

MALAYSIA
HOME & DECOR
STYLISH LIVING MADE EASY

DESIGNER SHOWCASE

THE BEST IN INTERIOR DESIGN

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



2013

PRIDE STUDIO

PHILOSOPHY

To create a space, the three key things to look at are functionality, aesthetics and practicality

30-2 Jalan PJU 1/3D, SunwayMas Commercial Centre
47301 Petaling Jaya, Selangor
tel +603-78809320 fax +603 78809340
www.pridestudio.com.my



DIRECTOR MIKE SAW	GRAPHIC DESIGNER LAI SWEE	DIRECTOR PATRICK CHIN
INTERIOR DESIGNER JESSIE KONG	CHYI	INTERIOR DESIGNER KUAN SWEE CHING
PROJECT DIRECTOR LEONARD PHANG	PROJECT ADMIN JANE CHEN	

HOTEL

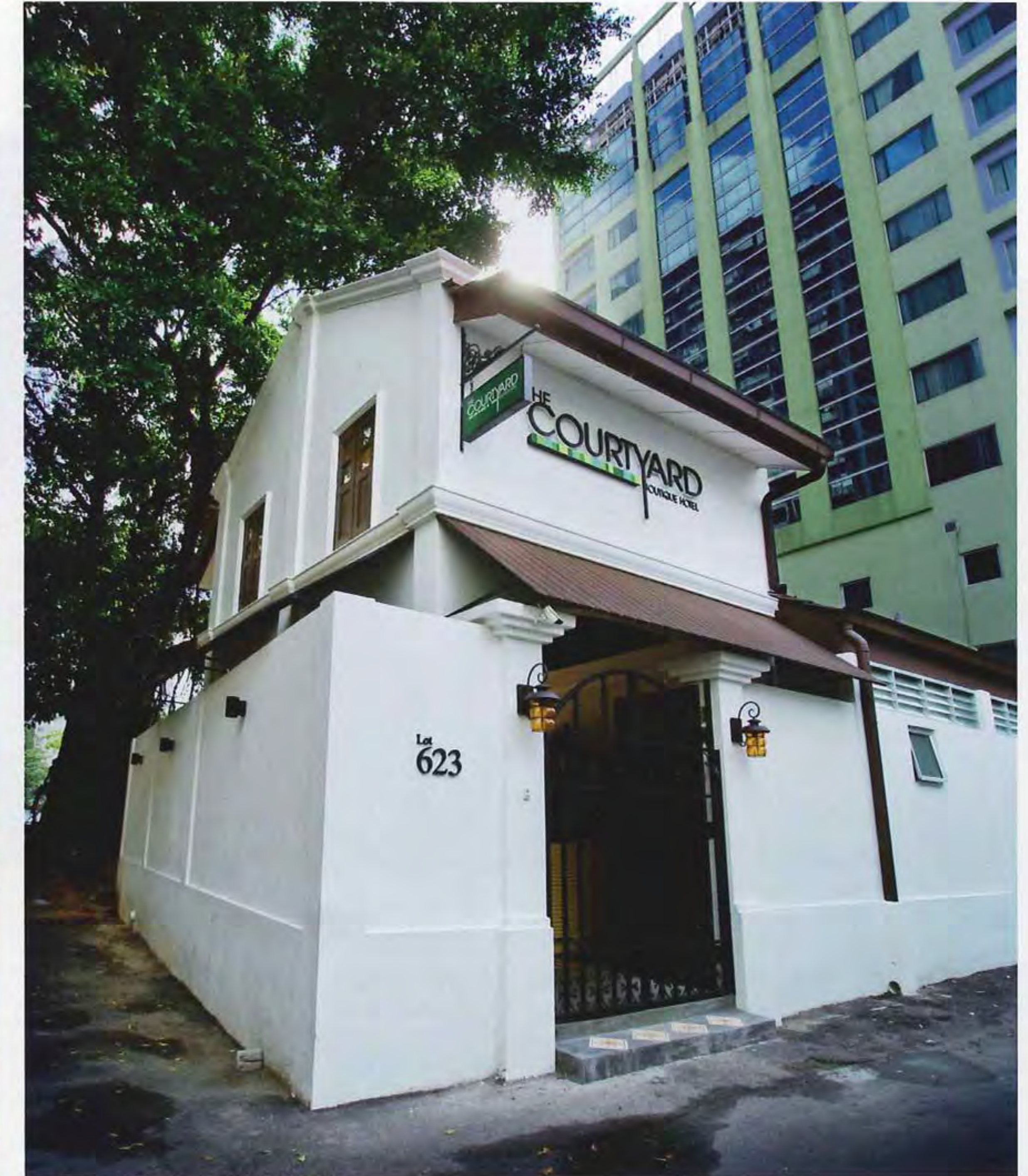
The Yard,
formerly
known
as The
Courtyard

AREA

Changkat
Tung Shin,
Kuala
Lumpur



The team searched for tiles with colonial motifs to match the heritage of the site.



