

# Alvin Shiu

Spatial Designer & Builder

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## Summary

Alvin is a meticulous professional who understands design and business from a global perspective. He has lived and worked in countries all over the world; cultural adaptation and understanding has trained him to be flexible and creative in problem solving. He has mastery over cross-industry software and is well experienced in the latest methods of production and construction allowing him to design tactfully for manufacturing and assembly. Alvin lives and breathes design, garnering observations and transcribing with sensibility into new compelling ideas. His expression is clear and is able to cost-cut without losing sight of the concept. Alvin is looking to commit to a company that shares similar ideologies and passion for life; a company that is fast-paced, challenging with ample room for growth and development.

## Education

### Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc), LAX-America - 2002-2007

B.Arch Degree, Graduated Fall 07' with a GPA of 3.67.  
Graduated with Honors & won Outstanding Student Award  
Honorable mention for thesis project

### Bezalel Academy of Arts & Design, JRS-Israel - 2006

Architectural Exchange Program with minor in retail &  
furniture design

### University of Cambridge, CBG-England - 2004

General Education Exchange Program  
One semester in Anthropology and the other in Psychology

### University of Toronto, YYZ-Canada - 2001-2002

Computer Science with minors in French and Economics

## Technical Skill Set

**Software :** AutoCAD, Rhino, Maya, Adobe Suite, Microsoft Office Suite (Including Excel), Agi32, Surfcam, Premiere, Final Cut Pro, Revit, 3Ds Max.

**Hardware :** Sketching by hand, Rendering by hand, Wood Shop, Metal Shop Welding, 3D Printing (digital model preparation & coding), CNC Milling (preparation, coding, setup), Laser and Plasma Cutting (preparation, coding, setup), Large Format Printing and more

## Experience

### WSP Flack+Kurtz, SFO - Aug 2012-Now Lighting Designer

Alvin works closely with architects and other disciplines to come up with lighting strategies and concepts for both interior and exterior scopes for a variety of different building types such as wineries, fine dining, stadiums, commercial towers, airports, residential towers. Tenant improvement (TI) spaces and even green walls. His concepts are carried through all phases of design, performing calculations where necessary and interfaces directly with the clients for coordination and construction administration. Creating presentations, communicating via sketches, 3D renderings and developing construction details are his major assets.

### Leigh & Orange, HKG - Dec 2011-Sept 2012 Graduate Architect

The work for L&O is confidential as these projects are still active competitions however they can be discussed in person. At this firm, Alvin worked in a small team of three including the creative director at L&O to come up with concept designs for competitions. He created presentation material including 3D renderings and diagrams and also work along side planners and consultants to see the concept through, weighing options and making compromises. His specialty lies in overall concepts, spatial planning, facade design and construction details.

### Palmer & Turner (P&T), HKG - Aug 2010-Spet 2011 Graduate Architect

At P&T, Alvin worked on two main projects: (a) Shangri-la/Kerry Properties, a city block large, multi-purpose development and (b) A high budget public library in the district of Yuen Long, HKG. With Shangri-la, he designed the major interior public spaces as well as the facade and cladding system. The library in Yuen Long consists of five leaning elliptical volumes, rotated and interlocking in a stacked manner. Alvin designed majority of the interior with emphasis on integrating graphical signage within architectural elements. His work ranges from the initial concept design to designing custom furniture and intricate exterior details such as implementation of building maintenance system within the cantilevering volumes.

### Delta Lighting Design, DXB - Feb 2008-Mar 2009 Junior Lighting Designer

Alvin's projects ranged from interiors to exteriors, royal palaces to sky-scrappers. He designed custom large-scale chandeliers and collaborated with international manufacturers for production.

### Anthony J. Lumsden & Associates, LAX - 2006-2008 Internship & Full Time

At AJLA Alvin on high-end residential projects such as those for members of congress. His job entailed a sampling of administrative skills including surveying work and permits.

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## **George Yu Architects, LAX - 2005-2006**

### **Internship as a Model Maker & Graphic Designer**

Alvin worked on large-scale interactive models with screens and projections embedded within 12' long models. The models were constructed using a wide selection of machinery including laser-cutters and 3D printers. He was responsible for designing parts for assembly and converting them into appropriating software for production. Designed, coded and produced parts using Computer Aided Machinery.

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## **Freelance Design or Build**

### **Beach stage for Priceless, SFO – Now, Jul 2013**

Alvin will be leading a team this year to design and build a stage for a music festival in July after having helped design and build the one from last year.

### **The Burrow, OAK – Mar 2013 to Now**

The Burrow is a design build project for a 1,000 sq/f house in Oakland. The idea is to renovate the house with the concept of adaptive reuse; the house is designed fully with custom materials and details. House is currently under renovation.

### **Superman Musical Set, SFO – Oct 2013**

42Street Moon, a local professional theatre, invited Alvin to design and build a set for the production of Superman. The show was running for the month of October.

### **Xylophage, SFO - Jul 2010**

Alvin is part of a local artist group called Flaming Lotus Girls who builds monumental pieces of fire and interactive sculptures. He was highly involved with the design of the sculpture, Xylophage and was also part of the construction crew.

