



22-24 Sept 2022  
Marina Bay Sands,  
Singapore



## **EMERGE @ FIND PRESENTS FIRST OF ITS KIND SHOWCASE OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN DESIGN TALENT**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

Singapore, 4 July 2022 – Close to 60 acclaimed and rising Southeast Asian design talents will be spotlighted in the first edition of EMERGE @ FIND, a definitive platform presented by FIND – Design Fair Asia and DesignSingapore Council during Singapore Design Week in September 2022.

In this showcase of the region’s vibrant design scene, more than 50 names from Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam are joining the six designers who were previously announced. It is expected that a select group of these designers will design and present fresh works created specially for and at FIND – Design Fair Asia (Furniture, Interiors and Design), which sees global practitioners in the design industry converging to exchange inspiration and share their work. The designer line-up for EMERGE @ FIND includes top names such as Handhyanto Hardian from Indonesia, Hans Tan, from Singapore and Gabby Lichauco from the Philippines, and introduces emerging designers such as Sarutra Kaitparkpoom, Phuong Dao and Jamie Kok from Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia respectively.

*See Annex for information on designers’ bios.*

“We are thrilled to be presenting designers from across six countries in Southeast Asia at the first edition of EMERGE @ FIND. We’ve added to the initial short list to include almost 60 designers in this showcase. Southeast Asia has a thriving design scene which supports a diverse range of talent. By enabling these designers to showcase their work at EMERGE @ FIND, we hope that fellow members of the design industry and the wider public will be exposed to not only the artistic sense of these designers, but also to Southeast Asia’s rich heritage that is communicated through their work, surrounding the theme of material. We hope that this opportunity will help propel them to achieve further success, through networking and collaborative opportunities.” says Suzy Annetta, curator of the showcase.

"EMERGE @ FIND is a very important show that has finally arrived – a platform that rounds up design in Southeast Asia. As a region we have formed economic ties and share a blend of distinct and varied cultures; I am super excited to see how our values and perspectives come together in this presentation as a synthesis of ideas in design," says Hans Tan.

"It is exciting to be part of EMERGE @ FIND alongside talented designers from across the region. It has been a tough two years for everyone, including the design industry, but the resilience of creativity will manifest itself in our work. The importance of having a platform that represents Southeast Asian talent is immense. I am personally looking forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting new ones. Spearheading OpenStudio as well as collaborating on Nazareno/Lichauco has driven and inspired me. Along with the selected Philippine designers, we have been prolific during the pandemic and we cannot wait to exhibit the pieces of contemporary craft we have been working on at EMERGE @ FIND," says Gabby Lichauco.



EMERGE @ FIND Trailer

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-J9is81k\\_DMfZt\\_b1SUpU2v7XvWdYRB4/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-J9is81k_DMfZt_b1SUpU2v7XvWdYRB4/view)

Annetta will be working with the Southeast Asian designers to present novel works for EMERGE @ FIND through the lens of materiality. Their work is categorised under four pillars, based on the type of materials used in their work and its design. Phuong Dao from Vietnam will present her Ca Rang collection; Indonesia's Budiman Ong has designed a lighting collection named Bunga Kertas Merah while David Lee from Singapore's collection is named Lighthose. Finally, Rita Nazareno and Gabby Lichauco from the Philippines will present their Hoch collection. These represent Waste, Innovation, Unconventional and Natural/Local respectively.

Designers for EMERGE @ FIND hail from both multi-disciplinary and specialised studios, cutting across a wide variety of design disciplines from industrial to tapestry. They bring with them a myriad of design sensibilities, strongly reflecting their distinct creative styles and the timeless culture from their respective countries. Some seek to reinvent and reimagine trends through their work, while others hope to preserve local heritage or draw greater attention to underutilised resources.

High-resolution images are available at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/w7tf59tdfac1iwb/AABhPcwoY6rP0KJYwvGgr4gQa?dl=0>

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For more information, high resolution images or interview opportunities please get in touch with:

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## ABOUT FIND – DESIGN FAIR ASIA

In partnership with Fiera Milano, dmg events will bring together the largest carefully selected collection of interior brands, key opinion leaders, designers and content from across the globe at the inaugural FIND – Design Fair Asia. The fair is to be held at the Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre in Singapore from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> September 2022. Occupying 10,000 square metres, it is expected to draw more than 500 international exhibiting brands as well as 15,000 physical attendees. Visitors, including architects, interior designers, retailers, agents and design savvy consumers from across Asia, are invited to draw inspiration, network and trade at this new 3-day event located in Singapore. It will be a premium, thoughtfully produced event, offering trend setting design and a glimpse into the future. Exhibiting brands will also be able to leverage this global coverage fully to ensure leadership positing and visibility.

