NATURE AND ARCHITECTURE UNITE AT THE SINGAPORE PAVILION AS IT WELCOMES THE WORLD WITH A REVELRY OF SIGHTS AND SOUNDS AT EXPO 2020 DUBAI

- From 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022, visitors to the Singapore Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai will learn about the nation’s sustainability story through an immersive pavilion journey featuring a digital ecosystem that integrates nature, architecture, art and technology.
- Expounding on the theme of building sustainable and liveable cities of the future, talks and discussions will facilitate dialogues on the development of future-forward cities, especially in a post-pandemic world.
- Visitors can also look forward to a nightly light show, film screenings and more throughout the six-month event.

28 SEPTEMBER 2021, SINGAPORE — From a mesmerising light display inspired by our connection with nature, to thought-provoking conversations on sustainable and liveable cities of the future interspersed with films that present Singapore through its people, heritage and stories, the Singapore Pavilion is ready to welcome the world at Expo 2020 Dubai when it opens to the public from 1 October 2021.

Visitors will go on an experiential journey through the lushly-landscaped spaces that epitomise Singapore’s vision of becoming a City in Nature, which will come alive with a line-up of multimedia exhibits and engaging programmes that people from all walks of life can enjoy.
Mr. Larry Ng, Commissioner-General of the Singapore Pavilion, explains, “The realisation of the Singapore Pavilion is important for Singapore, as it provides us with the platform to connect with people from around the world and engage in important future-shaping conversations. As visitors experience the Pavilion through its welcoming spaces, digital exhibits and programmes, we hope that they will gain new perspectives on how nature and technology can be integrated into our urban spaces, and see the possibilities of how our cities can be designed to be sustainable, liveable and resilient.”

Elaborating further, Ng shared, “Singapore, as a global hub, will continue to remain connected with the world. The Pavilion signals our readiness to lead and participate in conversations, as well as to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and ideas between our people, innovators and businesses. We look forward to welcoming the world into our Pavilion, and igniting ideas through greater collaborations between our nations to overcome the global challenges of today.”

A multi-faceted exploration of Singapore’s sustainability journey

Echoing the theme of “Nature. Nurture. Future.”, the Singapore Pavilion is an architectural feat – a green, living self-sufficient ecosystem that embodies the nation’s journey towards growth, sustainability and resilience while confronting some of the most complex and challenging urban realities of our time.
Beyond the green architecture of the Pavilion, this guiding ethos of sustainable development is also distilled into multimedia showcases. At the City Cone, visitors will be taken on an immersive voyage, in a commissioned cinematic experience by leading Singaporean creative Brian Gothong Tan. Mapped onto the interior sloping wall of the City Cone, the panoramic film layers animated matte paintings, drone footage and hundreds of videos to depict environmental challenges faced by global urbanisation, and the innovative urban solutions Singapore has realised to create a city where the built environment co-exists in harmony with nature.
As night falls, visitors will be enthralled as the Singapore Pavilion comes to life with an enchanting light display. Designed by Singapore lighting design practice Light Collab, the nightly *Biomorphosis* light show is a spectacle of luminosity, shadows and sound that reflects Singapore as a green and sustainable city. Rhythmically pulsing along to a soundscape composed by Singaporean musician Don Richmond, the layers of lights illuminate and accentuate the Pavilion’s green landscape, evoking images of an enchanted forest and beckoning visitors to wander in and explore the seemingly living pavilion.

Other daily programme highlights over the six-month duration include *Stories of Singapore* at the Sky Market – curated screenings of award-winning documentaries and short films where visitors can get Singaporean perspectives on the most pressing challenges we face as a world today, including climate change, sustainable development, technological advancement and food resilience, as well as glimpses into our history, heritage and culture.

Visitors looking to get a closer look behind the design and the inner workings of the Singapore Pavilion can also opt for a delightful *Story Walk*, a tour with the Pavilion’s friendly guides. Taking place four times daily on weekday afternoons, storytelling guides will enthrall visitors with anecdotes, facts and figures about the Pavilion, Singapore and its people.

