FYP — Pitch

"The Local Shangri-La"

Praveen

OUTLINE

'The Mythical Beast'

Shared Space

Clash or Alliance?

Bukit Pasoh Conservation Area

Deliverables/Collaboration

Intended Outcome

Relevance/Urgency







Tantric

On nights like this, the ivory coloured tiles shimmer like scales of a mythical imaginary creature. A creature conjured up with such immense conviction and self belief that its seemingly delicate eccentricity and 'out of place-ness' endowed it with a sense of impenetrable boldness and authenticity. It's scarlet red inner walls which reverberate with exuberance and passion, coupled with heady dance records from the colourful 80s attract characters of all kinds — some curious for a taste of the unfamiliar while others longing for the regular opiate of being amongst their own 'kind'.

Through the gate, a young man walks in, and eyes dart quickly to steal a glance before shifting back as inconspicuously as possible to preserve their ego driven feigned nonchalance. After all they were all in their own capacities, subtly hoping to garner the 'spotlight' in a predominantly male 'playground' that embodies both the veracity of masculinity and the sensuality of femininity. This potent fluidity permeated through the bar — a 'Shangri-La' for those who lived within thinly defined boundaries.

He keeps his gaze forward and walks briskly down the long walkway wedged between the two rows of crowded tables. His well built body gave each step he took with his leather boots a compressed weight. Yet there was a hint of effeminacy in the way his feet moved, with such perfect rhythm and swing, that one's senses could be coaxed into believing they were watching an androgynous model parade down a runway. It took a calibrated degree of spacial awareness, spontaneous judgement, and calculated confidence coupled with seasoned practice, to exert this sort of presence in a place that was so 'loud'.

It is past midnight now and the buzz of the crowd starts to blend in with the music from the Madonna, Cher and other Diva produced numbers that play on the screens. Ash trays get increasingly vandalised by wet cigarettes — some pre maturely stubbed out, perhaps in a rush to head upstairs and others left with just their alcohol stained butts, probably fully savoured within the span of casual small talk with strangers that called for the help of an anxiety mitigating drag of nicotine or intimate conversations that needed a stabiliser wedged between quivering lips or fingers.

The young man makes his way up the central carpeted crimson steps that lead up to the heart of the bar. Framed portraits of immortalised icons such as Marilyn Monroe and Judy Garland, and pin up style cult classic posters line the green walls like enchanted talismans that have been plastered all over to bestow upon this place its quaint charm. The portraits aren't just icons but worshipped idols that somehow emanated the fearless self empowering energy one needed to embody to feel as free as they were allowed to be in this 'temple'.

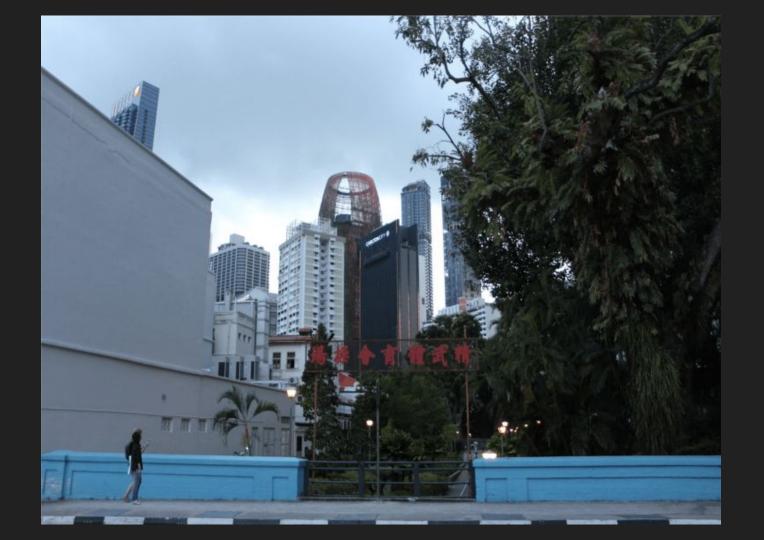
As he reaches the end of the carpeted steps he is immediately transported into a luscious gaudi gilded interior that looks like it belonged in Mrs Manson Mingotts Mansion from Edith Wharton's Age of Innocence. Everyone here are self made characters with interchangeable roles — a seductress , a damsel in distress, an innocent boy, a lonely soul seeking companionship. They could be whoever they wanted to be whenever they wanted to be. It was an open stage where even a seductively wielded billiard stick could be a prop.