Website: <https://www.designfairasia.com/>

IG: [@finddesignfairasia](https://www.instagram.com/finddesignfairasia)

FB: [@finddesignfairasia](https://www.facebook.com/finddesignfairasia)

LinkedIn: [FIND – Design Fair Asia](https://www.linkedin.com/company/find-design-fair-asia)

## ABOUT SINGAPORE DESIGN WEEK

One of Asia's premier design festivals, Singapore Design Week (SDW) returns 16-25 September 2022 with a brand new vision, exploring design through three defining festival pillars: Design Futures, Design Marketplace and Design Impact.

Design Futures focuses on the design of the future and the future of design, through the lens of forward-looking Singapore – where a more positive future is prototyped for Singapore and the world. Design Marketplace uncovers lifestyle trends from across the globe, with a spotlight on the fast-growing Southeast Asia region. Design Impact inspires with innovative and impactful design solutions that tackle society's biggest questions and create a better world by design.

Organised by DesignSingapore Council, SDW is a celebration of creativity and innovation, championing thought leadership and showcasing the best of design from Singapore and beyond in our UNESCO City of Design. Find out more at: <https://sdw.sg>.

**dmg::events**

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dmg events is an international exhibitions and publishing company headquartered in Dubai, with a portfolio of 84 exhibitions across UK, Singapore, Canada, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and South Africa, that attracts more than 425,000 visitors every year.

 **FIERA MILANO**

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An undeniable part of Milan's history, **Fiera Milano** is the most prominent trade fair organiser in Italy and one of the largest in the world.

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## Annex: EMERGE @ FIND - Design Fair Asia designers

### INDONESIA

#### **Abie Abdillah**

Abie Abdillah is the founder of Studiohiji, a furniture and craft design studio that works with natural raw materials widely available from sustainable sources and handcrafted by skilled Indonesian artisans. Studiohiji is a keen advocate of rattan and rattan furniture, in particular. It believes that designers have the responsibility to not only quench people's thirst for beauty, but also to explore what can be done for the environment. Together with Artikraft, it is exploring other natural materials and natural fibers such as bamboo, sedge, pandanus, to be made into other sustainable products, with a craftsmanship base as well. Their designs campaign for the improvement of the social economy and creative ecosystem in Indonesia.

#### **Adhi Nugraha**

Adhi Nugraha is a teacher, researcher, and designer. He trained as a product designer at Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB), Indonesia. After going to Europe in 1992, he worked for several years at a design firm in Germany and earned his MA in Craft Design in Finland. Later in Helsinki, Nugraha founded a design studio and also completed his doctoral study in 2012 at Aalto University. He then moved back to Indonesia in 2013, teaching in ITB and working as a designer in his design studio and workshop in Bandung, Adhi Nugraha Design. His interests are in craft, design, creative industry, and sustainability.

#### **Alvin Tjitrowirjo**

Indonesian-born product designer Alvin Tjitrowirjo has built a solid and respectable career over the last decade by remaining faithful to his place of origin. He strives to create a new design language that projects a new attitude and mindset of contemporary Indonesia through his furniture brand, AlvinT, and his recently founded multidisciplinary design and strategy firm, Shape of Thoughts. Since 2017, Alvin has become an active contributor to the Indonesian government by acting as an art director for Indonesia's agency for Creative Economy in designing the exhibition stand in Frankfurt's Ambiente and Indonesia's pavilion at Tortona Design Week which is part of Salone del Mobile. In 2018, Alvin exhibited his rocking horse, Lumping, at Rossana Orlando Gallery with Yamakawa Rattan and became the creative director for Indonesian furniture brand Vivere Group.

#### **Budiman Ong**

Budiman was born and raised in a small town in North Sumatra, Indonesia. He studied applied art courses at the Gray's School of Art in Scotland. He loves to experiment and has dedicated himself to find intrinsic qualities of every material he has worked with. He founded Ong Cen Kuang in 2008, a studio specializing in decorative lighting. Ong Cen Kuang has produced an out-of-the-box handmade decorative lighting collection. It reflects Budiman's design principles that respect the process and characters of each material. The pieces created together with his dedicated team of talented craftsmen are tactile, strong and have character.

#### **Clarissa Nilistiani and Theresya Tan**

Founded in 2020 by Clarissa Nilistiani and Theresya Tan, the Indonesian home textiles label Lana Daya is rooted in the pursuit of craftsmanship and nurturing Indonesian cultural heritage through the grounds of textile artisanship. Clarissa's practice explores the importance of traditional textiles in the midst of Indonesia's modern progression, engaging with unconventional materials that are oftentimes raw and unprocessed, as well as crafting techniques which emphasise on hand values. She engages in exploration which challenges newness and shifting perspective on the use of Indonesian nature and promotes rural economy.