In addition, Singapore’s cinematic culture will take centrestage as part of the *Singapore Film Night* series, a monthly showcase of critically acclaimed local films. Visitors can anticipate films such as the family drama...
Ilo Ilo, the first Singaporean feature film to win an award at the Cannes Film Festival; the documentary The Songs We Sang, which captures the journey of the uniquely Singaporean genre of Xinyao music; the dark comedy Tiong Bahru Social Club; and 7 Letters, the emotive anthology of cinematic ‘love letters’ to Singapore by seven illustrious Singaporean filmmakers.

Visitors and business delegates who are keen to engage in in-depth conversations on how sustainability and innovation can unlock new opportunities at the Singapore Business Series, where enterprises share their knowledge, expertise, and innovations with a global audience. These sessions will take place in a hybrid webinar format which will also allow virtual participants to be part of the programme.

More information on these regular programmes is available in Annex A.

Special events offer unique experiences throughout the six-month duration

Singapore’s commitment to knowledge sharing and international collaboration extends beyond its Pavilion showcase, to participation in international dialogues.

Singapore will be co-organising a World Majlis panel discussion with the Expo organisers on 4 November 2021, titled Natural Cities: Preserving a slice of nature in our urban spaces. An international line-up of panelists, including Chief Executive Officer of the Urban Redevelopment Authority, Mr Lim Eng Hwee and Architect for the Singapore Pavilion and Founding Director of WOHA Architects Mr Wong Mun Summ, will discuss how Singapore’s experience in incorporating nature into our urban spaces can be replicated and scaled up anywhere in the world.

This will be followed by Singapore Day on 22 January 2022, and World Water Day in March 2022.

Please refer to Annex B for more information on these special events.

Led by Singapore’s Urban Redevelopment Authority in partnership with many other agencies and industry partners, the Singapore Pavilion will open its doors to the public on 1 October 2021. The Pavilion experience will also be made accessible to Singaporeans and international audiences virtually and allow those who are unable to travel to participate in selected festivities through a curated experience accessible throughout the Expo duration. More information will be available at virtualexpo.world from 1 October onwards.
The Pavilion has been realised with the support from the Pavilion Commissioning Panel (comprising senior management from key partner agencies and industry experts) and partners. Please refer to Annex C for more information on the partners of the Singapore Pavilion.

Join the conversation on the Singapore Pavilion via Facebook, Instagram (@expo2020singapore) and Twitter (@expo2020sg), and hashtags #Expo2020SG and #NatureNurtureFuture. For more details on the Singapore Pavilion and Expo 2020 Dubai, please visit www.singapore2020expo.gov.sg and www.expo2020dubai.com respectively.

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This press release is also available at URA-Online at http://www.ura.gov.sg
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Senior Associate
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Annexes:
- Annex A: Programme highlights in the Singapore Pavilion
- Annex B: Special events
- Annex C: The Singapore Pavilion team

About the Singapore Pavilion
The Singapore Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai pays tribute to Singapore’s journey towards growth, sustainability and resilience. Titled “Nature. Nurture. Future.”, it presents a microcosm of Singapore’s transformed landscape to visitors and reflects the nation’s vision of becoming a City in Nature with the smart integration of design, technology and nature. Designed to be a self-sufficient ecosystem to achieve net-zero energy during the 6-month event period, the Pavilion features a multi-layered, three-dimensional green space that will showcase Singapore’s strengths and expertise, and highlight how the country continues to rise above its physical limitations to strive towards liveability, sustainability and resilience through innovative urban solutions.

About Urban Redevelopment Authority of Singapore
The Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) is Singapore’s land use planning and conservation agency. Our mission is ‘to make Singapore a great city to live, work and play’. We strive to create an endearing home and a vibrant city through long-term planning and innovation, in partnership with the community.

URA’s multi-faceted role includes being the main government land sales agent. We attract and channel private capital investments to develop sites that support planning, economic and social objectives. We also partner the community to enliven our public spaces to create a car-lite, people-friendly and liveable city for all to enjoy. In shaping a distinctive city, URA also promotes architecture and urban design excellence. Visit www.ura.gov.sg for more information.
Annex A: Programme highlights in the Singapore Pavilion

1 **Story Walk**  
1 October 2021 - 31 March 2022 | Weekdays | 2.30pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm GST

Discover stories about Singapore, our vision of becoming a City in Nature and our people through an engaging guided tour by our storytelling guides. Visitors will be taken on a journey that presents a microcosm of Singapore’s transformed landscape, paying tribute to our sustainability journey and tracing how we have turned constraints into opportunities as we continue growing into a sustainable, resilient and liveable city through the smart integration of design, technology and nature. Singapore – not merely a city of the future, but a city for our future.

