

Assoc Prof Jiat-Hwee CHANG

[Department Web Profile](#), [ARI Web Profile](#) | Twitter: @jiathwee

Education

- PhD in Architecture, University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley), 2009
 - Master of Architecture, School of Architecture, National University of Singapore (NUS), 1999
 - Bachelor of Arts (Architectural Studies), NUS, 1996
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Professional Experience

2022 – PRESENT

Research Leader, STS (Science, Technology and Society) Cluster, Asia Research Institute, NUS

2020 – 2022

Deputy Head (Academic), Department of Architecture, NUS

2017 – PRESENT

Associate Professor (tenured), Department of Architecture, NUS

2009 – 2017

Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture, NUS

Research Area/Topic/Discipline

Built environment, STS (Science, Technology and Society), Environmental humanities, and Energy humanities.

Short Biography

Jiat-Hwee Chang is Associate Professor of Architecture and Research Leader of the STS (Science, Technology and Society) Cluster at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. He is an interdisciplinary researcher working at the intersections of architecture, environment and STS. He is the author of *A Genealogy of Tropical Architecture: Colonial Networks, Nature and Technoscience* (2016), which is awarded an International Planning History Society Book Prize 2018 and shortlisted for the European Association for Southeast Asian Studies Humanities Book Prize 2017. He is currently working on a book manuscript on the socio-cultural histories and techno-politics of air-conditioning and climate change in urban Asia.

Jiat-Hwee's latest book (with Justin Zhuang and Darren Soh) *Everyday Modernism: Architecture and Society in Singapore* follows his other research trajectory on modernism in Asia. The book builds on his earlier co-edited volumes *Non West Modernist Past* (2011) and *Southeast Asia's Modern Architecture* (2018). Informed by his work with the NGO Singapore Chapter of Docomomo International, the book is an attempt to expand our understanding of

modernism and modernist heritage through its focus on the social histories of the ordinary buildings, infrastructures, and landscapes in Singapore.

Jiat Hwee's research has been supported by institutions in North America, Britain, Germany, Australia, Cyprus, Qatar and Singapore. He was recently a Carson Fellow at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in Spring 2020, a Manton Fellow at the Clark Art Institute in Fall 2019, and a Canadian Centre for Architecture–Mellon Foundation Researcher, 2017–19.

Publications (Selected Works)

Books

- In progress *Thermal Governance: Cooling Technologies, Built Environment and the Asian Anthropocene* (tentative).
- 2022 (co-written with Justin Zhuang with photographs by Darren Soh), *Everyday Modernism: Architecture and Society in Singapore*. Singapore: Ridge Books.
* Shortlisted for Society of Architectural Historians Great Britain (SAHGB) Colvin Prize for an outstanding work of reference
- 2016 *A Genealogy of Tropical Architecture: Colonial Networks, Nature and Technoscience*. London, Routledge.
*Awarded International Planning History (IPHS) Society Book Prize for the best book related to planning history of East Asia 2018.
** Shortlisted for the European Association of Southeast Asian Studies (EuroSEAS) Humanities Book Prize 2017.
*** Reviewed in *Planning Perspectives*, *Fabrications: Journal of SAHANZ*, *Technology and Culture*, *ABE Journal*, *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review*, *Postcolonial Studies*, *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, *DOCOMOMO International*, *Japanese Institute of Architects Journal* (in Japanese), and *Archinesia*.

Journal Special Issues

- In progress (with Gregory Clancey and Simon Marvin) Special issue of *Urban Studies* on "Heat and the City: Thermal Control, Governance and Health in Urban Asia."
- 2022 (with Eunice M. F. Seng) Special issue of *Architectural Theory Review* 26: 3 on "Cosmopolitanism's Others: Forgotten Histories of Transnational Architectural Practice."
- 2021 (with Puay-Peng Ho) Special issue of *Southeast of Now* 5: 1& 2 on "Colonial Spatial Orders."
- 2020–21 (with Daniel J. Ryan) Two special issues of *Architecture Beyond Europe Journal [Online]* 17 & 18 on "Historicizing Entanglements of Architecture and Comfort beyond the Temperate Zone"
- 2011 (with Lilian Chee) Special issue of *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography* 23 (3) on "Tropicality-in-motion."

Edited Books

- In progress (with Chris Courtney) *Cooling Asia: Technology, Environment, and Society in Hot Climates* (tentative).
- 2019 (with Imran Tajudeen) *Southeast Asia's Modern Architecture: Questions in Translation, Epistemology and Power*. Singapore: NUS Press.
* Reviewed in *Journal of Society of Architectural Historians*, *Planning Perspectives*, *ABE Journal*, *Fabrications: Journal of SAHANZ*, *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, *SOJOURN: Journal of Social Issues in Southeast Asia*, *Southeast Asian Studies (Kyoto)*, and *The Singapore Architect*.

- 2011 (with Willima S. W. Lim) *Non West Modernist Past: On Architecture and Modernities*. Singapore, World Scientific.
 * Reviewed in *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review*, *Architecture Malaysia: Journal of the Malaysian Institute of Architects*, *art4d (Bangkok)*, and *The Singapore Architect*.

Awards/Grants and Distinctions (Selected)

Research Awards/Fellowships

- 2022 “Climatic Design and its Others” received the JAE (Journal of Architectural Education) Best Article Award—“Best Scholarship of Design Article”
- 2020 Rachel Carson Fellow, Spring 2020, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich
- 2019 Manton Fellow, Fall 2019, Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, MA
- 2017 – 19 Canadian Centre of Architecture and Mellon Foundation Researcher in the Multidisciplinary Research Program “Architecture and/for the Environment.”

Research Grants

- 2023 – 26 “Governing Thermal Environments: Cooling Technologies, Changing Climate and Societies in Urban Asia”, Ministry of Education, Singapore, Tier 1 Research Fund, SGD 179,816.
- 2021 – 23 National Heritage Board’s Minor Project Grant to support the publication of *Everyday Modernism: Architecture and Society in Singapore*, SGD 34,300.
- 2019 – 22 (with Gregory Clancey and Fiona Williamson) Co-Principal Investigator in “Heat in Urban Asia: Past, Present and Future”, Ministry of Education, Singapore, Tier 2 Research Fund, SGD 774,128.
- 2019 – 21 (with Panayiota Pyla) Co-Principal Investigator in “Landscapes of Tourism in Cyprus and Bali: Architectural, Social and Environmental dimensions,” research grant from Cyprus Research Promotion Foundation for 2019-2021, €79,998.
- 2016 – 18 (with Tim Winter, Russell Hitchings, Donald McNeill and Trinidad Rico) Participating Investigator in “Cool Living Heritage in Qatar: Sustainable Alternatives to Air-conditioned Urban Development”, Qatar National Research Foundation, USD 722,000.
- 2016 – 18 Principal Investigator in “Agents of Modernity: Pioneer Builders, Architecture and Independence in Singapore, 1890s-1970s”, Ministry of Education, Singapore, Tier 1 Research Fund, SGD 99,910.
- 2012 – 15 (with Tim Winter, Donald McNeill and Johannes Widodo) Participating Investigator in “Cool Living Heritage in Southeast Asia: Alternatives to Air-conditioned Cities”, Australian Research Council’s Discovery Fund, AUD195,000.
- 2009 – 14 Principal Investigator in “A Genealogy of Tropical Architecture”, NUS Start-Up Fund, SGD 42,580.