When their client, Apple Assets Sdn Bhd acquired a piece of landed property within the hidden lanes of Changkat Tung Shin, they called Patrick in to help them. "At the time, it was only a stretch of broken down lots occupied by foreign workers. The client wanted to turn this old lot into an 11-room villa-like boutique hotel and create an unexpected retreat in the middle of the bustling area hidden just behind Jalan Alor," says Patrick.

His team dove straight in. Within the property lies an open compound beneath a 50-year-old Ficus tree. Given the history of the area and the architecture of the remaining structures, they proposed to turn this development into a hidden jewel that is secluded by a newly built wall fence. Within the compound, lies a courtyard surrounding the large ficus tree that is still maintained and serves as a beautiful heritage statement of the site. Hence, the modern Colonial concept is born. They refurbished the existing buildings with stained glass windows and the rooms were given a new lease of life with new roofings to make for high ceilings. ▶



top left The boutique hotel is originally an old property nestled above within the hidden lanes of Changkat Tung Shin.

IT WAS A NICE OPPORTUNITY TO DESIGN SOMETHING THAT IS NOT JUST MODERN. WE WANTED TO DESIGN SOMETHING THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT EVERYONE ELSE WAS DOING.



The team sourced for cement tiles with colonial motifs to match some of the wooden built-ins. Raw cement finishes were applied to the walls and flooring of the rooms, adding to the modern yet authentic experience for the patrons from the outside in. The courtyard was decorated with potted plants and victorian decorations and rod iron garden furnitures on top of a timber floored platform. Lanterns were hung from the branches of the ficus tree, making the exterior very cosy and romantic at night.

Upon entering the hotel from the front door, the custom made reception counter with its colonial decorative shelf at the back welcomes patrons with a rather authentic and grand experience as an artificial tower with arches were built, resembling old colonial buildings. With these natural elements and the surrounding, the hotel was named The Courtyard.

"It was a nice opportunity to design something that is not just modern. This little piece of old property presented us with that chance and instantly, colonial came to mind. We wanted to design something that is different from what everyone else was doing," says Patrick.

"There are many factors that comes into consideration when we design for a project, especially when it comes to budget constraints. When budget becomes a constraint for certain items, we work with the clients and most of the time we would source for alternative material that would still match the initial concept. Most of our clients understand the importance of not straying away from the original designs for the sake of cutting costs. There are lots of alternatives out there. It's just a matter of finding it," he says. ▶

⬆
The restaurant, housed in the courtyard of the building, is enchanting at night.

➡
The rooms look out into the airy courtyard, with the main feature being the 50-year-old ficus tree.





WITHIN THE COMPOUND, LIES A COURTYARD SURROUNDING THE LARGE FIGUS TREE THAT IS STILL MAINTAINED AND SERVES AS A BEAUTIFUL HERITAGE STATEMENT OF THE SITE.

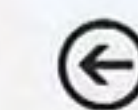


The bathrooms are kept simple and rustic, the open concept bringing guests a step closer to nature.

Patrick believes very much in team work. To him, clients, the interior design consultants and other related contractors all play an equal role, especially to meet the deadline and to ensure that little details of the designs are not left out. Of course, ultimately, the interior design consultant has to monitor the projects closely during execution.

"It's always important to put ourselves in our client's shoes, as if it was our own business we are trying to form and operate. Only by doing so will we be able to fully understand the clients' reasons and requirements and also to be able to give additional input and advice.

"The three key things to look at are firstly functionality, then comes the aesthetics, followed by practicality (which involves availability and budget). We place function first because a nice design that is not user friendly is pointless. And practicality affects the final product," he says. **DS**



The rooms are given a new lease of life with high ceilings and raw cement finishing.

INSIGHTS FROM PATRICK CHAN

DEFINITION OF GOOD DESIGN

It's about redefining and redesigning. Function is still the most basic of good design, but it's also about making something better than it was.

BEST DEAL I'VE EVER GOTTEN

My home.

FAVOURITE DESIGNER

Patricia Urquiola. I like the way she uses woven elements in her design. If I have the time, I would love to work with wires, tensions and interconnecting elements like she has.

FIVE THINGS I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT

My car, my phone, my Mac, travelling and music.