### **3Bdrm Apartment Renovation, HKG - Jul 2010**

1,500 sq/f apartment in a prestigious new tower in Hong Kong. Alvin worked directly with the client to produce concepts, construction documents and onsite project management. Completed August 2010.

### **The Eighth Gate, DAM - Mar 2010**

Alvin was a consultant for signage with Brimaxx in Dubai. He designed signage and produced construction drawings and 3D representation to be sent for production. Appropriate detailing was crucial for maintenance, weatherproofing, lighting and visibility.

### **1Bdrm Apartment, Tarlabasi, IST-Turkey - Apr 2009**

Interior designer for the renovation of a 175 year old building in Tarlabasi. Furnished with a selection of sourced and custom-made furniture.

## **Graphic & Branding Design**

### **Soma, Flaming Lotus Girls, SFO - Now**

Flaming Lotus Girls will be installing a permanent sculpture called Soma on Pier 14. Alvin has been designing print material for the fundraising campaign and website.

### **Vizyon360, IST - May 2011**

Alvin designed the logo, branding material as well as website for Vizyon360 which is a company that compiles 3D photography of spaces into an interactive web-based program.

### **OVGuide, LAX - Mar 2011**

Worked as a consultant to examine their current site and improve on the UI as well as designing a new interface.

### **Lola's Kitchens, SFO - Mar 2010**

Branding from logos to menus, business cards and packaging. Alvin designed the website and worked with a developer in Pakistan. This project also included food photography.

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## **Accomplishments**

### **Honorable mention for Street Furniture Competition in Mea Shearim, JRS-Israel - 2007**

Competition to design a piece of street furniture for the Hasidic Jewish neighborhood of Mea Shearim. The proposal was a bird feeder disposal unit; a solution to overcome the religious practice which prohibits the waste of bread.

### **Undergraduate Thesis Exhibition, LAX - 2007**

Display of Undergraduate Thesis work with Honorable mention.

### **Community Outreach. Design & Build, LAX - 2005**

Design and build; an organic, undulating street-scape playground in Bunker Hill lead by Alexis Rochas.

### **Scored Space Exhibition, LAX - 2007**

Performance art piece, 'Ordinarily Misplaced'

### **Floodless: Rotterdam Biennale, RTM-Netherlands - 2007**

A team proposal examining Los Angeles River, specifically the section connecting the Alameda Corridor to the ports, in order to alleviate LA's dependency of imported water. Lead by Paul Preissner. Project was showcased at the Rotterdam Biennale.

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## Thesis 07'



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Life & You  
Undergraduate Thesis

## Delta Lighting



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QP-08 Chandelier  
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## Freelance



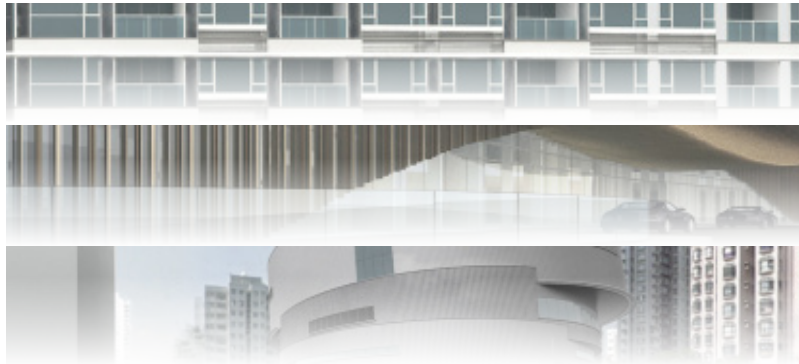
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Various Collection  
from 2013-2014

Most of the work presented in this portfolio is the property of the respective companies for which I have worked. The featured aspects of each project are the sections that I had been responsible for in terms of design and execution.

# Life & You

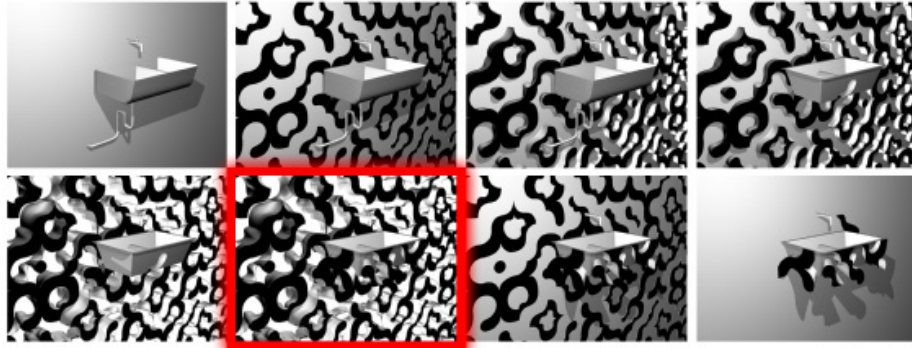
SCI\_Arc Undergraduate Thesis 07'

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Every object has embedded an infinite number of mental associations; they are symbols of culture, things that trigger our memories. The experience of life is at its fullest when one focuses on the immediate moment and let the rest

get lost in the background. This thesis borrows the idea of camouflage as a means to blur mundane objects into our immediate surroundings so that life can be easily revealed for our consumption.



Three dimensionalization of a 2D pattern to engulf objects of a household. Highlighted is the optimal stage of camouflage.



