



THE WINDS OF CHANGE  
**SINGAPORE'S**  
TRANSFORMATION

PROJECT WORK 2018 GROUP 05-11 WRITTEN REPORT

# PREFACE

In Singapore, the only constant is change. Edifices which had witnessed most of Singapore's independence history are being sold and demolished faster by the day, just because they are not the usual modern kitsch we're used to. Before long, Singapore would not have an urban identity, erased and forgotten.

As always, both colonial and modern architecture are all highly regarded with much of the former being conserved. However, Singapore has been neglecting the buildings between these time periods – architecturally significant, yet overlooked.

In the next decade, how many post-independence architectural icons will still be standing? Your guess is as good as mine.

Happy reading!

Sim Heng Ee  
Artistic Director  
Group 05-11

Le Nouvel Ardmore  
Photographer: Heng Ee Sim





# OVERVIEW: TABLE OF CONTENT

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Singapore Land Towers  
Photographer: Heng Ee Sim



THE REVOLUTIONARY EVOLUTION OF IDEAS  
**THE IDEATION PROCESS**

Pearl Bank Apartments  
Photographer: Heng Ee Sim



## INITIAL IDEA

# NATURE & URBANISATION: DUALITY?

Aim: discover the relationship between urbanisation and nature especially in fast-changing modern societies:

- I. Urbanisation is devouring nature.
- II. Nature is devouring urbanisation.
- III. Both elements co-exist peacefully (see image).

However, we later found many flaws in this plan.

- I. The unfeasibility and difficulty in drawing foreign scenes (not in Singapore).
- II. Insufficient suitable local sightings (not clichéd).
- III. The idea had no discernible purpose.

Oasia Hotel Downtown

Photographer: Heng Ee Sim



Redhill MRT Station

Bencoolen MRT Station

## SUBSEQUENT IDEAS: “TIME” & EVOLUTION OF BOTH SINGAPORE & OUR IDEAS

Singapore has swiftly developed from a reliant British colony to an independent metropolis within 5 decades... Long story short. We aimed to discover the evolution of Singapore from modernisation. With that, we swiftly came up with three ideas:

- I. Saving Gaia: Architectural Trends
- II. Evolution of Schools
- III. Modernisation: Impacting Buildings & Industries

## THE FINALISATION OF IDEAS

# THE MASTER PLAN

The biggest flaws in our ideas were:

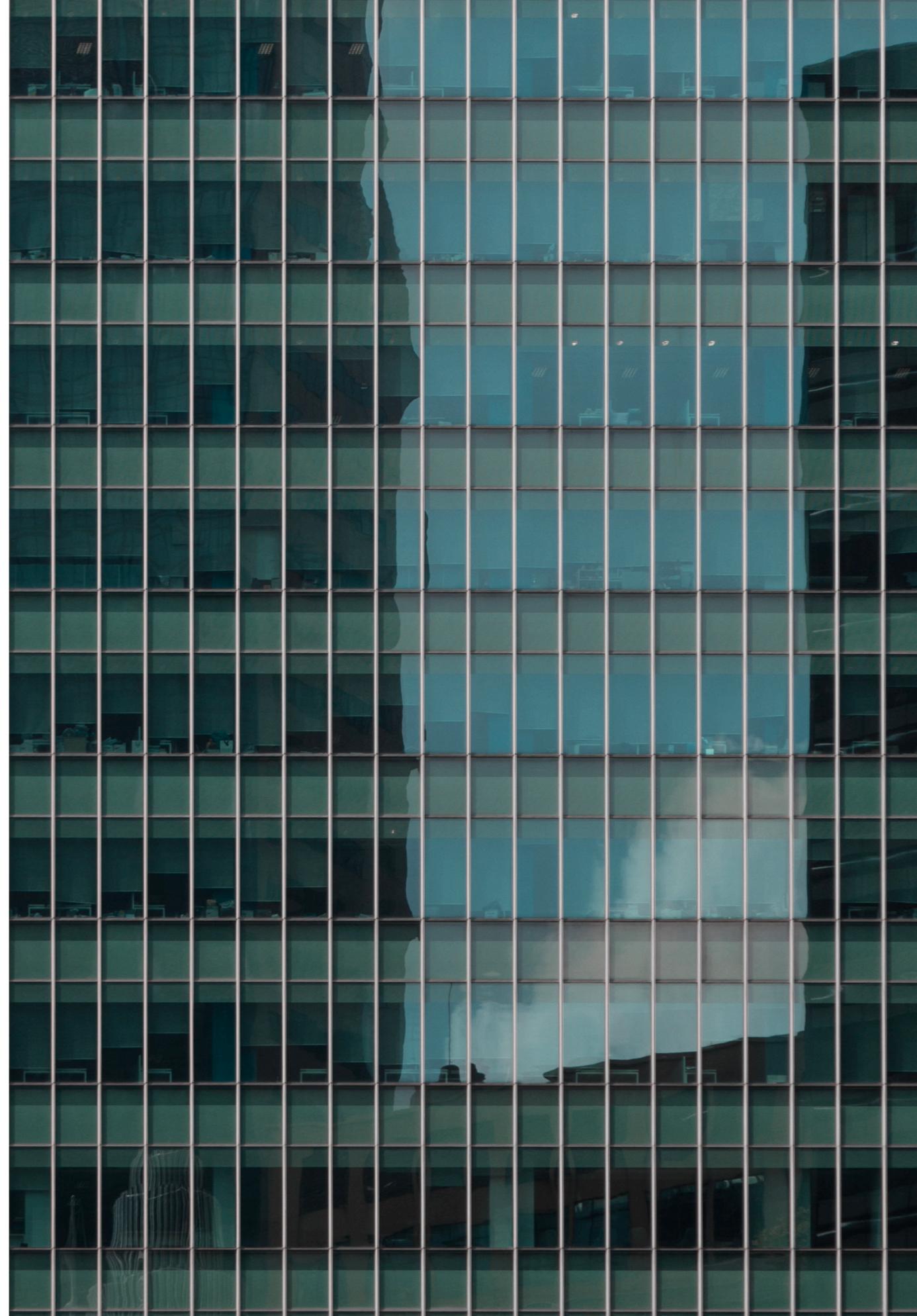
- I. Weakness in content
- II. Huge similarity between the stand-alone ideas
- III. Sightings were too limited, lacking diversity