'Shared Space'

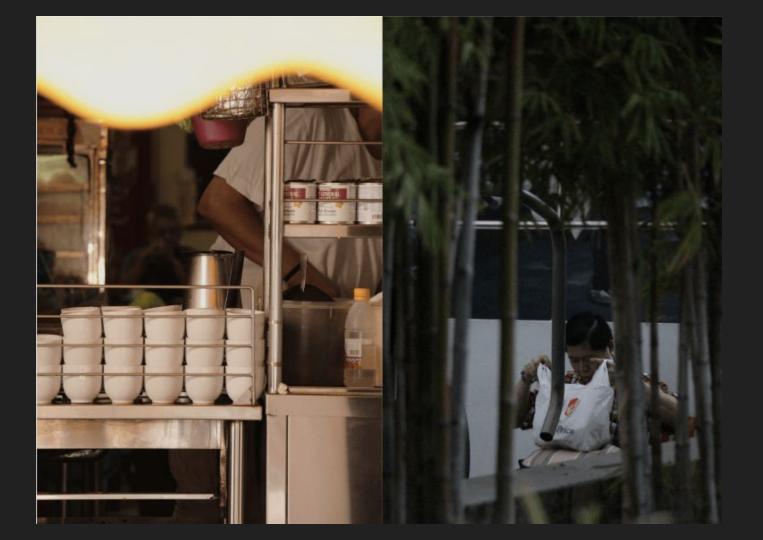


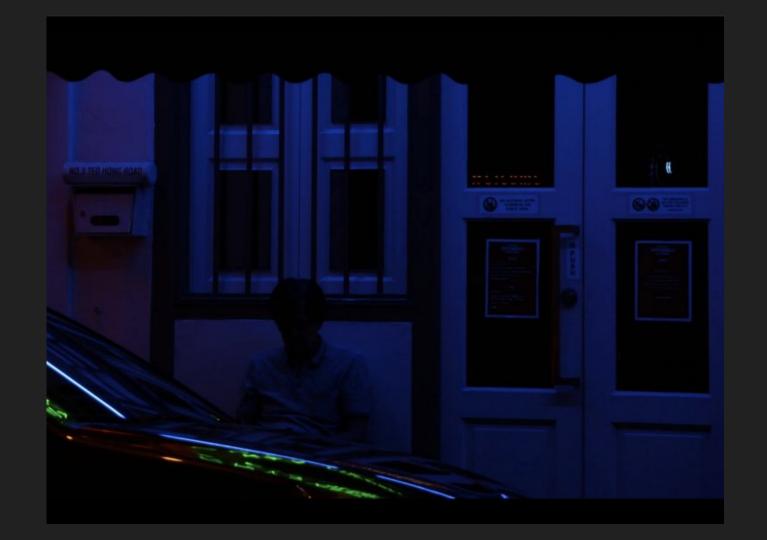












'Bukit Pasoh Conservation Area'



Our 2019 top Singapore hotels for gay travellers are divided by area:



Chinatown / gay scene

heritage area, home to most of Singapore's gay scene



Clarke Quay / Riverside

historical riverside area with numerous restaurants & cafés



Orchard Road / City

shopping and entertainment hub of Singapore



Bugis / Little India

popular, vibrant areas located north of city centre

For more hotel choices, click here to search all Singapore hotels.