2 **Biomorphosis**  
1 October 2021 - 31 March 2022 | 7.30pm, 8.30pm, 9.30pm GST

Biophilia describes humans’ connection with nature and biophilic design replicates the experiences of nature in design to reinforce that connection. Immerse yourself as the Singapore Pavilion comes alive through this enchanting light display and experience a delightful spectacle of light, shadows, and sound.

3 **Stories of Singapore**  
1 October 2021 - 31 March 2022 | 10am - 2pm and 6pm – 10pm GST

Take a glimpse into the island-city of Singapore through our people, heritage and stories on film. Find out more about our sustainability efforts, innovations and culture through our daily screenings of documentaries and short films from CNA, ViddSee, Singapore HeritageFest and the DesignSingapore Council.

4 **Singapore Film Nights**  
Every second Tuesday of the month | 6 - 8pm GST

Explore our monthly selection of films and uncover the stories of Singapore, told through the lens of local filmmakers.
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| 12 October 2021    | **Short film: Adam**  
Tired of his turbulent family life and caught between identities, Adam seeks out an alternative arrangement in hopes of finding his place.  
**Feature film: Not My Mother’s Baking**  
Not My Mother’s Baking is not afraid of uncomfortable situations and brash dialogues that illustrate the characters’ callousness. Instead, the film gamely employs the farcical elements to expose the ignorance and cultural insensitivities that are often swept under the carpet in Singapore. |
| 9 November 2021    | **Short film: Pigeonhole**  
An isolated elderly in Singapore secured a flat-mate for her one-room flat. However, over time, their relationship starts to sour.  
**Feature film: 7 Letters**  
7 Letters is a 2015 Singaporean anthology drama film directed by seven different directors. It comprises seven short stories celebrating Singapore’s 50th anniversary. The film was selected as the Singaporean entry for the Best Foreign Language Film at the 88th Academy Awards. |
| 14 December 2021   | **Short film: Rocketship**  
A naïve primary school boy attempts to mend his parent’s marriage by planning an elaborate sparkler show, in hopes of rekindling the sparks before it is too late.  
**Feature film: Ilo Ilo**  
Pregnant Hwee Leng Lim and her husband Teck hire a Filipino live-in maid for household chores and to help with their son Jiale, whose behaviour has deteriorated since the recent death of his grandfather. |
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<th>Date</th>
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| **11 January 2022** | **Short film: In Tune**  
Ah Gong loves his songbird, Cheepcheep, very much, but is it perhaps too much?  
**Feature film: The Songs We Sang**  
This is a documentary exploring the time of Xinyao, a period of Chinese youths writing music that rallied their generation. |
| **8 February 2022** | **Short film: Kua Bo**  
In the Chinese dialect of Hokkien, "Kua Bo" stands for "cannot see". Affected by cataract, 60-year-old Tat Chuan has problems with his vision which he refuses to admit or treat. It is only after a huge blunder of seeing the lottery results wrongly that he willingly - but timidly - attends a cataract surgery.  
**Feature film: 667**  
This is an omnibus of five short stories on Chinese cultural roots in Singapore, and the appreciation of Chinese heritage. |
| **8 March 2022** | **Short film: New Resident**  
65-year-old Mdm Tan lives alone in Sin Ming. One day, the local authorities came to catch the free-ranging chickens in a bid to curb their population. Shocked, Mdm Tan decides to do something radical: to catch as many chickens as she can and put them inside her flat to save them temporarily.  
**Feature film: Tiong Bahru Social Club**  
8 March 2022 | 6 - 8pm GST  
Ah Bee is a man of few words who, at the age of 30, still lives with his mum Mui. Seeking a future of his own, he signs up as a young |
12

Happiness Agent with Tiong Bahru Social Club - a pilot project using data to build the happiest neighbourhood in the world in an ageing Singaporean district. Things seem to look brighter for Ah Bee but something feels off to him.