### **Denny Priyanta**

Denny R Priyanta is an Indonesian designer who likes to explore the interaction between humans and inanimate objects. He is the founder of AIEVL, specialising in product, furniture and interior design. He tends to question conventions and go against the grain to find breakthrough ideas. He also mixes traditional elements with cutting-edge technologies. Denny graduated from Bandung Institute of Technology and completed his Masters at Central Saint Martins in London. He had completed various types of projects for the Indonesian government's programs, hospitality industries, retail industries, and educational institutes. His works have won various competitions, exhibited internationally and have been featured in well-known magazines. He is also occasionally invited to share his knowledge at universities, events, and workshops.

### **Eugenio Hendro**

Spending his formative years in the city of Manado in North Sulawesi, award-winning Indonesian product designer Eugenio Hendro has always possessed a keen attention to detail, a love for exploration, and a passion for the culture of his home country. He is a graduate from the Bandung Institute of Technology, majoring in industrial design. Eugenio has always had a keen eye on designing objects and furniture items that incorporate a variety of cultural contexts, combining modern technology with traditional craftsmanship. Bridging the gap between cultures, emotions, and lifestyles holds a significant value and has become one of the cornerstones of Eugenio Hendro Design Studio.

### **Eva Natasa**

Indonesian industrial designer Eva Natasa started her career in Milan, as part of a team that handled successful design projects for large-scale clients across the globe. In 2013, she launched her own furniture brand EVA NATASA™ in Bali that aims to redefine the way to design and make furniture, by introducing high quality and well-designed products to people in a sustainable way. EVA NATASA™ infuses traditional wisdom and woodworking sensibility into the modern production process of furniture. This creates synergy between machinery and human hands, explores new possibilities, and pushes the boundaries of design and woodworking.

### **Handhyanto Hardian**

Handhyanto Hardian is an Indonesian designer and a graduate of the Bandung Institute of Technology in industrial design. His expertise in furniture design has created innovative works that are sustainable and collaborative in nature. He is the winner of the 2013, 2014 IFDA (Indonesia Furniture Design Award), 2018 American Standard Design Competition, Finalist of 2019 Rossana Orlandi Guiltless Plastic Prize, and 2020 Good Design Indonesia. His works are inspired by Indonesia's local values and materials, reinterpreting tradition into simple objects. He is currently focusing on collaboration with local artisans, working across disciplines to deepen his passion for Indonesian handicrafts.

### **Hendro Hadinata**

Hendro Hadinata is the founder of Studio Hendro Hadinata, a creative practice based in Jakarta, Indonesia. Its work responds to the globalized world. By ingraining contextual narratives into everyday objects, it crafts palpable stories that inspire sociocultural comprehension. Since 2016, Studio Hendro Hadinata have been working alongside local craftsmen to push and play with the boundaries of common materials, in concurrence with upholding the vision of design for good. It collaborates with brands to produce meaningful work and support cultural democratisation. Engaging in both commercial and personal work, Studio Hendro Hadinata designs objects, furniture, and interior spaces for retail, residential, and art.

### **Stephanie and David Getty**

Stephanie and David Getty run Surrounding Objects, a shophouse producing and collecting design objects related to daily rituals. The process and production of work are informed by stories, and specific material research to create practical designs for use. It gravitates toward objects that reflect the economical use of material, often drawing attention to common or overlooked local resources. Surrounding Objects presents these collections in varying formats as a living archive of thoughtful design. Stephanie and David Getty received their Masters in Architecture from Rhode Island School of Design. The two oversee the design and production of Stephanie's father's woodworking shop in Indonesia, while currently living in Melbourne, Australia.

## **MALAYSIA**

### **Wei Ming Tan**

A typography major from the United Kingdom, Wei Ming practised as a graphic designer for a couple of years after returning to Kuala Lumpur. Her passion for furniture and lighting design spurred her to explore beyond the two dimensional even more so as part of a design collective in 2007 producing custom furniture, lighting and interior pieces and exploring diverse fields like hospitality, fashion and culture. This experience gave Wei Ming the platform she needed to extend her skills further and would pave the way to forming her own independent brand, Aureole, in 2013. As Wei Ming shapes and develops Aureole, she continues to draw influences from her graphic design background where geometry, forms, proportions and balance come into play.

### **Wei Ming Tan**

Wei Ming is a spatial designer from Penang Island, Malaysia. He is the founder of Sputnik Forest Labs based in Penang, a multidisciplinary design studio which tailors interior and exterior spaces into expressions of atmospheric visual arts.

### **Jamie Kok**

Jamie Kok is part of EMPT Studio. Its interest lies in object design with experimental form and materials. Currently, EMPT studio is working on designing household furniture from local tropical plywood using CNC machine cutting techniques.

