: SP Setia Berhad).

11, 12. Sky deck of Setia Sky Residences in the evening (Photo: SP Setia Berhad).

13. Wetlands of Linear Park, a public open landscape in Johor's Laksamana precinct (Photo: Fotografer Malaya).

14. The water play area of Linear Park (Photo: Fotografer Malaya).

## GREEN CITY

### Excellence Award

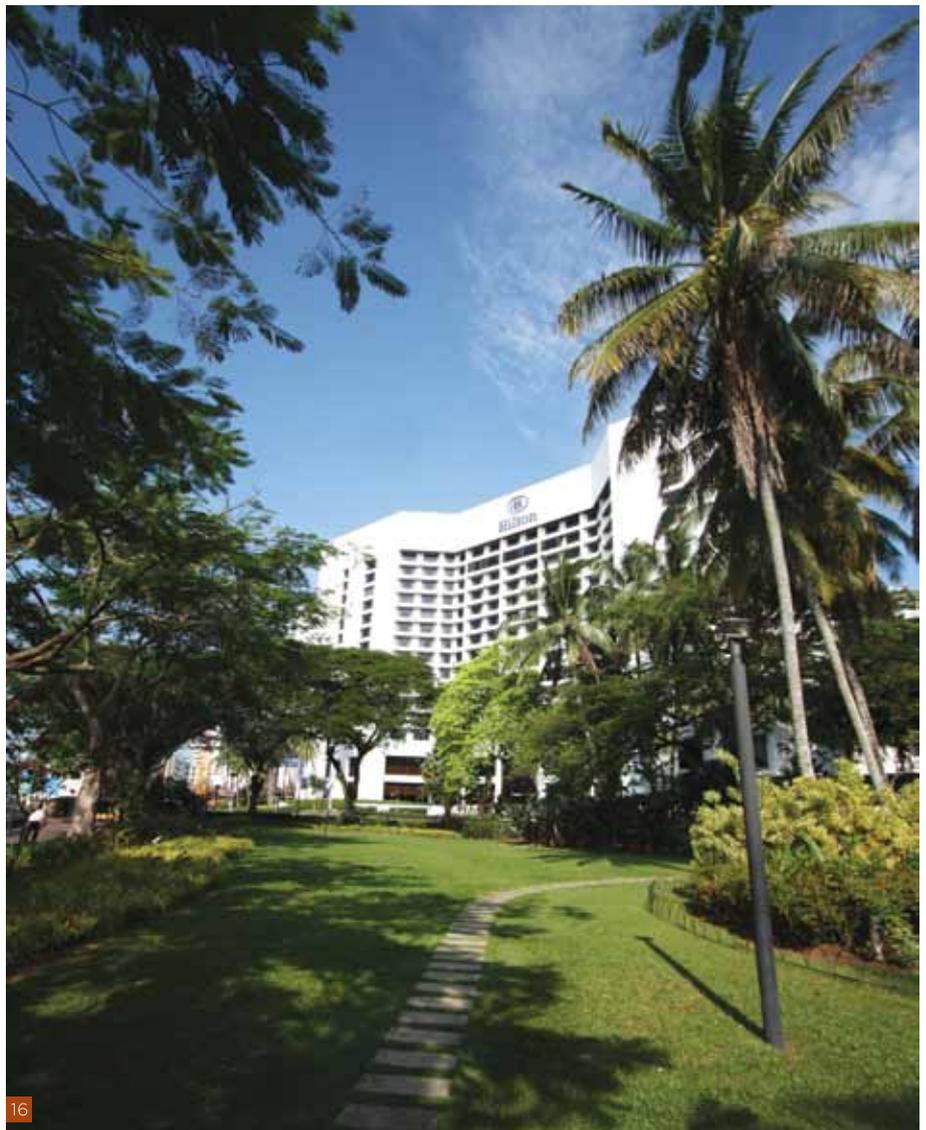
**name** Kuching Esplanade

**award recipient** Dewan Bandaraya Kuching Utara (DBKU) ("The Commission of the City of Kuching North")

**location** Kuching, Malaysia

**completion date** 2010

Kuching Esplanade is a project to revitalise Sarawak River that transformed the image of downtown Kuching into a more active space for recreation, commercial, and outdoor activities. Over time, it has elevated the image of the city. The project also enhances the circulation and pedestrian network. It is also becoming one of the major tourist destinations in Kuching, where souvenir shops, hotels, eateries, a boat pier, and museum are located along the scenic waterfront. The project improves the socio-economic character of the area and allows for the rejuvenation of the old town. It also reduces local traffic and pollution. 



15. Kuching Esplanade project has revitalised Sarawak River and transformed downtown Kuching into a more active space for recreation, commercial, and outdoor activities (Photo: DBKU and Sarawak Tourism Board).

16. After revitalisation, Kuching Esplanade is becoming one of the major tourist destinations in Kuching (Photo: DBKU and Sarawak Tourism Board).

## OTHER WINNERS

### LANDSCAPE DESIGN

#### Honour Award

- MK11 by Walrus Design Sdn Bhd
- Casa Tropicana by Wein Design Sdn Bhd
- Mon't Callista Entrance Gateway by Urban Design Group Sdn Bhd
- Residence 8 by Urbanscape Consultants Sdn Bhd
- The Village by Urban Design Group Sdn Bhd
- Summer Glades Pocket Gardens by Wein Design Sdn Bhd
- Setia Eco Park Phase 9 Waterway by Aroma Tropics Sdn Bhd

#### Merit Award

- Nirvana Memorial Park by Urban Design Group Sdn Bhd
- Taman Raudhatul Sakinah by Laman TBG Sdn Bhd

### LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS & STUDY

#### Honour Award

- Jenen Aden by Walrus Design Sdn Bhd
- Central Park by Clouston Design (M) Sdn Bhd

### LANDSCAPE INNOVATION

#### Honour Award

- Decorative Lighting (Protocol routes, Putrajaya) by Malik Lip & Associates Sdn Bhd

### LANDSCAPE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

#### Honour Award

- Rymba Creek by Bandar Eco-Setia Sdn Bhd
- Summer Glades Perdana Lakeview West by Suntrack Development Sdn Bhd

### GREEN CITY

#### Honour Award

- Tree Inventory & Management System by Perbadanan Putrajaya
- Palmarium Park by Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan
- Pasir Gudang City Park by Majlis Perbandaran Pasir Gudang

### STUDENT DESIGN

#### Excellence Award

- Transforming Ex-Landfill Into Effective Green Space by Andi Sofyan Mohd Sidek (Universiti Teknologi MARA, UiTM)

#### Honour Award

- Optimising Multifunctional Space at Stadium Shah Alam by Amar Qhuszaireen Muhd Azahar (Universiti Teknologi MARA, UiTM)
- Experiential Landscape of Taman Alam, Kuala Selangor, by Muhamad Yusuf Abdul Wahab (Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, UTM)
- Revitalizing A Post Coal Mining Town at Batu Arang by Muhammad Taufiq Yatiman (Universiti Teknologi MARA, UiTM)
- Athermic Ambiance by Mona Lizza Mohd Kassim (Universiti Putra Malaysia, UPM)

### LANDSCAPE RESEARCH

#### Honour Award

- Improving Green Roof Performance in Reducing Stormwater Runoff by Raymond Krishnan, LAr. Dr. Hamidah Ahmad, and LAr. Dr. Sapura Mohamad
- Effects of Water Availability on Native & Non Native Vegetated Extensive Green Roof in Malaysia by Raymond Krishnan, LAr. Dr. Hamidah Ahmad, and LAr. Dr. Sapura Mohamad