Kitchen scenario where only objects of importance are highlighted to romanticize life; all appliances are camouflaged using the pattern.



Renders are modeled in Rhino and 3DS Max; rendered using V-ray from Max.

# CP-08 Chandelier

Buisness Bay, Dubai

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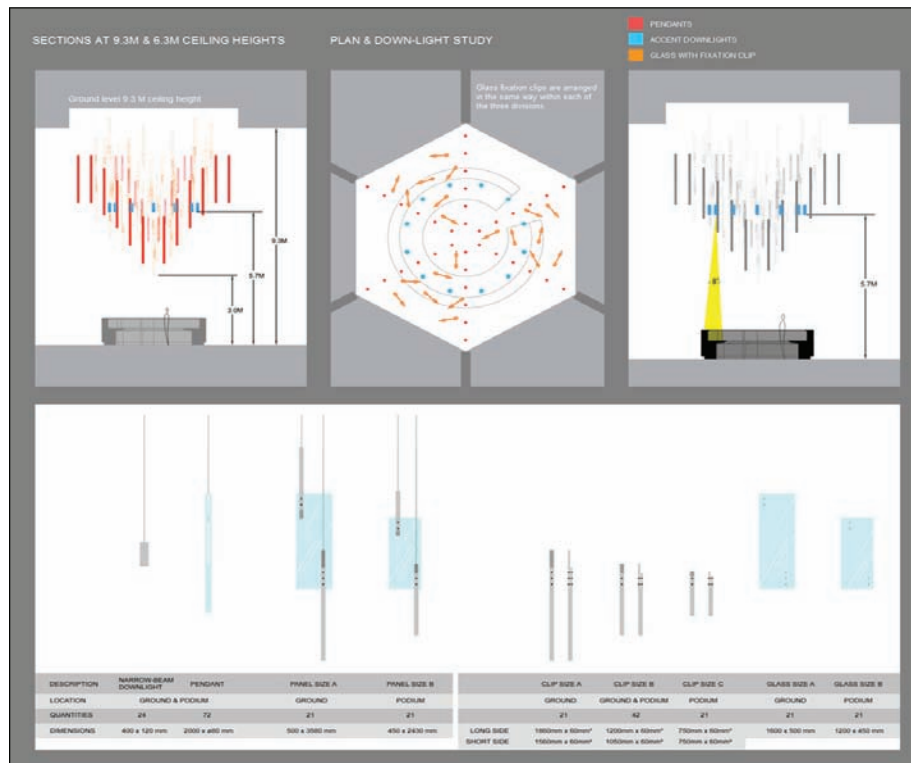
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CP-08 Chandeliers: the concept was to create variations in depth of volume and suggest vertical movement to accentuate the height of this lobby. This piece was created with two sizes of glass and 3 lengths of long 'clips'.

Although the organization appears chaotic and random, it is formulated based on a simple logical organization which is then repeated thrice.



Combination of Rhino and 3DS modeling. Rendered using Rhino V-ray with photoshop touchups.



Shop diagrams illustrating the small number of parts to create visual disorder even though it is organization is logical and repetitive.



# Island Crest Renovation

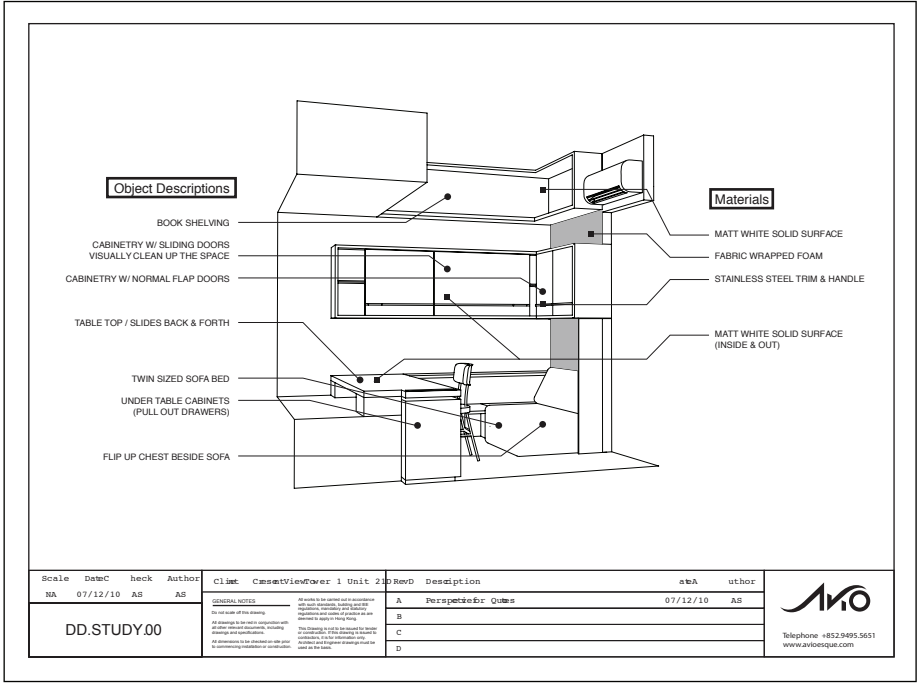
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Island Crest is one of the newest and most prestigious set of towers in Hong Kong by Kerry Developers. This was an interior project for a client who purchased one of the largest typical unit in tower one. The design was rather

minimalistic and emphasis was placed on maximizing the use of space and meticulous attention to detailing creating a harmonious dialogue between materials.