### **Shahril Faisal**

Shahril Faisal is a Malaysian designer, based in Kuala Lumpur. With a technical background in industrial design, he worked on both consumer products and automotive before launching his own studio in 2014, focused on furniture, lighting and living accessories. He has won numerous awards and prizes both locally and internationally and has been featured in international exhibitions and magazines worldwide. Shahril runs Shahril Faisal Design, which believes that designs cultivated there are thoroughly permitted to rigorous philosophical paradigms, evoking emotions, provoking thoughts and stimulating the senses. Emotional and functional attributes are endorsed as equally meaningful values throughout the range of designs created. This corresponds with the pride in producing timeless objects of beauty which embeds the delicacy and simplicity of traditional Malaysian roots.

## **PHILIPPINES**

### **Arnulfo Milambiling**

Arnulfo Milambiling is a marine engineer turned entrepreneur and furniture designer. After working in the Middle East for 5 years, he decided to return to the Philippines and founded Contemporaneo, a furniture company. It was based in Olongapo City before moving to Metro Manila. Not wanting to throw away excess wood and end cuts, he decided to do some

research on what he could do with these discarded pieces of wood. This is how he came to manufacture furniture pieces using wood chips, wherein the art is in the details and in the pattern of the wood.

### **Gabby Lichauco**

Lichauco has been practising design since 2001 and is the founder of Openstudio, a multi-disciplinary design consultancy that focuses on space, installations, and objects, as well as Newfolk, a creative platform for innovative designers, artists, and producers. He is a seasoned exhibitor at various international trade shows, such as the 2017 Venice Art Biennale, 2016 XXI Triennale International Exhibition and several editions of the Salone Internazionale del Mobile di Milano. He recently curated “Kindred” at the 2019 and 2020 Maison et Objet in Paris, France, and “Itim” at the 2020 Fuorisalone in Milan Design Week, exhibitions which represented over 45 Filipino brands under Citem, the export promotion arm of the Philippine Department of Trade & Industry. Lichauco’s works and exhibits have been featured in Architectural Digest, Wallpaper\*, Domus, Interni, Dezeen, Designboom, Core77, Elle Décor, Town & Country, Esquire, Casa Brutus, La Repubblica, RAI-1, The Straits Times, and South China Morning Post.

### **Jim Zarate-Torres**

Jim Zarate-Torres is the founder of Zarate Manila, a Filipino retail lifestyle brand established in the Philippines in 2015. It designs, produces and sells a range of contemporary designed furniture, accessories and lighting for both residential and commercial projects. Exemplifying bold, progressive ideals with a textural aesthetic, he seeks inspiration through the art of crafting unforeseen notions, searching for a balance between minimalism and traditional crafting. From subtle detail to bold signature elements, the brand is infused with seamless design discipline in each handcrafted piece. Jim believes in disrupting the limitation of simplicity – to redefine and push the boundaries of perception and composition with his codes that are translated differently.

### **Joseph Rastrullo**

Joseph Rastrullo started Rastrullo in 2013, a studio which commits itself to developing and revolutionizing spaces holistically. It started out as a small industrial design studio in a garage in Bel – Air Makati, Philippines and has grown to take on opportunities around Southeast Asia. Rastrullo strives to become a partner of local communities in exploring actions to responsibly develop spaces. By challenging trends and disrupting current mindsets, it constantly seeks new areas of innovation. It believes that education is a key to nation building, aiming to provide opportunities to growing business through its systems and projects. Rastrullo aligns with the words inspiration and legacy, as it finds joy in building communities and rising together as a nation.

### **Lilianna Manahan**

Lilianna Manhan is a designer residing and working in Manila. She finished her Foundation Studies in Art and Design at Central Saint Martins School of Art and Design in 2004 and completed her BFA Industrial Design degree at the University of the Philippines. She also worked with Kenneth Cobonpue, before beginning her own design practice in 2012. Her work has been described as alternately whimsical or industrial depending on the objects she designs. The study of process to highlight a craft and craftsman runs central in her work. In the past, her work had a range of materials but now is focusing on metal, stone, and ceramic, sometimes doing the finishes herself. The size of her works and installations run from the minuscule to large-scale. Her pieces pay attention to details, whether in their functional or artistic elements.



### **Rita Nazareno Zacarias**

Rita Nazareno is an Emmy Award-winning Television Creative Services Producer, whose shift to design is a product of passion and family ties. She is the Creative Director of ZACARIAS 1925, a brand of hand-woven bags and home accessories that places a contemporary thrust in the traditional craft of hand-weaving. ZACARIAS 1925 is exclusively hand-woven at the S.C.Vizcarra Workshop, founded in 1925 in Manila by Rita's grandmother. Nazareno is Co-Creative Director of Nazareno/Lichauco along with Gabby Lichauco. They were Creative Directors for the design exhibition ITIM: Material Manipulations in Black and the Philippines' participation in M&O since 2019.