5

Business programmes
Various dates and times

Singapore Business Series
Singapore Business Series is a series of business-social dialogues that brings researchers, experts, professionals and enterprises together to unlock business opportunities. Thematically aligned to Expo 2020’s thematic weeks, the hybrid discussions delve into the latest trends, innovation and technology.

Reimagining Business in the Green Economy
6 October 2021 | 4pm - 6.30pm GST
Businesses have long favoured stakeholders’ values. But in today’s struggle to battle climate change, what can businesses do to make responsible decisions? How can businesses shape the outcome and yet remain viable?

Smart City Living
3 November 2021 | 4 - 6.30pm GST
With more than 70% of the world population projected to live in cities by 2050, amidst the struggle to battle climate change – such circumstances will affect the way we live in cities. In this instalment of the series, we discuss how we can mitigate the challenges ahead through design and find out how SMART cities, towns and neighbourhoods are managed.

Information & Choices
15 December 2021 | 4 - 6.30pm GST
Research, innovation and enterprise are cornerstones of Singapore’s national strategy to develop a knowledge-based innovation-driven economy and society. Public investment in research and innovation has grown over the last 25 years. In this edition, we discuss how science and technology mitigate risks and enable smarter and calculated decisions.

Building Sustainable and Social Urban Food Ecosystems
23 February 2022 | 5pm - 6.30pm GST
Increasingly, urbanisation is reducing traditional agricultural practices and food. How do we continue to provide for the growing population and remain sustainable? How can society play a part in the urban food ecosystem?

Sustainable Mobility
23 March 2022 | 5pm - 6.30pm GST
Traditional industries are set against the rapid development of technology and increasing consciousness of sustainability. In this session, we take a deep dive into how age-old industries reinvent themselves to remain relevant, socially and environmentally friendly.
SingapoReimagine Global Conversations
22 January 2022 | 3 – 5pm GST
Terra Auditorium

Organised by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB), SingapoReimagine Global Conversations is a new forum series that puts industry game-changers on the global stage. It aims to spark conversations, stories and ideas to collectively shape the future of tourism. Featuring speakers across different sectors, disciplines and locations, the series outlines new travel experiences and business models that demonstrate how the travel industry has innovated and adapted for the future.

The Middle East edition of the series will cover topics such as sustainable travel and building liveable cities.

For more information on SingapoReimagine Global Conversations, visit bit.ly/globalconvos

Annex B: Special Events

4 Nov 2021  World Majlis - Natural Cities: Preserving a slice of nature in our urban spaces
4pm - 6pm GST

The World Majlis aims to bring together diverse thought leaders, visionaries and change-makers to have conversations about today’s challenges for a better tomorrow.

This World Majlis session will explore the overarching question of how we can make cities more nature-friendly. Humanity has become an urban species. Over half of us already live in cities; that figure is forecast to rise to two-thirds between now and 2045. Urban centres have become the ultimate example of human impact on the planet: Anthropocieties.

Rampant urbanisation is taking its toll on ecosystems, biodiversity and human health. Estimates suggest that cities are responsible for 75 percent of global CO2 emissions, with transport and buildings being among the largest contributors. At the same time, cities are facing new threats from climate change, ranging from heat islands to flooding.

We cannot tackle climate change without transforming the way we build and manage our urban spaces. Cities and nature need to become more complementary, and less mutually exclusive. Increasingly, urban planning is approaching the city as a living ecosystem, in which the natural and the urban coexist.

22 Jan 2022  Singapore Day at Expo 2020 Dubai
10am – 10pm GST

Each country participating in Expo 2020 Dubai will have a dedicated day for celebrating their National Day. With the support of the Singapore Tourism Board and the Singapore Embassy in Abu Dhabi and Consulate-General in Dubai, the Al Wasl Plaza and the Singapore Pavilion will be abuzz with a myriad of performances, talks, and interactive experiences for Singapore Day. More details will be released closer to date.

22 Mar 2022  World Water Day
6pm – 10pm GST

The Singapore Pavilion be immersed in shades of blue with a commemorative light up that reiterates its commitment to water conservation on World Water Day. More details will be released closer to date.

