Abstract

Given the eclectic nature of the physical construction of the urban-scape in Singapore, reading it is almost illegible or even incomprehensible. Architecture and urban developments in Singapore have displayed oscillating attitudes in its response towards prevailing political and economic realities more than pure architectural intends. To say that there are no qualities (due to the lack of critical architectural intentions) in this urban-scape is almost a simplistic understatement. Reading into such a complex new urban set-up and architecture requires a new kind of mindset and attitude to understand the complexities and hidden qualities in the seemingly chaotic anti-modernist approach.

Our world is one that is constantly changing/multiplicitious world, where reality is chaotic, unpredictable, lack of purity, hence ultimately unknowable; it is a challenge to understand this enigmatic new world.

In acknowledging the non-static nature of this new society, the rejection of past paradigms; tectonics, aesthetics and permanence, necessitates a continuous critical rediscovering, negotiations and adjustments to the circumstances, which surround the making of architecture and urban design.

This dissertation sets off to explore principles and concepts developed by contemporary scholars (Deleuze, Lefebvre, Koolhaas, etc.) in decoding the architectural virtue in a contemporary capitalist society (eg. Singapore). It aims to search into the possibility of a complex relationship between the existence of chaos and urban-scape.
Through this exercise, the understanding in paradigmatic shifts in architectural concerns and the engagement with urban realities will hopefully offer a more practical conceptualisation and more positive attitudes towards the (inherent) chaos of the contemporary city. It is by no means a perfect scenario, but the idea of possibilities created through these non-pure entities brings about much excitement for further progress in the discipline thus allowing the sense of becoming...