

# FORM

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DESIGN • INTERIORS • ARCHITECTURE

## AMAZING APARTMENTS

- XMSL Studio's Chinese pavilion
- Project File's retro triplex
- Terence Chan's whimsical pad
- Crimson ID's woody HDB hatch
- Metaphor Studio's Zen platform

## GREEN HUSSERS

- Resort World Sentosa's Treetop Lofts
- IX Architects' jungle-jive office

## FASHION & ART HUDDLE

- Hermes & Hilton McConnico
- Louis Vuitton & Yayoi Kusama



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# QUICK-FREEZE ICON

COLIN SEAH PROVES  
PROPERTY SALES  
SHOWROOMS CAN MAKE A  
STIRRING ARCHITECTURAL  
STATEMENT DESPITE  
THEIR BRIEF EXISTENCE

Living up to his mantra of questioning, disturbing and redefining our built environment and spatial experiences, the founder of Ministry of Design has stepped out of the box to create an unconventional condominium sales gallery for UOL's Katong Regency, a mixed residential and commercial development on the site of the former Lion City Hotel in Tanjong Katong Road.





Comprising alternating white L-shape walls and interstitial glass panels purposely turned away from the road while following the contour and shape of the site to form an organic silhouette, the facade of Colin's UOL Edge Gallery resembles a gigantic line of dominoes peaking at over seven metres.

Clearly advocating that temporary structures can be as iconic as permanent buildings, Colin describes his novel approach as 'a more relevant, subtle and sophisticated form of advertising'. And if you consider that UOL sold all 244 units in the project within a week of its launch, Colin's creative effort, including the design of the show flats to reflect the cosmopolitan lifestyle, certainly yielded the desired effect.



FLAUNTING A FACADE  
 AKIN TO WHITE DOMINOES  
 LINED UP FOLLOWING THE  
 CONTOUR OF THE SITE, THE  
 UOL EDGE GALLERY MAKES  
 AN ICONIC IMPRESSION

DESIGNED WITH A CANTILEVERED EDGE SO THAT THE SHARP EDGES OF THE 'V' WOULD BE LIGHT AND FREE, THE VANKE TRIPLE V GALLERY ON THE WATERFRONT IN TIANJIN WAS CONSTRUCTED, UNBELIEVABLY, IN LESS THAN 3.5 MONTHS



PICTURES COURTESY OF MINISTRY OF DESIGN

Colin's propensity for dramatic sculptural architecture expressed through strong angular forms, emphatic diagonals and ziggurat silhouettes runs consistently through his body of work. It is evident in the zig-zag footprint of the single-storey flat-roof bungalow he designed for the Lien family compound in Holland Road, as well as the triangulated structure of the Vanke Triple V Gallery in Tianjin, China, with V-elevations and corresponding roof that dips and rises in an exaggerated manner reminiscent of ski runs or slopes.



Designed as a permanent show gallery and tourist information centre for China's largest developer Vanke, the 750-sq m Triple V Gallery was completed only last year but has already become an icon along the Dong Jiang Bay coastline. Colin says that tectonically, the building responds to the coastal setting, and is finished in weather-sensitive Corten steel panels on the outside and timber strips on the inside. But what's more significant for Colin who has also completed seven projects for the trendsetting developer, SOHO China, in and around Beijing, is that the Triple V Gallery could well be the equivalent of the Sydney Opera House. Hopefully, a Singapore architect like Colin Seah would one day have the opportunity to leave a permanent iconic imprint on our local waterfront. **f**



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