### **Stanley Ruiz**

Stanley Ruiz is a multi-awarded designer and principal of Estudio Ruiz - a Manila-based design consultancy he founded after working in Bali and New York City. With an extensive background in craft design and production, his work explores the commonplace to bring about new meaning and interpretation to object archetypes. Aside from exhibiting his own work and consulting for private and government agencies, Stanley serves as a faculty at the University of the Philippines, College of Fine Arts. When not designing, he likes to listen to vinyl records and dabbles with his motorbike, dreaming of the ultimate adventure ride across Southeast Asia someday.

### **Vito Selma**

Since 2006, Vito Selma has dabbled in different aspects of furniture design. Starting out as Creative Director for Stonesets International Inc. ®, he worked his way to the Head Design Director post, before finally taking on Vito Selma® as a separate and independent brand. Vito's formal background in design began when he enrolled at the Academy of Art College in San Francisco, where he had a short stint. The year 2011 brought Vito learning opportunities that veered on more than the usual. A move to Milan, Italy allowed him to pursue his Masters in Industrial Design at the Scuola Politecnica di Design, where he graduated in 2012.

## **SINGAPORE**

### **Christian Hammer Juhl and Jade Chan**

Christian+Jade is the design studio of Christian Hammer Juhl (Denmark) and Jade Chan (Singapore), who began their collaboration while studying at the Design Academy Eindhoven. Currently based in Copenhagen, they explore design as an artistic form of expression with a special focus on craft and material. Christian+Jade is founded on the belief that objects can be designed to encourage a greater sensibility and intimacy to the spaces we inhabit. Contextualised within different historical and cultural narratives around materials and objects, Christian+Jade manifest unique design pieces that come together in a raw and honest, material expression and intent.

### **Cynthia Chan**

Cynthia believes that design is based on finding inspiration in everyday experiences — conversations, objects and places. Dedicated to creating designs that are more experimental, her approach tends to be ambiguous and questioning, with each project dappling between utility and whimsy. Some results of her projects may be the record of a process itself, or leads to commercial products in others. By using her design outcomes as well as a means of communication, Cynthia tries to show that design can be functional, good and beautiful, not just in objects but also in the ideas they represent.

### **Genevieve Ang**

Genevieve Ang, better known as gellyvieve, is a maker who primarily expresses herself through clay and spatial installations. Stumbling upon clay at the age of 10 and eventually graduating with a Masters of Architecture degree, she sees her practice as playing and

building infinite worlds. Fascinated with how clay is used everywhere, she collaborated with brands from an array of different disciplines ranging from confectionary to environmental causes, such as KKI sweets, Our Second Nature, Waste Refinery by Kinetics, and more. On most days, she thinks of herself as a toymaker pursuing the middle point between art and design.

### **Hans Tan**

At his eponymous studio, Hans makes use of beauty and utility as a pretext for visual discourse, tip-toeing on the boundaries between design, craft and art. His work maintains a keen focus in disrupting common things, materials and fabrication processes, embedding narratives that poke at collective memory and comment on design and its industry as a phenomenon, especially in the context of heritage, consumption and waste.

### **Hunn Wai**

Hunn is Director of Meta + Industrial Design at Lanzavecchia + Wai. It is an internationally renowned award-winning design studio based between Italy and Singapore, specialising in physical and digital storytelling, and world building. Their genesis NFT "Living Vase 01" for the Vogue NFT Collection was successfully sold out on OpenSea in November 2021. L+W also pledged an Edition of 5 NFTs "A Flower of Hope for the Refugees" for the United Nations High Commissioner's Refugees Charity Auction, of which UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Neil Gaiman ("Sandman" creator) has also pledged NFT works towards. L+W's work spans from limited editions to mass products for brands like Zanotta, FIAM, Living Divani & Cappellini, to special commissions for Hermès & La Triennale di Milano and now large scale Metaverse + NFT projects for international clients & partners. The practice is currently deep in research and development phygital products and experiences for the Web3 space.

### **Jessica Wong and Pamela Ting**

Jessica Wong is a designer and co-founder of local contemporary Asian furniture and homeware brand SCENE SHANG. An internship in Shanghai during her architecture school days inspired her love for culture and heritage. Back in Singapore, she discovered a lack of contemporary furniture that reflected Asian heritage and culture. This led her to co-found SCENE SHANG with her business partner, who shared similar interests and was similarly inspired by her finance internship in Shanghai. Through SCENE SHANG, Jessica has created furniture designs that are heritage-inspired and forward-looking, and has gone on to win various awards including a special commendation at the President's Design Award (2014), ASEAN Furniture Design Award (2018) and Singapore Creator Awards (2019). She has also been involved in design education and served as an adjunct lecturer at a local polytechnic.

### **Karyn Lim**

Karyn Lim is a multi-disciplinary designer based in Singapore. She is formally trained in industrial design, with a focus on luxury and craftsmanship. Her curiosity and agility has led her to design various types of products including furniture, accessories, packaging, and clothing. She believes in a conscious, collaborative approach and works closely with her clients to create fresh concepts for their brands. Her work can be found at selected shops in Singapore. Cloud furniture is stocked at Shouten at Mandarin Gallery, and her capsule collection of linen-wear is available from Our Barehands. She also co-runs contemporary furniture brand IndustryPlus.