Then we realised: rather than focusing on the different aspects of evolution individually, why not evaluate it as a whole by merging the ideas?

In this chapter, we will cover the following content:

- I. Artist Inspirations & Research
- II. Methodology, Equipment & Applications
- III. Experimentation & Final Product

One Raffles Quay  
Photographer: Heng Ee Sim



# ARTIST INSPIRATION

Darren has a particular obsession with local architecture that is deemed too banal or insignificant for conservation, especially post-independence architectural icons which are constantly neglected in conservation plans. His passion of documenting urban spaces has certainly reminded and motivated us of the necessity to chronicle our urban landscape before it is too late.

Darren is also known for combining the façades of HDB flats of different decades into one large, complex and intricate image. This inspired us to use this artwork as a way to show Singapore architecture's evolution since Singapore's independence.

## DARREN SOH SINGAPOREAN PHOTOGRAPHER

Montage of HDB façades  
Photographer: Darren Soh





Montparnasse, Paris

Photographer: Andreas Gursky

Known for photographs with an emphasis on scale, Andreas uses high vantage points to frame his subjects. Taking inspiration from Andreas, we also used numerous high vantage points from HDB flats to create our photographs.

The unusual perspectives which Andreas' photographs are taken from also inspired us to convey the density of Singapore's built environment through the composition and perspectives used for the individual photographs.

ANDREAS GURSKY  
**GERMAN**  
PHOTOGRAPHER



## INTRODUCTION TO OUR ARTWORK

Our final artwork comprises a series of photographs of the vertical façades of buildings compiled into a montage to demonstrate the evolution of building architecture in Singapore.

Cool... but, how will it be done?

We used the Adaptive Wide Angle filter to correct all images vertically to maintain their structure while minimising the correction made to maintain their originality. We then merged the levels of the buildings to form a montage with 1 by 54 images. It is then imported with Adobe Premier Pro to create the film showcasing the final product by scrolling through the montage slowly so the images are less static and the audience can have the big picture while concurrently scrutinising the details.