### Commissioning Panel

1. **Ms Hwang Yu-Ning (Chairperson)**  
   Chief Planner and Deputy CEO, Urban Redevelopment Authority

2. **Mdm Fun Siew Leng**  
   Chief Urban Designer, Urban Redevelopment Authority

3. **Mr Larry Ng Lye Hock**  
   Commissioner General for Singapore Pavilion, Urban Redevelopment Authority

4. **Mr Kenneth Er**  
   CEO, National Parks Board

5. **Ms Lynette Pang**  
   Assistant CEO, Singapore Tourism Board

6. **Mr Mark Wee**  
   Executive Director, DesignSingapore Council

7. **Mr Yang Yeo**  
   Chief Creative Officer, Hakuhodo Inc.

### Lead Government Agency

**The Urban Redevelopment Authority**

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| Architecture & Creative Direction | **WOHA Architects**  
WOHA was founded by Wong Mun Summ and Richard Hassell in 1994. The Singapore-based practice focuses on researching and innovating integrated architectural and urban solutions to tackle the problems of the 21st century such as climate change, population growth and rapidly increasing urbanisation.  
WOHA has accrued a varied portfolio of work and is known for its distinct approach to biophilic design and integrated landscaping. The practice applies their systems thinking approach to architecture and urbanism in their building design as well as their regenerative masterplans. Their rating system to measure the performance of buildings, as laid out in their book “Garden City Mega City”, has garnered interest internationally and is being adopted into construction policies in several cities.  
WOHA has received a number of architectural awards such as the Aga Khan Award for One Moulmein Rise as well as the RIBA Lubetkin Prize and International Highrise Award for The Met. The practice won the 2019 CTBUH 2019 Urban Habitat and Best Mixed-Use Building, 2018 World Architecture Festival World Building of the Year for Kampung Admiralty, and 2018 CTBUH Best Tall Building Worldwide for the Oasia Hotel Downtown.  
The practice currently has projects under construction in Singapore, Australia, China and other countries in South Asia.  
Visit [www.woha.net](http://www.woha.net) for more information. |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Landscape Architecture & Design | **Salad Dressing**

Salad Dressing is a landscape design firm based in Singapore, founded in 2002. The studio leads a practice that leverages on the flux of humanity during this post-Anthropocene transition. It is inspired by contemporary culture that is defined by information technology, genomic science and cosmic explorations. By magnifying humankind’s original limited cognitive ability through machines, the studio challenges a change in bio-ethnics.

Follow Salad Dressing on Instagram (@saladlandscape) for more information. |
| Energy & Climate Consultant | **Transsolar KlimaEngineering**

A diverse team of engineers focused on creating climate-responsive built environments, Transsolar KlimaEngineering collaborates with clients and partners to enhance the human experience while minimising resource use following its self-declared attitude: High Comfort, Low Impact.

In partnership with the world’s leading architects, the firm’s unique approach has led to numerous breakthrough projects, including Abu Dhabi’s Masdar City Masterplan in 2008, the Net Zero Energy concept for Qatar’s successful Bid for the FIFA World Cup, and the “Rain of Light” roof of the Louvre in Abu Dhabi.

The firm’s work in Asia gives it the opportunity to design innovative comfort approaches leading to the world’s most energy efficient solutions, such as the Cooled Conservatories at Singapore’s Gardens by the Bay in 2009, the climate-positive National University of Singapore School of Design and Environment in 2019 and the BRAC University in Dhaka alongside WOHA architects in 2017.

Transsolar also has a history of art collaboration where the knowledge and skill to manipulate a space’s thermodynamic conditions are required. Notable examples are the “Breathe Austria” Austrian Pavilion at Milan Expo 2015, the Cloudscapes installation at the Venice Architecture Biennale 2010, and the Perfumed Cloud installation / Unidentified Scented Object (USO) in Paris 2017 and at the Louvre in Abu Dhabi in 2019.

The firm’s collaborative style has earned its projects the AIA Honor, COTE Top Ten, and other international awards, such as the 2015 AIA Institute Honor for Collaborative Achievement, and the 2020 OPAL Special Award Sustainability given for the firm’s groundbreaking climate and energy concepts.