### **Luke Heng and Nicholas Lim**

The eponymous NiiiL is a collaborative brainchild between Luke Heng and Nicholas Lim, who share an interest in a design process pushed by imagination and play. Allowing materiality to shape the form, they seek to synthesise aesthetically driven objects with a sense of spatial acuteness to initiate an experiential encounter.

**Olivia Lee**

Olivia Lee runs a multidisciplinary studio grounded by industrial design principles. The practice pivots from product to spatial design, art direction and discursive projects with the goal of creating thought-provoking experiences. It focuses on uncovering new rituals and behaviours, navigating the tension between tradition and the future, and bringing brands into unexplored territories through design and narrative.

**Melvin Ong**

Melvin graduated with First Class Honours from Central St Martins College of Art & Design in 2010. While in London, Melvin had the opportunity to be under the tutelage of established designers, Chris Lefteri and Reiko Kaneko. In 2010, Melvin had his first showcase at Tent London and the following year, he exhibited at the Milan Salone Satellite. He moved back to Singapore in 2012 to establish Desinere, which launched its first collection at Design Tide Tokyo 2012, and at Tortona Design Week in Milan in 2013. In 2014, Melvin was named 'Rising Asian Talent' by Maison et Objet Asia.

**Nathan Yong**

Nathan Yong runs a multidisciplinary design consultancy practice in Singapore. His work is inspired by observation of the visual environment, and challenges the existential questions of the objects. Instead of superfluous details, he captures the poetry of products through a stripping process, lending object qualities that are informed by a lightness of restraints. Nathan is the programme leader in Lasalle School of the Arts and was invited to speak in China Academy of Art. He is a jury member for several renowned design awards and a mentor for many young creative startups in Asia. Nathan's work has been exhibited globally in various design centers in Milan, London, Koln, and Taipei. He has appeared in international magazines such as Wallpaper, Monocle and Surface. His clients include Design Within Reach (USA), Herman Miller (USA), Ligne Roset (France) amongst others.

**Priscilla Lui and Timo Wong**

Studio Juju is a Singapore-based design office founded in 2009 by Priscilla Lui and Timo Wong, working across various fields from industrial design, spatial design and art intervention. Studio Juju designs with fresh perspectives and emotional connection in mind, with thoughtful consideration of human experiences in contemporary living. Each project is a union of simplicity and warmth, utility and whimsy, refinement and relevance.

**Sheryl Teng**

Sheryl is an interdisciplinary designer who dwells in the wonders of materiality and tactile experimentation. Approaching her projects with an inquisitive mind, Sheryl is a meticulous designer-maker who brings a sensitivity to the body silhouette to her craft. Her works negotiate and explore relationships between materials, people and objects, creating surprises through the ordinary, quotidian phenomena.

**Tiffany Loy**

Tiffany Loy is a Singaporean artist trained in industrial design textile-weaving. Loy graduated from the Royal College of Art with an MA in Textiles, specialising in weaving. She was also a recipient of the DesignSingapore Scholarship. Since the founding of her studio in 2014, Loy's experimental works have been exhibited internationally, at venues such as Singapore Art Museum, Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, and La Triennale di Milano. Her background in product and textile design has led to her unique approach in creating materials with minute details, while keeping in mind their overall impact in the larger, spatial context.

**Wendy Chua**

Wendy Chua is a co-founder of Forest & Whale, a multi-disciplinary design practice, along with Gustavo Maggio. They envisage design as an agent of change, one that imagines a better future through the lens of sustainability. As product and service designers, they have

applied circular design methodologies to their recent Good Design Research project, which aims to minimise plastic waste in food delivery and takeaway, an issue that is especially pertinent in a world where working from home has been normalised.

### **Zavier Wong**

Zavier is a Singapore-born maker and thinker based in the Netherlands. His practice primarily uses the act of making and creating to discover a material and unravel new ways of what it can do. He makes use of an introspective creative process informed by the unknown and uncertainty, leading to results where both material and immaterial dimensions are held together. Interior objects are Xavier's medium, viewing himself as someone gardening in industrial wilderness. He gravitates towards materials that are perceived as cheap, discarded, unwanted or things that are rejected and overlooked by industry, making use of their weakness as an invitation to transform it.

## **THAILAND**

### **Ada Chirakranont and Worapong Manupipatpong**

Atelier 2+ Studio is a Bangkok based creative studio started by Thai-born, Swedish trained Ada Chirakranont and Worapong Manupipatpong, with international recognition in architecture, art, craft and design. They work best by blurring the subjectivity of fine art and the objectivity of architecture. Atelier 2+ Studio's approach towards furniture design reaches beyond furniture as a stand-alone product, articulating it as a tool for shaping user experience in a furnished space.