Perspectival drawings for clients and contractors.



Quick render to show the living room proposal. Also included were five lighting scenarios for this room; light is of at-most importance for setting different moods within a space.

# The Eighth Gate

Damascus, Syria

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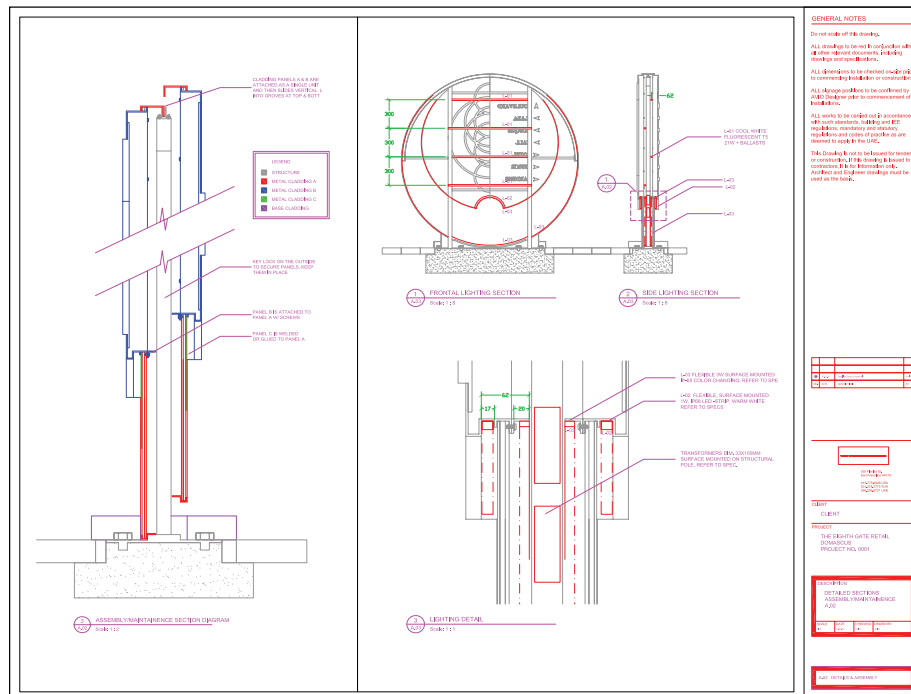
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This was a consultancy project for signage design at Qatar's Marina Mall. The project was taken on from concept design to construction drawings which were then sent to the manufacturers. The circular shape of

this sign required more sophisticated thinking on details for maintenance, assembly and weatherproofing. Lighting was also a key feature within this design.



Photoshop render (with the aid of Rhino) to illustrate concept. Day and night renders with detailed drawings all done in two days.



General details for the proposed signage.

# One Shangri-La Place

Manila, Philippines

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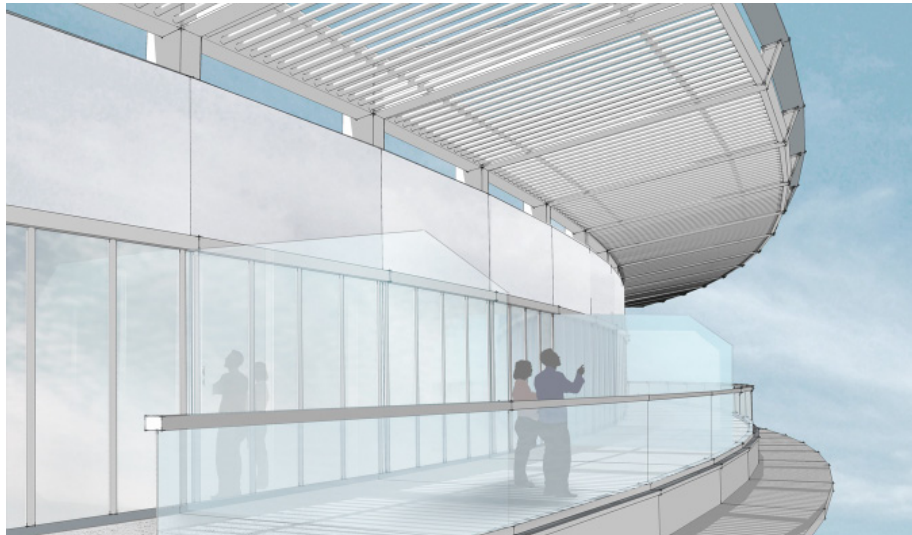
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This was one of the key-projects while working with Palmer and Turner Architects. It was a full block, mixed-use development by Kerry Properties. It comprised of two new buildings bridging to an existing mall which was also to be

renovated. Worked on all aspects including layout planning, facade treatments, material sampling, coordinations with project team and engineers etc. Responsible for assembling the entire design document package.



Worked on the facade overall aesthetics, color schemes for the overall building as well as the 'eye-brow' canopy



Quick Sketchup and Photoshop render.



Old mall renovation proposal: treatment of large flat surfaces using color combinations and scoring. Maximizing the potential of graphics in order to create interest with the least amount of money spent.