exclusive rates, big discounts & free cancellation on many rates

hotel category:

MID-RANGE

LUXURY

BUDGET

Chinatown / Neil Road

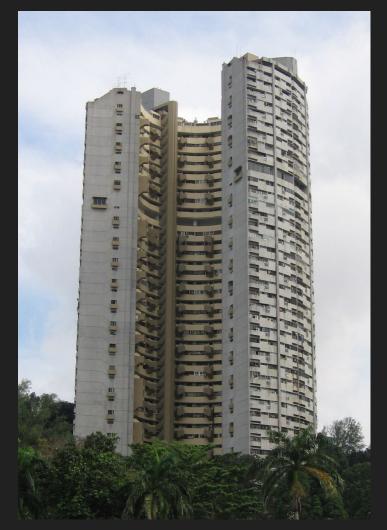
These hotels are a short walk from the gay bars & clubs in Neil Road and Pagoda Street in Chinatown. The area has a huge choice of restaurants and is close to Marina, Clarke Quay and Orchard Road.

A walk down Neil Road

Tucked away in a rather quiet but no less interesting corner of a district of Singapore that has come to be called Chinatown is an area which is often overlooked. The area, in Chinatown's south-western corner incorporates the Bukit Pasoh Conservation Area, part of the Tanjong Pagar Conservation Area and boasts several architectural gems, which have unfortunately been cast in the shadow of a towering 50 storey public housing development, The Pinnacle@Duxton at nearby Duxton Plain.



Several conservation gems can be found along Neil Road, including what would have been the houses of the very wealthy (judging from the enclosed front yards these units at No. 56 - 60) were provided with.





Permanence/Transience

Codependency/Coexistence

Voyeuristic Gaze/Curiosity

Juxtaposition/Convergence

'Deliverables/Collaboration'

Posters/Motifs

Maps/Network

Markers/Touchpoints

Events Space/Augmentation



'Outcome/Relevance'

Acceptance/Tolerance

Celebrating Identity/Subculture

Community 'Spirit'

Breaking Barriers

Awareness/Understanding

Preservation

Singapore eatery praised for LGBTQ allyship after homophobic incident in shop

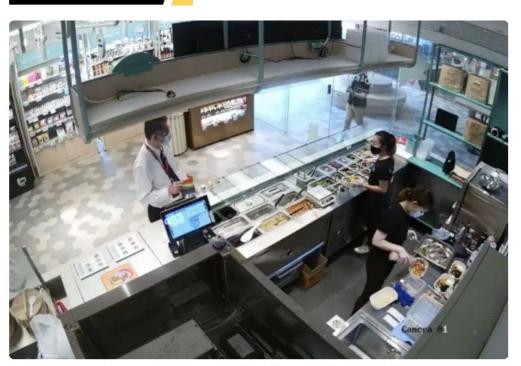
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Teng Yong Ping · Lifestyle Editor

Updated 22 January 2021 · 4-min read







Food outlet Smol posted an account of a hostile patron abusing staff over a Pride flag which was displayed at the counter.

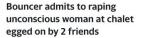


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Singapore's iconic, but endangered, street food now has UNESCO status

The city-state's vibrant hawker centres serve up Malay noodles, Indian curry puffs, and a feast of cultural history.

BY RACHEL NG | PHOTOGRAPHS BY MINDY TAN PUBLISHED 1 FEB 2021, 12:51 GMT



Preserving hawker heritage

Still, for both veterans and newer hawkers, challenges remain. The cost of labour has gone up, with the younger, better-educated generation put off by the long hours and physical work the field requires. As ageing hawkers retire, few in their families want to pick up their spatulas. With no willing heirs to the family business, some stalls—and their recipes—risk extinction.

Historians and foodies hope that the UNESCO recognition will help raise the status of hawkers and inspire new cooks to join the fray. "We need to honour our hawkers," says Tay. "We need to put them on a pedestal and make them our local cultural heroes."