### **Anon Pairot**

In 2007, Anon Pairot founded his own design studio, the Anon Pairot Design Studio. Anon Pairot sees the need for diversity not only in his design visionary but also in the business strategy. He acts as both a design as well as branding consultant, employing industrial designers, graphic designers, interior designers, fashion stylists, sculptors and architects. The company's clients range from local businesses to the Department of Commercial - Thailand, Phillip Morris, Bombay Sapphire, Smirnoff, Forestier Paris, Kenneth Cobonpue, Phillip Starck network and Fendi.

### **Charif Lona**

Charif Lona is an interior design director with ten years of experience and academic training in architecture, art and design. He considers that a good design is approachable and versatile. His works are multidisciplinary to execute relative design environments from concept design through aesthetic creation. He offers full creative direction, brand consultancy, and design services, mixing aesthetics with artful sensibilities. This sharpened strategy often delivers surprising results.

### **Decha Archjananun and Ploypan Theerachai**

Decha Archjananun and Ploypan Theerachai are founders of THINKK Studio, a design studio in Bangkok, Thailand. Its comprehension of design concepts harmonises research and experiments with an element of fun and creativity. It is capable of versatility, with works ranging from installations in hotels and department stores to furniture and product designs, while keeping in mind the multidimensional impact the pieces have on consumers by taking into consideration the market, the public, relevant communities, and the environment. THINKK Studio has set its sights on timeless design, while wishing that their legacy is interesting and appealing.

### **Nichepak Torsutkanok and Wanus Choketaweesak**

Ease Studio was founded in 2014 by Nichepak Torsutkanok and Wanus Choketaweesak as a Bangkok-based multidisciplinary bespoke design studio. It is an offshoot of a 30 years old family-owned embroidery business that blends craft, technology, and design. It explores traditional hand embroidery and craft techniques, by experimenting with machines down to its coding system. Ease Studio creates an array of interior decoration products such as furniture and even site-specific art installations. It is known for its obsession with colors, textures, and materials to create new experiences for its tactile art and living products.

### **Piboon Amornjiraporn**

Piboon Amornjiraporn is the founder of Plural Designs, a multi-disciplinary design studio. From a background in architectural design, they have expanded their experience into furniture design and custom-made products, understanding the essence of material and the making process. They combine different materials through techniques, reflecting the diversity of urban lifestyle and creating unique stories. Their art installation and exhibition projects connect the architectural design approach with natural materials and handmade process. Since 2016, Plural Designs is involved in much collaborative work with government organisations, independent design studios and the craft community across Thailand. They make use of such opportunities to express the diversity of knowledge and material through design.

### **Pipidh Khowsuwan and Anchana Thongpaitoon**

Pipidh Khowsuwan graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Interior Design from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang in Bangkok, Thailand. After graduating, he got an opportunity to work at Duangrit Bunnag Architect Limited (DBALP) as a Senior Interior Designer (Project Director) for seven years. He later co-founded Salt and Pepper Studio in 2010. He does not limit himself to one area of design. He is interested in various design categories, such as interior design, architecture, lighting design, exhibition design, installation artwork to product design, and handicraft, and is a design consultant for different brands and companies. Anchana Thongpaitoon graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Product Design from the Faculty of Decorative Arts, Silpakorn University in 2005. She has experience in various fields of arts and design including furniture, product, packaging, graphic, branding, handicraft developments, and fine arts until 2010. Currently, she's one of the founding partners and creative directors of Salt and Pepper Studio. This multidisciplinary studio includes various forms of artwork and designs, from product design, furniture design, and household adornment to interior design, architecture, exhibition design, installation, art direction, and strategic consultation. It challenges itself to pursue and find the unexplored through research and experiments.

### **Robert Sukrachand**

Robert Sukrachand is a furniture designer based in Chiang Mai and New York. Since launching his first collection in 2015 Robert has created mixed material works that blend divergent material and cultural influences. Growing up in Massachusetts but spending his summers in his father's native Thailand, Robert has always sought energy from the liminal spaces where boundaries are blurred and translation is a necessity. The same can be said of his design practice which at its core seeks to create a dialogue between craft disciplines, cultural histories, and material forms. Currently, he is in the process of launching a new company to connect Thailand and the US through the universal language of design. In 2020, Robert was named as one of the 20 names to know now in American design by the editors of Sight Unseen.

### **Saran Yen Yanya**

Saran Yen Yanya is known for working with all kinds of narrative methods to create memorable experiences that will bring conceptual brand philosophies into the tangible realm. Having graduated from Chulalongkorn University with a degree in industrial design, he

moved to Sweden as one of ten students to receive a scholarship to study a course in storytelling at Konstfack, the University College of Arts, Crafts and Design in Stockholm. His practice, 56th Studio, is a multidisciplinary design house that explores the communicative aspects of objects.

