



ASIAN AMERICAN E-ZINE

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May I have the envelope please?

2010 P.H. Tuan - C.B. Wang Center Annual Photo Contest *Imagining the Wang*

"In the end my mind stopped working and I was actually numb." After looking through 549 entries from 57 contestants, that is how P.H. Tuan, architect of the Charles B. Wang Asian American Center, described the process of choosing the winners. But he was ecstatic at the quality of the submissions.

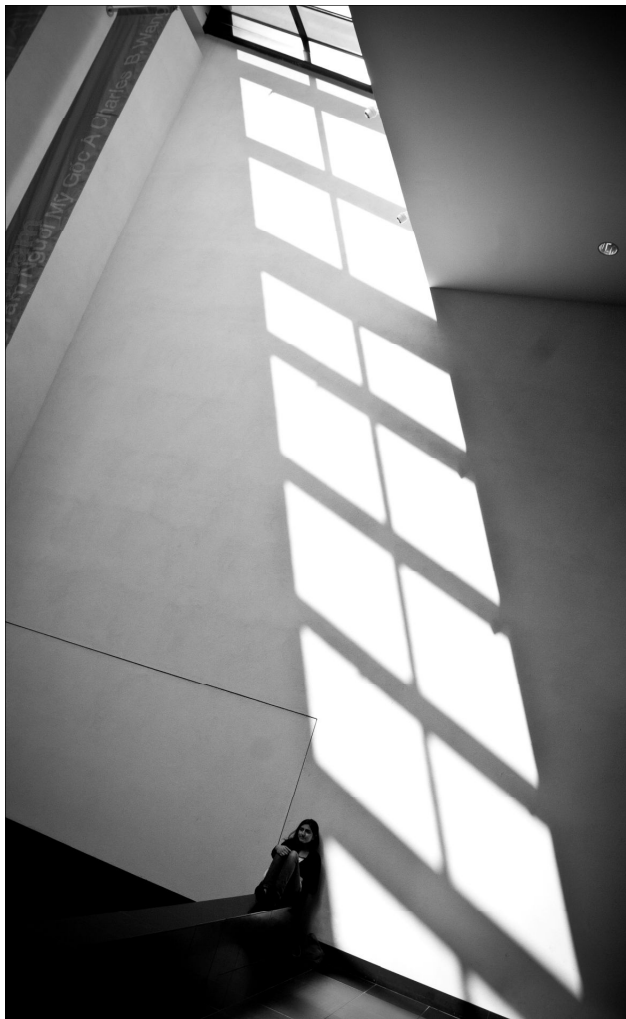
From those 549 he narrowed down to 25 for the exhibit, *Imagining the Wang*, that continues until May 22nd in the theatre lobby. But it still took him 3 more days to choose the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Prize winners.

Visitors to the exhibit during its opening 10 days also had the opportunity to choose. They got to vote on the \$250 People's Choice Award, a special award from Wang Center Asian/Asian American Programs.

Online viewers got to vote too, for the \$100 Global Choice Award, though unlike the exhibit, all entries could be voted on.

Of course, everyone's taste varies, so you may look at P.H. Tuan's choices and agree - the winners obviously did - or you may shake your head in wonderment. He expects the wonderment and readily admits his taste is "different."

But as you read his reasons you will get a better understanding of his choices. He was not just looking for architectural shots or pretty pictures. He looked at composition. In some he looked at the interaction of people with the building. In others he looked at the mood, the feeling it gave him.



1st Prize Winner Ezra Margono

But whatever his reason, check the entries out and come to your own decision. P.H. Tuan is the primary sponsor of this contest, and along with cosponsors [AA]2, AA E-Zine and Wang Center Asian / Asian American Programs, he wants visitors to look at his design in new ways, to see it differently.

1st Prize \$400 : Ezra Margono

Photo: B&W. Woman in Zodiac Fountain shadows
Camera: Canon EOS 40D

P.H. Tuan: I showed the picture to my friends and my family members. They said, how can you pick that one as the first winner, pick something else. But the more I looked at the picture, the more I liked it. You may not fall in love with it at first.

We designed this building with many things in mind. We wanted it to be light in any kind of weather. Also we provided space for the sun and for the shadows. That wall is blank. That was exactly its purpose. How it was going to react to the outside. So you look at the wall and you see a canvas.

