



**Singapore-Delft
Water Alliance**



present

Exuberant Singapore, A Love Story of Radical Ambition in the face of Ecological Catastrophe

by

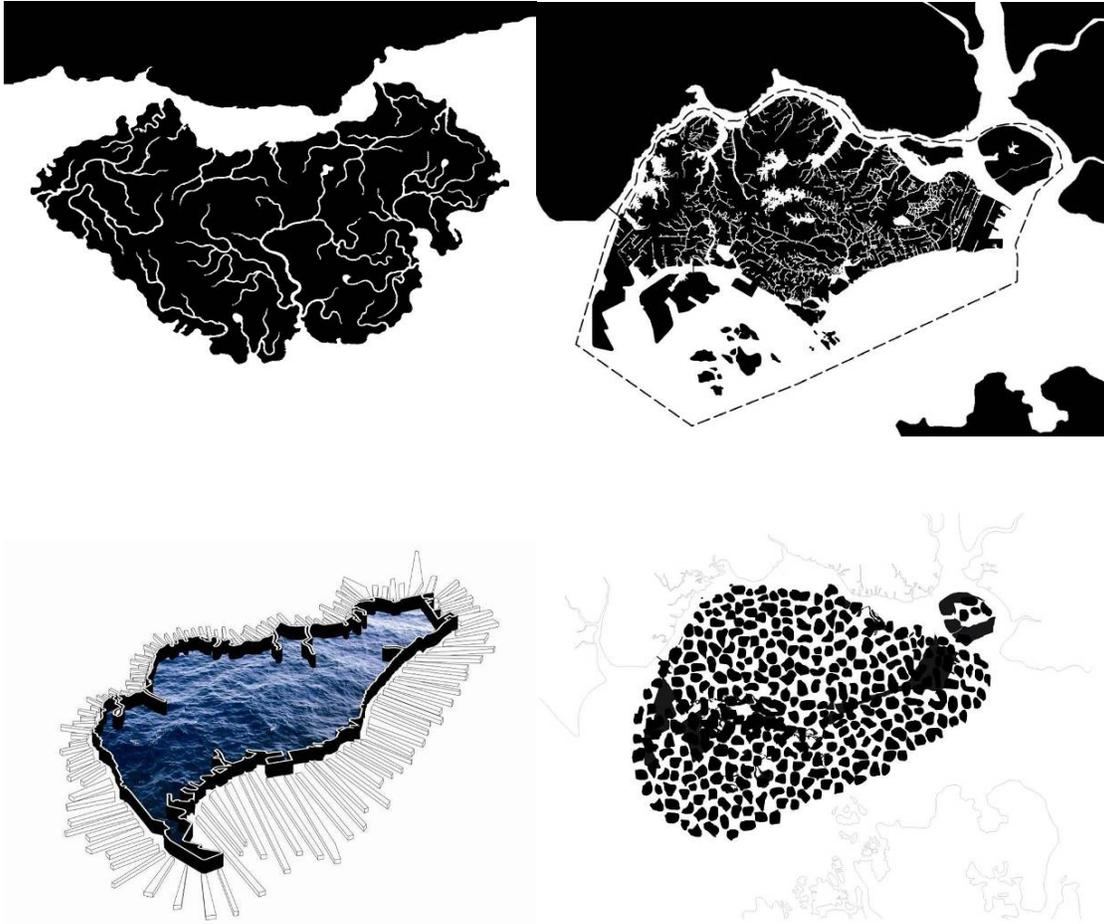
Erik G L'Heureux

AIA LEED AP
Assistant Professor

Date: Wednesday , 11 November 2009
Time: 3.00 to 4.00 pm
Venue: E1-08-25 SDWA Conference Room
National University of Singapore

Abstract

This will be a love story, not an abstract paper. It will be a story of our own love for Singapore. A story of Singapore's desire to remain relevant and a tale of Singapore's continued foresight and ambition. As in all love stories, there are seemingly irrational and extravagant ideas that create acts of absurdity. And yet in the context of love, everything seems completely appropriate and entirely plausible. Beginning with the first hydrological nation state, Sir Thomas More's Utopia, we set the stage for Singapore: the most developed hydrological nation state. As a product of the fantasies the United Nations first speculated in 1963, now taken to their logical ends, Exuberant Singapore uncovers density rumors, reclamation ambitions, population desires, and reasons for architects to live out their dreams, where change is the norm, water is plenty, blue gold is the new black gold and the Tower of Babel exists – though rather than reaching for the sky, it reaches out to the sea.



About the speaker



Erik G. L'Heureux, AIA LEED AP is an educator and an architect. He is an Assistant Professor at Department of Architecture at the National University of Singapore where he researches utopian visions of the city, hydrological urbanism, and cruise ships while serving as coordinator the Level 2 design studios. A former boat builder from Rhode Island (US), he has practiced architecture in New York while an Assistant Professor Adjunct at the Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture at the Cooper Union. He is a registered architect in the US, a member of the American Institute of Architects, NCARB certified, and a LEED Accredited professional. Erik received a Master of Architecture at Princeton University receiving the Susan K Underwood Design Award. Erik received his BA Arch as a Fitzgibbon Scholar at Washington University in St. Louis where he recently was honored with a Distinguished Alumni Award. His design work has been published widely and his work has won multiple international awards including an AIA NYS Design Award, MIPIM Architecture Review Future Project Award, Interior Design Merit Best of Year Award, and a Cityscape Shortlist Award for Architecture in Emerging Markets.

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