### **Sarunphon Boonto**

Sarunphon Boonto graduated from a bachelor's degree in Product Design from Bangkok University in 2020. She is currently a junior furniture and product designer who loves and is interested in storytelling, psychology of shapes and colors, visual graphic, and color elements. Her work concepts mostly depend on what she wishes to express through products. Her storytelling technique likely comes in the form that could not be seen by eyes or not seen in the form of an object. Her work is conceptual art in the form of product design, projecting design meaning onto products or furniture. Sarunphon Boonto also has a passion for conceptual design, visual graphics, and colors. She believes in the psychology of art in which the colour and shape impacts emotion, and storytelling which could add more interest.

### **Saruta 'Pin' Kiatparkpoom**

Saruta Kiatparkpoom is an artist and designer based in Bangkok, Thailand. Growing up in a family-owned steel company and holding a Fine Arts degree from Srinakharinwirot University and Applied Art in Master degree from Silpakorn University, her primary passion is to recycle worthless steel debris seen everyday into valuable home decoration. In pursuing the first stage of her passion, Kiatparkpoom participated in the Young Designer Project that allowed her to successfully experiment with new ideas and techniques toward her artistic freedom.

### **Shoson Thatawakorn and Jarupatcha Achavasmith**

Shoson Thatawakorn and Jarupatcha Achavasmith run AUSARA, a boutique company. The workshop, beautifully located in the outskirts of Bangkok, employs 9 craftsmen and weavers with different backgrounds. Together, they create by hand the collections of textiles and wall coverings designed by the two owners. AUSARA strives to enrich old craft traditions by adding new material and techniques.

### **Teerapoj Teeropas**

Teerapoj Teeropas is a Bangkok-based designer, specialising in furniture and exhibition designs. He founded his own brand Kitt-Ta-Khon in 2019 specialising in rattan furniture, mixing traditional and new-found weaving and wrapping techniques to create contemporary textures and design language. Through pattern research and historical reference studies, he pays tribute to different cultures such as Thai, African, Chinese, Moroccan and many more. Teeropas pushes the idea of craft as a universal language by allowing elements from each culture to co-exist in his designs, blurring the lines between countries and each reference's true origin.

### **Varongkorn Tienaprmpool and Supattra Kreaksakul**

Varongkorn Tienaprmpool and Supattra Kreaksakul run PATAPiAN, a studio specialising in woven decorative items which combine craft practices with contemporary aesthetics. PATAPiAN products are based on the idea of re-interpretation and creativity that draw inspiration from nature, narrative and everyday life. It uses several materials and new methods of making products with strong and unique identities.

## **VIETNAM**

### **Neo Nguyen**

Neo Ngyuen is an industrial designer in Vietnam and the founder of NEO Studio - Industrial Design team. His design language is a combination of minimalism and originality. He is experienced in product design and development in many types of products –

electronic, consumer, medical products – with strong hand sketching skills and project management.

### **Phuong Dao**

Phuong Dao is a furniture designer based in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. He prefers to keep the balance between artistic works and manufacture, using design as a main factor in mass production. As he progresses with his career, the more he wants to use it to nurture the creativity of creating useful things for his community and nature. He believes that life is a journey and he is pursuing his dream of being an entrepreneur in the furniture industry, designing lovely and environmentally-friendly products.

### **Thomas Vincent**

Thomas Vincent is the head designer of Elek Design, which also runs the designer brand Bằng. Specialising in furniture and lighting, products from Bằng are designed, developed, manufactured and packaged completely in-house at Elek Design headquarters in Bình Dương, Viet Nam. The team at Elek Design is interdisciplinary and passionate about design, believing that "design ain't no office job". The integrated studio, located right above their workshops, is the perfect playground where they consolidate their problem solving, nurture their experimental spirit, and work together to create different, versatile and well-made products.

### **Huyen Trang Nguyen**

Huyen Trang Nguyen is a furniture designer based in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Trang graduated from the University of Architecture Ho Chi Minh City in 2019. She was one of the winners of the Creative ASEAN Furniture Design contest 2018; and was also one of 20 young designers of the Discovered project with Wallpaper magazine and American Hardwood Export Council in partnership with the Design Museum. Trang has always been fascinated by Vietnamese tradition-inspired furniture and aspires to renew traditional values.

### **Vũ Hoàng Anh**

He is a Vietnamese designer working across disciplines from product design to creative direction. He received his BFA from Ohio Wesleyan University where he was trained as a sculptor. Such academic background allows Anh to apply his craftsmanship and earn valuable experience from hands-on collaboration with independent artists and designers. From initial sketches to development of prototypes, Anh values both creative input and practical understanding of the design and manufacturing process. Such spirit guides his design approach by constantly seeking the essence of demands and offering his creative input to help visualise the most suitable solution.