Of course, this building is also for people and in this particular picture we also see a person. We see the connection between the building and people. This picture is black and white and emphasizes the wall and not being distracted by other colors.

Ezra Margono: I spent a lot of time in the Wang Center for the contest. This is one of the last shots I took on the last day. I saw this girl sitting there and I asked her if she wanted to be in my photographs and she said, "Sure, just make sure my face isn't really seen." So I carefully placed her in the shadows.

I've studied some architecture in classes. Unlike European architecture, I really like that idea of an empty wall and letting light emphasize the shadows.

2nd Prize \$300 :

Katharina Schuhmann

Photo: Color. Rear garden and pool in the rain
Camera: SONY DSC-P72

P.H. Tuan: To be totally unbiased, I have no idea who has taken what picture. But I believed it had to be taken by an Asian person who had some understanding of a Suzhou garden because when you take a picture of a Suzhou garden you never do it in sunlight. It is always misty. And when you look at the picture, you must see poetry. When you look at this picture, you almost see a Chinese garden right here at Stony Brook.

K. Schuhmann: Yes, I'm not Asian but I love this building. When we have visitors to our department, I always take them to Wang to impress them. One of the reasons I liked this picture was that the tree was just starting to bloom. I liked that it was the beginning of spring and a nice new beginning.

3rd Prize \$200 : Alex Wong

Photo: Color. Front exterior at dusk
Camera: Pentax Optio A 40

P.H. Tuan: In morning this building has a certain glow. In evening it has a certain glow. I think this picture is very moody. It speaks a lot about this building. On a cloudy day, I'm still there. People may not pay attention to me, but I am there.

Alex Wong: I was taking pictures of the building for a few hours and my camera was running out of batteries. This was the last picture I was able to take. I'm so glad the batteries didn't run out.



2nd Prize Winner Katharina Schuhmann



3rd Prize Winner Alex Wong

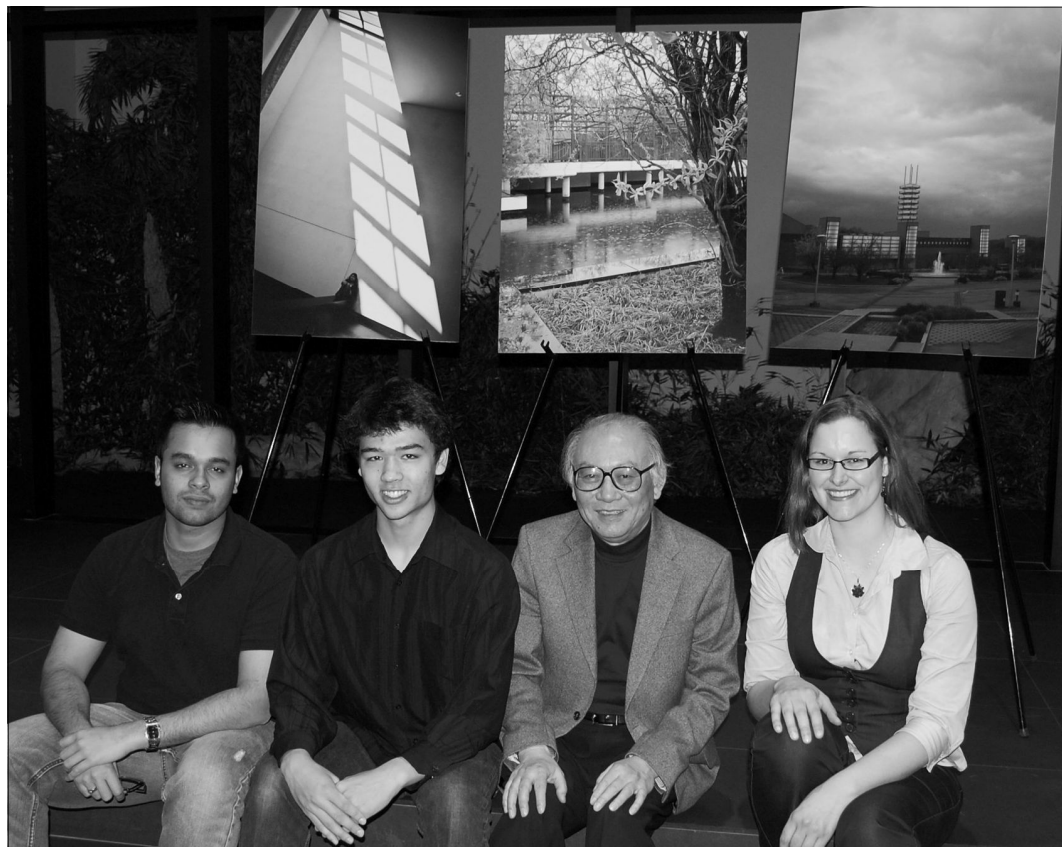
Wanted: Writers, photographers, videographers * aaezine@yahoo.com * Union 071 * 631 831 6062
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And the winners are...