URL to Final Artwork: <https://bit.ly/grp05-11finalproduct>

DUO Tower

Photographer: Heng Ee Sim

## **CAMERA**

Canon EOS 100D

## **LENSES**

Canon EF-S 10-18mm f/4.5-5.6 IS STM

Canon EF-S 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 IS STM

Canon EF 100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS II USM

## **TRIPOD**

Fotopro X-5CN Carbon Fibre Tripod with FPH-52Q Ball Head

Trident W-225C carbon fibre tripod with ball head

## **PHOTO-EDITING**

Adobe Lightroom CC

## **PERSPECTIVE CORRECTION & MERGING**

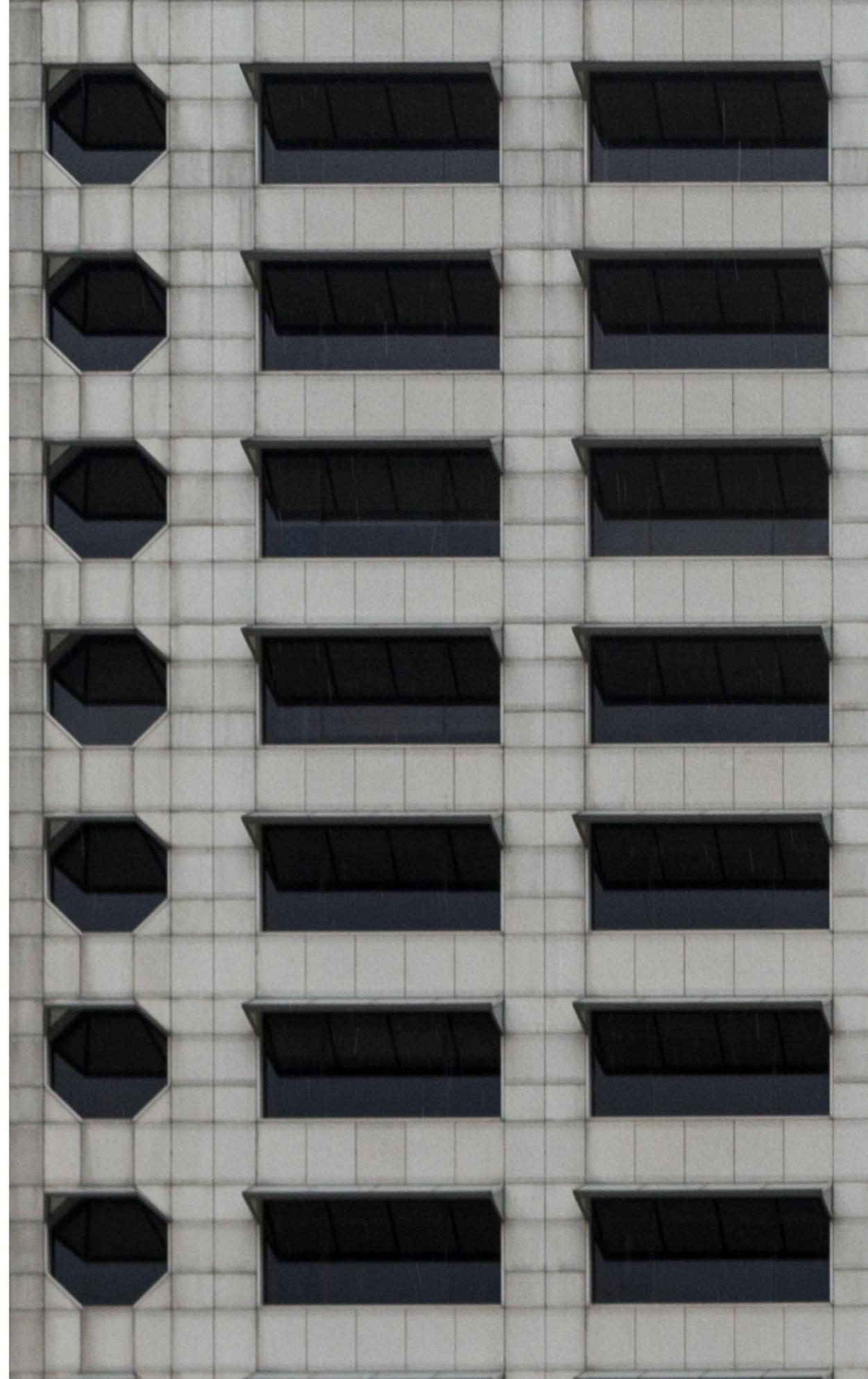
Adobe Photoshop CC

## **VIDEO COMPILATION**

Adobe Premiere Pro CC

# METHODOLOGY EQUIPMENT & SOFTWARE

RitzCarlton Millennia  
Photographer: Heng Ee Sim





THROUGH A LOOKING GLASS  
**OUR REFLECTIONS**

Singapore Skyline  
Photographer: Heng Ee Sim



# GROUP REFLECTION

This project was a great leap for most of us as we have never been exposed to art a lot, let alone join the Creative Arts category for project work.

Throughout this project, we faced many difficulties such as being unable to get good vantage points, affected by weather conditions and denied access to buildings, such as the Pearl Bank apartments. We have learnt valuable lessons such as the importance of planning ahead and being on task.

We managed to hone our photography and photo-editing skills, learning new techniques such as employing higher vantage points, adjusting the saturation and exposure of photographs.