# One Shangri-La Place

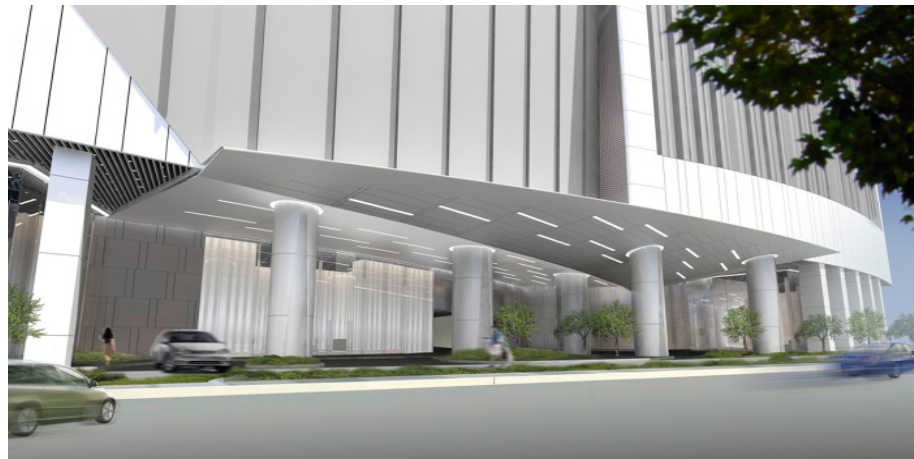
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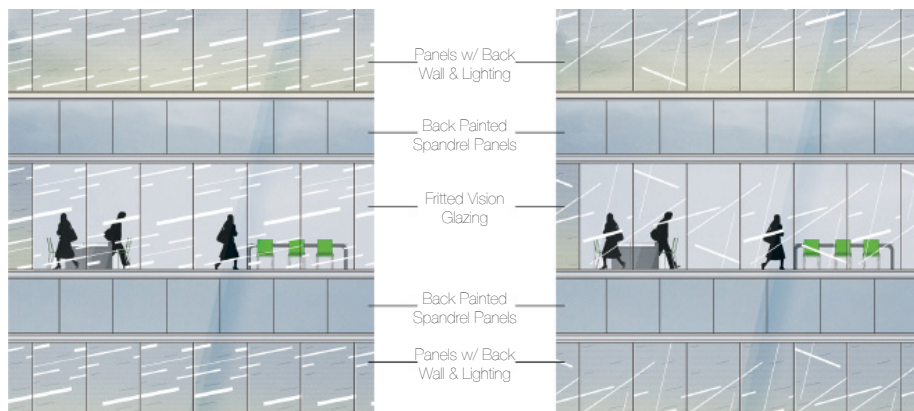
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Internal drop-off lobby. Integrating lighting into the minimalistic design bridging the gap between the new development and the old car park building.



Residential drop-off canopy and lobby space.



Field condition created by rotating the single design upside down and right side up.

# Shatin Hotel

Shatin, Hong Kong

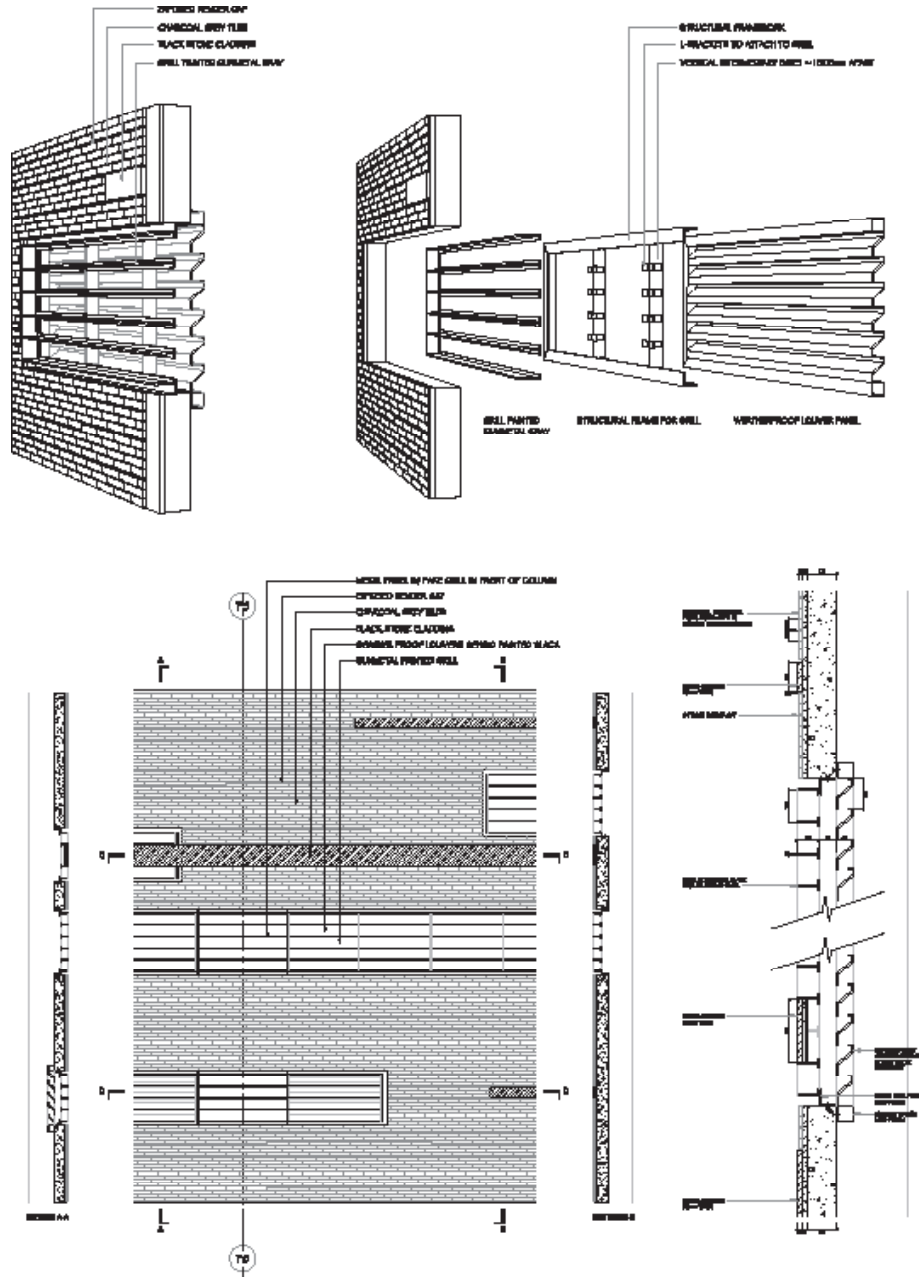
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A 28 storey hotel is being erected along the riverside of Shatin. Worked in close relations to the project team and the client as the building was half erect and some major areas had been rejected by the building department and/or

