

Hello Everyone!

In this month's E-news, and in conjunction with Valentine's Day celebration, we are delighted to feature some love stories by architects and designers at the VERITAS Design Group i.e. sharing how they fell in love with design. We are also featuring the recently completed Saloma Link project in Kuala Lumpur.

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In Love with Design

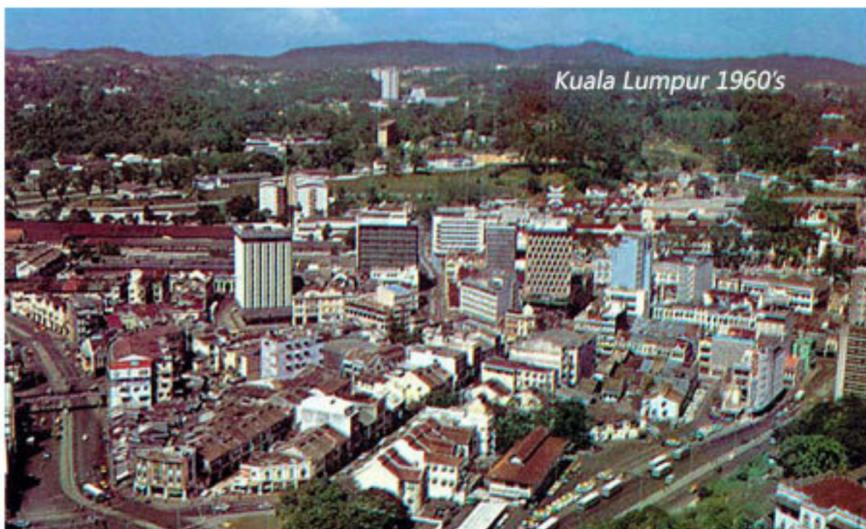
How did you fall in love with architecture? In honor of Valentine's Day, we asked some of the architects and designers of VERITAS to share what inspired them to pursue a career in design.

When i was about 10-years old, we lived in a neighbourhood with no parks but lots of new houses being built. After school i would wait for all the workers to leave before sneaking into the empty construction sites and making them my personal playground. As a child, none of this construction stuff made sense, they were just jumbled piles of spaces and playthings to me, without order or reason.

One day, as it was getting dark, a fancy car appeared from which emerged a well-dressed person who i had never seen. He toured the site with a roll of drawings accompanied by the construction supervisor. As i hid behind half-built walls and temporary works in the dwindling light, i listened to this gentleman explaining the design of the building and issuing instructions. He referred to his drawings and made sketches while the supervisor nodded dutifully. Through his commanding and matter-of-fact explanations,



I suddenly realised that this playground of mine wasn't merely a random clutter of stuff, because someone had conceived it all and could make sense of what it was becoming, that someone was in charge of its "design"! it was an eureka moment for me.



Kuala Lumpur 1960's

Later that evening at dinner, i described this experience to my mother, who explained that the person i had encountered was the Architect. it was the first time that word made any meaning to me and it was at that moment my destiny was clear.

This is the first picture that Google showed me when, back in July 2015, I decided to learn more about the city where I may be moving. Few weeks later, after

purchasing my one-way flight ticket to Kuala Lumpur, I set it up as my Facebook's cover picture, and it remained there till my first day at VERITAS, when I replaced it with an actual shot of Petronas Twin Towers taken by myself. Today, in 2020, this picture reminds me the beginning of my journey, to Malaysia, and to VERITAS, and it also stands as a testimony of how the skyline of the city has changed ever since, and how VERITAS has contributed to this over the last 5 years.

Ever since I was a child, I knew that I wanted to be an Architect and to teach Architecture. My pursuit of control, discipline and, ultimately, beauty, drives me every day to understand the World surrounding me filtered always by my Architect's eyes. Indeed, I believe that Architecture is one of those few professions that you never retire from; perhaps, I will stop doing Architecture when there is no longer Architecture in me. Studying for so many years, allowed me to develop deeper intellectual associations in order to being able to approach complexity in a more rational, analytical and meticulous way, and, rather than making me feel accomplished by the acquired knowledge, it unveiled how much, indeed, I had yet to learn. My most random curiosity is endless: I always want to learn more, and to learn faster.

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