This has been an eventful project for all of us with its ups and downs. Nevertheless, it was fun and enriching and we would hope to do it again if we have the chance.

National Library Building  
Photographer: Heng Ee Sim

A nighttime photograph of a dense urban skyline, likely Singapore, featuring numerous illuminated skyscrapers and modern buildings against a dark blue sky. The foreground shows several multi-story residential or commercial buildings with lit windows.

ALL PREPARED IN APA CITATION 6TH EDITION

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Chinatown District  
Photographer: Heng Ee Sim



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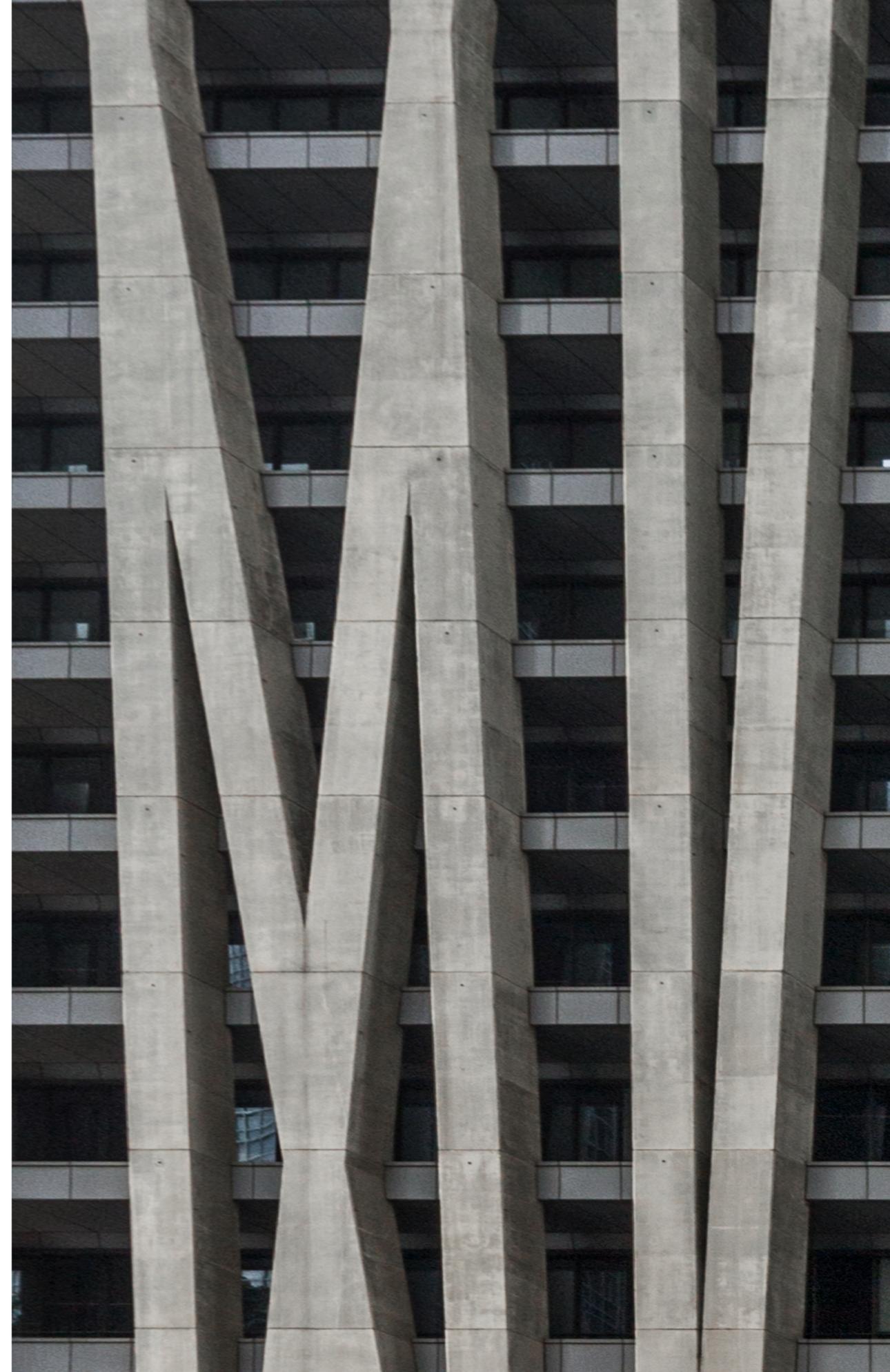
Skyville@Dawson

Photographer: Heng Ee Sim

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Tokio Marine Centre  
Photographer: Heng Ee Sim