the new operators. Designed various feature areas such as the entrance canopy, undulating bay windows, and a 70m long feature wall hiding the louvers along the main street of Shatin.



# Yuen Long Library

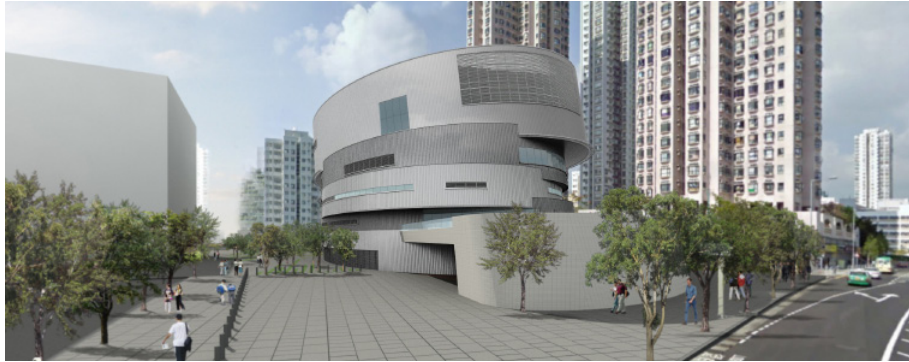
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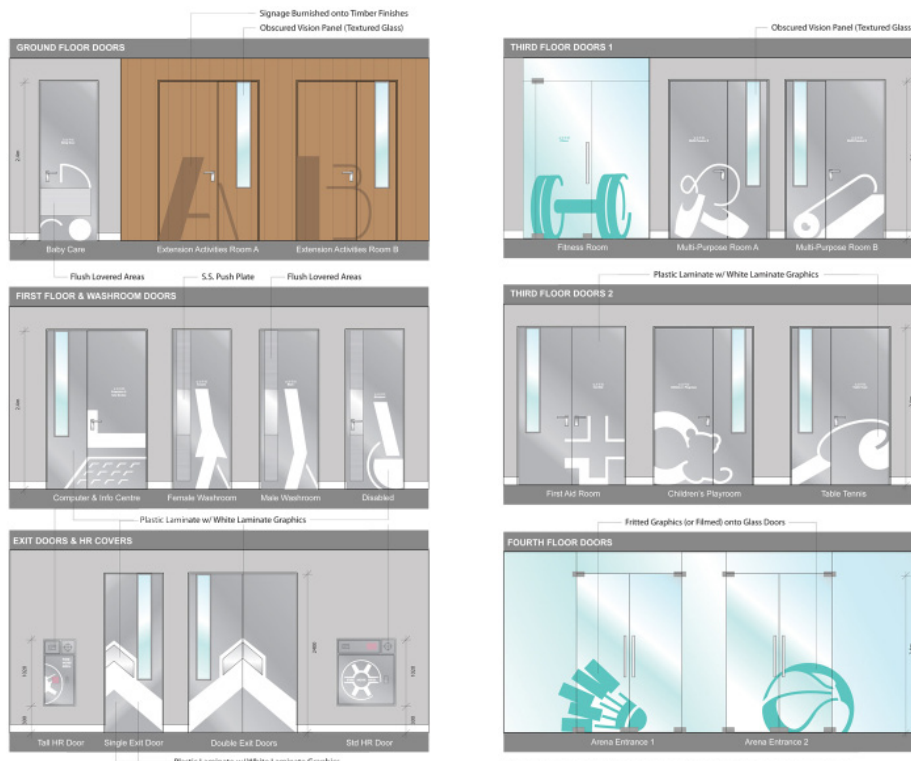
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This is a library and recreation hybrid that is located in an up and coming township in Hong Kong. I came onto the project a third way through the design process and was responsible for most of the interior design including signage

and furniture. I also worked on other aspects of the building such as resolving the BMU, roof garden system, leaning facade details etc.




