"Inspiration is important for my creative work. But inspiration comes only when I have prepared myself through reading, observation and keeping an open mind for ideas to flow and images to emerge."

Peter Choo, artist

In essence, the 'inspiration' mentioned above is knowledge. In defining knowledge, Benedetto Croce maintains that there are 2 kinds:

- intuitive, i.e. knowledge of images obtained through the imagination, and
- logical, knowledge of concepts obtained through the intellect.

He further argues that art is primarily concerned with intuition. However, it is interesting to note that in recent decades, art seems more driven by philosophy than actual practice (Berleant, et al), thereby bringing about the convergence of both types of knowledge elucidated by Croce. This thesis attempts to site this phenomenon in the local context, focusing on the contemporary art scene. In the light of recent efforts by the government to promote Singapore as an arts hub as well as a city with a knowledge-based economy, a general concern arises in that Singaporeans in general have an apathetic attitude towards the arts. In recognising art as a form of knowledge, it is therefore imperative that people acquire an understanding of it as part of our local culture and heritage. On this basis, the vehicle of a library + gallery + private art school complex is chosen. In particular, the use of public space as venues for dissemination of the above mentioned knowledge is explored, and in doing so, some of the conventions of the above building types are challenged.