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(Malaysia)**

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Wendy Teo believes an innovative and cutting-edge approach in design and making has capacity to revitalise craftsmanship of the region. Fundamentally, Wendy Teo sees social-culture dialogue as driving force of her design pursuit. In her award winning design practice Wendy Teo Atelier, she designed a range of nature and culture inspired interactive sculptures, furniture, architectural installation and publication. With Borneo Laboratory, Wendy Teo currently focuses on developing a series of projects that are inspired by the crafts language and materials could be found from abundant landscape and cultural scape of Borneo.

Wendy Teo is a Malaysian Born UK ARB/RIBA Chartered Architect, Curator, Researcher and Tutor that seeing embedding social-culture dialogue in forming design as her ultimate pursuit. Across her design career, Wendy Teo's projects were endorsed by a number of international awards such as Holcim Sustainable Next Generation Award (First Prize), Archiprix, Threadneedle Prize et cetera. Her recent furniture design was selected as finalist in 'Asia Design Award' 2018. Her projects were exhibited across UK, France, Germany, Slovenia, Turkey and Taiwan. One of the notable exhibition is 2013/14 Archilab 'Naturalising Architecture' exhibition curated by Pompidou Center director Frédéric Migayrou and FRAC Orlean Director Marie-Ange Brayer.

TOPIC 1 : THE INSTRUMENT
a Bamboo Musical Pavilion

TOPIC 2 : REDESIGNING BORNEAN CRAFTS
Social discourse through infusing Designers inputs into Crafts Innovation

TOPIC 3 : CELEBRATING THE ORIGIN
Architecture Making as an instrument for social discourse

Wendy Teo Atelier





THE INSTRUMENT

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1/A/Topic1-I

Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia



THE INSTRUMENT

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A Bamboo Musical Pavilion

Research and Built: Borneo Laboratory Crew

This installation is an outcome of cross regional dialogue on an exciting mission: how could we integrate architectural making and instrument making crafts through a pavilion predominantly made out of Bamboo. When it comes to bamboo, Borneo landscape is blessed with its diverse palette of this material, namely Auru, Tering for construction use, Bru for musical instrument and Abu for cooking. However, it is rare to see bamboo being applied as construction material, since it is rivalled by the equally abundant timber material of the region. On the other hand, Borneo music is a family of music inspired by its surrounding nature. Tracing back to its origin, Bornean musician used to be played in the dark, when the jungle was at its loudest. With a mean of creating a symphony with its nature, Bornean musical instrument are designed to mimic the sound of nature, with rhythm.

Over the design development, UK ARB/RIBA qualified architect Wendy Teo travelled to the bamboo crafts capital Chiang Mai to work with specialists in bamboo. With a workshop theme 'Harmonies of Nature' in Chiang Mai University, they explored the potential of bamboo in sound with 40 students around the region (HK, China, Thailand, Malaysia). This exploration is furthered detailed with Indonesian site specific musician group Karinding Attack coming on board with their musical instruments embedded in the pavilion.





REDESIGNING BORNEAN CRAFTS

BORNEO LABORATORY



This Borneo Laboratory Material Research and Design Project was part of 2018 Rainforest Fringe Festival Event, 2017 Borneo Laboratory in Taiwan Exhibition

Curator: Wendy Teo

Research and Design: Invited Designers and Borneo Laboratory Crew

Collaborators: Craftsmen from Local and International Region

Timber
Bay One Studio
HDG Workshop
Wendy Teo
Eden Atelier

Bamboo
Wendy Teo Atelier
SEAD Enterprise
Tasik Biru
Villagers
Chiang Mai U
Feng Chia U
Bartlett, UCL

Bark
Divooe Zein
Studio

Rattan
Rakker Studio
Weave Artisan
Society

Tin Smith
Patapian
Rakker Studio
Ho Nyen Foh

Agar Wood
Ngu Lee Hieng
Camila Sundwall
Emily Blunt

Steel
Stanley Ngu

Book Making
Garden City
Fu Yu Chen
Toni Giddings

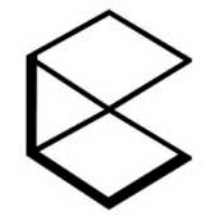


Inspired by its pristine nature, the spirit of Borneo is all about being conscientious and holistic in action. It is the same spirit has established harmony, conversation and symbiosis between man and nature. And how could we infusing this spirit in the cross regional collaboration will be key in this material library building project. As a 'design and make' laboratory, Borneo Laboratory is interested in realising truthful actions as evidence of the positive changes we need to see in the modern world.



REDESIGNING BORNEAN CRAFTS

BORNEO LABORATORY



Borneo Laboratory



Left: Material Experimentation
on Timber Chips, Bay One
Studio's Tasty Timber, 2018

Right: Material
Experimentation on Timber
Bark- Divoo Zein Studio's
Confessional Room, 2018



CELEBRATING THE ORIGIN

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CELEBRATING THE ORIGIN

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1/A/Topic3-II

Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia



CELEBRATING THE ORIGIN

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As the zero point of the radial development of Kuching city, the site of this pavilion design within this courtyard provides a profound meaning, geographically and metaphorically. The design creates an undulating landscape, extending from the ripples of the fountain at its core, with the cylindrically arrayed bamboo frames lifting the canopy of palm leaves to rise in a wave of varied height. The pavilion making project is a cross disciplinary collaboration between Architect Wendy Teo (UK ARB/RIBA) and the choreographers of Primates, local craftsmen and a network of suppliers in Kuching.

At Borneo Laboratory, we are interested in exploring how an architecture making process can be an instrument for social discourse. One of the beauties of working with Rainforest Fringe Festival is that we get to be part of the conversation of evolving materials, techniques, local craftsmanship and their societal value holistically. Over our previous project with Rainforest Fringe Festival in 2018 ('Redesigning Bornean Crafts' and 'The Instrument- a Bamboo Musical Instrument'), the social discourses we focused on have been about giving awareness to the issue of the disappearing crafts industry, re-assessing the societal role of craftsmen and innovating on the crafts through infusing new inputs into local crafts practices.