Five leaning elliptical volumes, rotated and interlocking in a stacked manner.



Designed majority of the interior with emphasis on integrating graphical signage within architectural elements such as doors and walls.

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CARPET FLOORING WITH  
STRIP DIMINISHING MAIN PICTURE

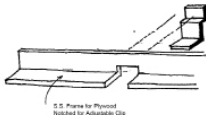


Figure 1 displays a color calibration chart used for color management. It includes several color bars and grayscale patches. The color bars are labeled: 'Golden Thread', 'Pantone', 'Munsell Color Services Lab', 'Golden Thread', 'Pantone', 'Munsell Color Services Lab', 'Golden Thread', 'Pantone', 'Munsell Color Services Lab', 'Golden Thread', 'Pantone', 'Munsell Color Services Lab'. The grayscale patches are labeled: 'D50 Illuminant, 2 degree observer', '1931', '1964', '1976', '1981', '1984', '1990', '1996', '2000', '2005', '2011', '2012', '2015', '2016', '2017', '2018', '2019', '2020', '2021', '2022', '2023', '2024', '2025', '2026', '2027', '2028', '2029', '2030', '2031', '2032', '2033', '2034', '2035', '2036', '2037', '2038', '2039', '2040', '2041', '2042', '2043', '2044', '2045', '2046', '2047', '2048', '2049', '2050', '2051', '2052', '2053', '2054', '2055', '2056', '2057', '2058', '2059', '2060', '2061', '2062', '2063', '2064', '2065', '2066', '2067', '2068', '2069', '2070', '2071', '2072', '2073', '2074', '2075', '2076', '2077', '2078', '2079', '2080', '2081', '2082', '2083', '2084', '2085', '2086', '2087', '2088', '2089', '2090', '2091', '2092', '2093', '2094', '2095', '2096', '2097', '2098', '2099', '2100', '2101', '2102', '2103', '2104', '2105', '2106', '2107', '2108', '2109', '2110', '2111', '2112', '2113', '2114', '2115', '2116', '2117', '2118', '2119', 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COLOR RANGE OF  
CARPET FLOORING  
TILE SIZE 500 X 500mm



WOODEN FEATURE WITH  
WALLPAPER FINISH



COLUMN WITH  
SMALL PAPER FINISH



CARPET FLOORING:  
TILE SIZE 600 X 600

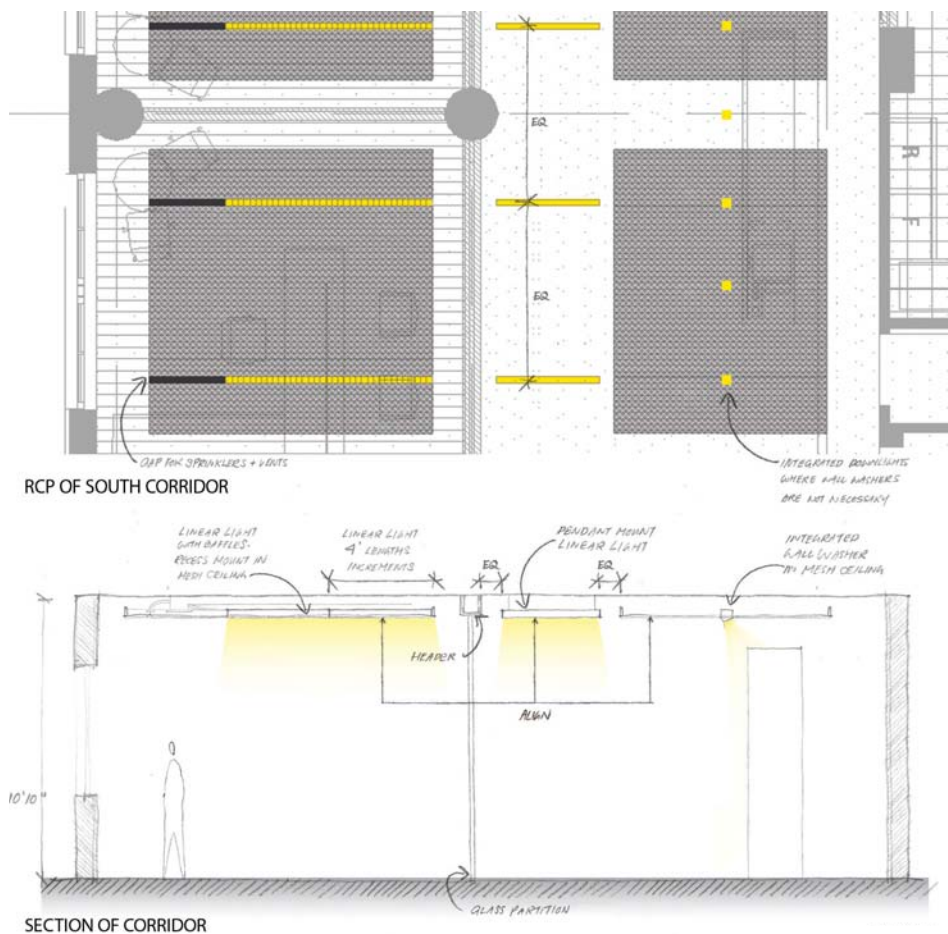
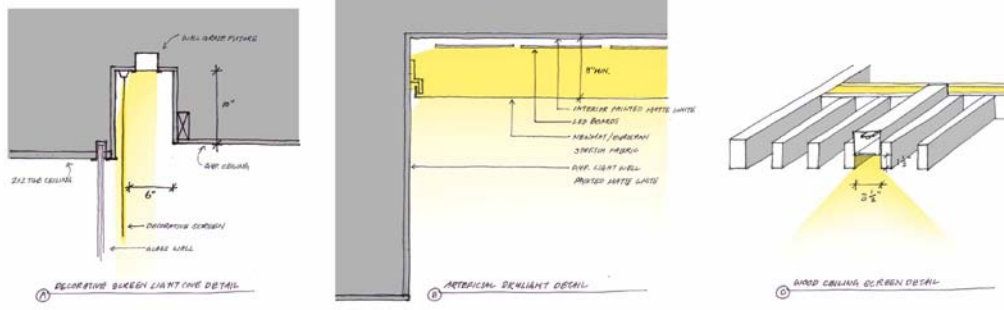


