Abstract

"A space is created, refined or restored so that people may come together, giver and receiver, one reinforcing the other in ancient time-honored exchange: the gift of art exchanged for the gift of attention. Driven by aesthetics and ideals, art, in order to succeed, must have its home."

- Randolph M.N. McAusland

"Building for the Arts"

The thesis is about bringing the arts into the Singaporean households and hence, to the commoners lifestyle. Presently, art is confined to the elite. Operas, musicals and symphonies are confined to opera theatres and concert halls. Statistics have proven that a typical, local Singaporean does not visit a concert hall more than once a year.

The objective of the thesis is to integrate art into the everyday lifestyle. Since 90% of the population in Singapore live in HDB (Housing and Development Board) flats in new towns, it is appropriate to build the arts centre in a New Town. Therefore, it is conceptualised, that in the making of an arts centre in a New Town, the arts could then be brought very close to the people through meaningful investigation and design process.

Hence, the search for a redefinition of an informal, neighborhood arts centre begun.