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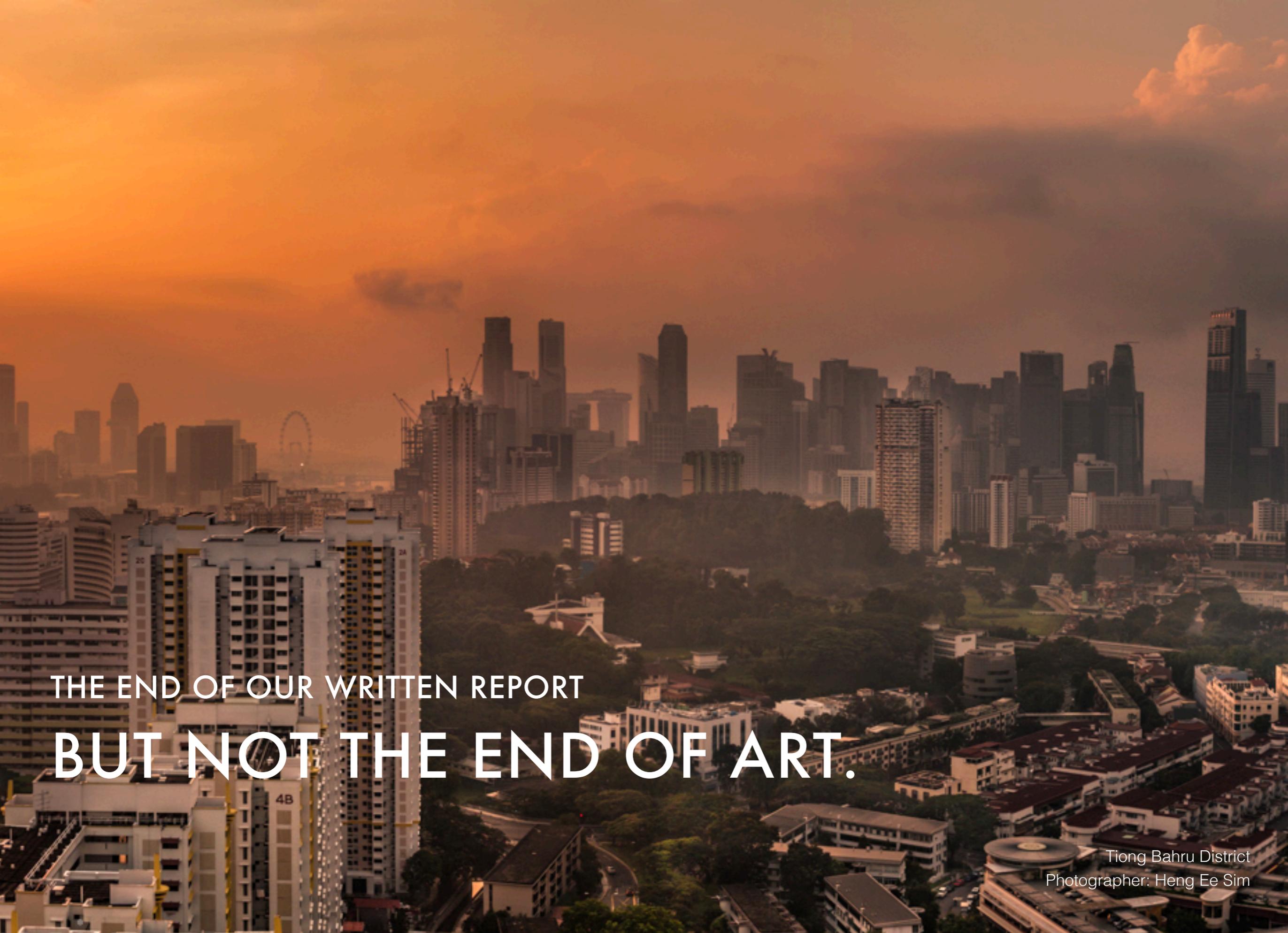
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Adobe Photoshop CC, Lightroom CC, Premiere Pro CC, Apple iBooks Author, Keynote, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and other software and hardware were used. The typefaces used are Futura and Helvetica.

One Raffles Place  
Photographer: Heng Ee Sim



An aerial photograph of Singapore at sunset. The sky is a deep orange and red, with some clouds. In the foreground, there are several high-rise apartment buildings, some with yellow accents. In the middle ground, there is a large green park area. In the background, the dense city skyline is visible, including the Singapore Flyer and many skyscrapers.

THE END OF OUR WRITTEN REPORT  
**BUT NOT THE END OF ART.**

Tiong Bahru District  
Photographer: Heng Ee Sim