# Lighting Sketches

Typical sketches for coordination work with Architects

790 Fairview St,  
Oakland, CA, 94609

USA +1.425.236.2232  
HKG +852.2491.2656  
DXB +971.50.256.6721  
info@alvinshiu.com

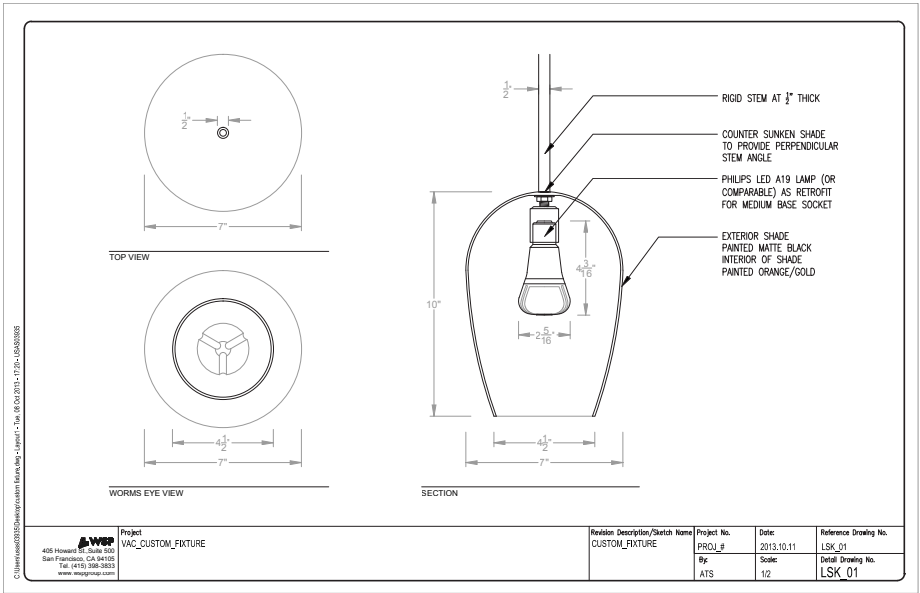


# Custom LED Pendant

Basic design fabricated by a local manufacturer. Sample pallet missing.

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HKG +852.2491.2656  
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info@alvinshiu.com

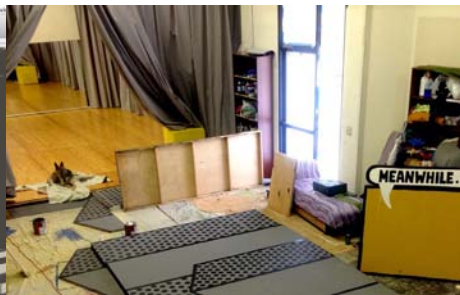
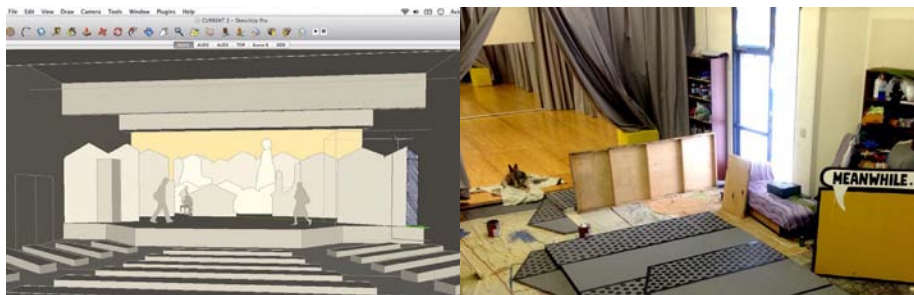


# Set Design & Build

Comissioned by 42nd St. Moon Theatre to design and build the set of Superman.

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# Set Design & Build

Comissioned by Priceless Music Festival. CNC wood pieces assembled using slots only.

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