Visit www.transsolar.com for more information. |
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<th>Builder</th>
<th><strong>Evan Lim Penta Construction Co LLC</strong></th>
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<td></td>
<td>Evan Lim–Penta is a partnership construction firm formed in Dubai, UAE in July 2007 between Evan Lim &amp; Co Pte Ltd (Singapore) and Penta Construction Co. LLC (Dubai).</td>
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<td>Evan Lim is an A1 grade (as ranked by Singapore Government) building contractor from Singapore. Since 1963, Evan Lim has successfully completed numerous projects, from medium to large scale, to the full acceptance of clients in Singapore, Myanmar and Dubai, an enviable record that not many can claim to have achieved. Evan Lim’s work comes from the military, environmental agencies, large commercial enterprises, governmental ministries, universities and schools, road and transportation agencies, airport authority, mass housing developers, condominium developers, hotels and 5-star resort as well as luxury private villa clientele.</td>
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<td>Penta was established in Dubai in 2005 by Mr. Behrooz Ahadpour in partnership with Mr. Fuad Al Ansari. Mr. Behrooz has more than 30 years of experience in the Dubai construction industry and has managed other successful construction ventures prior to setting up Penta. Mr. Fuad is co-owner of Al Ansari Exchange, one of the largest money exchange companies in the UAE.</td>
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<td>Together, the partners have strived to build Evan Lim-Penta from a G+1 base company into a AED20 million paid up firm with an Unlimited license in building construction it is today.</td>
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<td>Visit <a href="http://www.evanlim.com">www.evanlim.com</a> for more information.</td>
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<th>Structural Engineer</th>
<th><strong>Web Structures</strong></th>
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<td>Web Structures is an internationally-acclaimed civil, structural and geotechnical engineering consultancy delivering high quality solutions across the globe.</td>
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<td>A pioneer in “fusion engineering”; Web Structures fuses design sensitivity with cost consciousness to develop the most cost-effective structures in which the traditional separation between architectural design, structural integrity and cost considerations are erased in a seamless harmony of design intents.</td>
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<td>Employing diverse talent from the UK, Europe and Asia, Web Structures provides worldwide design consultancy at the highest end of the international spectrum. With offices in Singapore, Malaysia, Shanghai, London and Indonesia, the civil, structural and geotechnical practice also offers specialist design services in related engineering fields.</td>
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<td>With over 600 projects in more than 27 countries since 1996, the practice has worked with the world’s most renowned architects, developers and consultants.</td>
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**Multimedia & Exhibits**

**Brian Gothong Tan**

Brian Gothong Tan is one of the leading creatives in Singapore and is best known for his cutting-edge and highly engaging works in theatre, film and installation art, which have toured successfully in many countries like Italy, USA, Korea and the United Kingdom.

In 2006, he was the youngest artist participating in the Singapore Biennale 2006 with his installation, *We Live In A Dangerous World*. In 2007, he created *Signs, Omens and Relics of Faith*, an interactive multimedia installation as part of the 72-13’s Creatives-in-Residence programme.

His film project with Ekachai Uekrongtham, *Pleasure Factory*, in which he was the Director of Photography and Editor, was screened in Cannes Film Festival 2007 under the Un Certain Regard section. His first feature film, *Invisible Children* (2008), was produced by Eric Khoo's Zhao Wei Films and has travelled to many film festivals around the world. In 2010, Brian was commissioned to create the anchoring video installation for the Singapore Pavilion at the Shanghai World Expo.


**Digimagic Communications**

Digimagic is a full-fledged creative experiential media agency that specialises in the delivery of customised solutions for all marketing and corporate communication needs. Its services include immersive experiential media (ExM), design consultancy, multimedia audio-visual production, online applications and interactive solutions that connect with the emotions of audiences through creative storytelling and cutting-edge technology.


**Lighting Design**

**Light Collab**

Light Collab is a design practice specialising in the art of using light to enhance the visual environment and experience. Based in Singapore and Japan, the studio engages in a wide range of projects and are keenly committed to highlight the
importance of using light to create qualitative perception. Through its discipline and challenging the status quo, Light Collab aims to inspire different perspectives to the luminous environment.

Visit [www.lightcollab.com](http://www.lightcollab.com) for more information.