Global Choice Award winner Aleef Rahman, 1st Prize and People's Choice Award winner Ezra Margono, Charles B. Wang Asian American Center architect P.H. Tuan, and 2nd Prize winner Katharina Schuhmann. Missing: Alex Wong, 3rd Prize winner.

Global Choice Award: Aleef Rahman

Photo: Color. 1st floor men's bathroom

Camera: Nikon D90

Aleef: "The reason why I took the bathroom shot was, it's like going to the urologist, everyone's embarrassed by it, but it's beautiful and when I walked into that bathroom it was like the best bathroom I had ever seen in my life and I wanted to be able to photograph it in a way that wasn't weird but was funny and showed off how amazing that bathroom was.

I couldn't have taken this picture without my buddy, Ezra, helping me. He's the one at the urinal and I'm the one behind the tree. We actually took the shot twice and reversed places. Mine came out better.

The way we did the green to make it even funnier, we used an off camera wireless flash with a green gel. I put my camera on a tripod and took the flash off of my camera and put it on top of the urinal and had Ezra stand in front of it.

The Wang Center is definitely the best place I've seen on campus. The architecture is beautiful, the lighting is beautiful. And this bathroom is a gem. Definitely visit it.

People's Choice Award: Ezra Margono

Photo: Color. Rear garden at night with long exposure

Camera: Pentax EOS 40D

Ezra: I spent a long time running around outside trying to find the right spot. Then I used a long exposure, 30 seconds, to bring out the effect of the lights.

Imagining the Wang Exhibit & Entries

You can see P.H. Tuan's top 25 plus the Global Choice in the Wang Center until graduation, or view all entries online at

<http://aasquared.org/gallery/PHTuanCBWangCenterPhotoContest2010>

The contestants were Madiha Abid, Ed Arzomand, Samantha Lynn Burkardt, Gordon Chen, Wanda Chen, Michael Chow, CW Chua, Cristina Cruz, Sumreen Dar, Eric DiGiovanni, Alexander Felicier, Thomas Feng, CS Fong, Ellen Gallagher, Carole Gambrell, Arlene Gervis, Narinder Gupta, Sachie Hayashida, Dan Hess, Kenneth Ho, Manami Hotta, Shiou Mei Huang, Desiree Keegan, Jessica Keough, In Seong Kim, Erin Kunz, Richard Lall, Jana Larsen, Vincent La Scalza, Winter Lee, Thomas Zhenxiao Lei, Brandon Leung, Yan Leyfman, Thomas Li, Eric Lohse, Vaughn Lombardo, Stephanie Long, Levy Lorenzo, Ezra Margono, Erica Mengouchian, Erica Miner, Madeline Queck, Aleef Rahman, Shazia Rahman, Mahrukh Riaz, Chris Rosenman, Roy Rubio, Natsue Sakurai, Katharina Schuhmann, Michael Sidorowicz, Diana Small, Caitlyn Sullivan, Chaomin Tang, Susan Tse, Soumya Ullas, Matt Vandegriff, Elaine Vuong, Ann Walsh, Xin Wang, Matt Willemain, Chris Williams, and Alex Wong.



Global Choice Award Winner Aleef Rahman



People's Choice Award Winner Ezra Margono

Family & friends are invited to celebrate the achievements of graduating seniors at the reception & [AA]² GRADUATION AWARDS CEREMONY FOR ASIAN & ASIAN AMERICAN STUDENT LEADERS

Awards Presented by P.H. Tuan, Wang Center Architect * Humanities * May 21, 2010

Reception compliments of Evelyn & Eugene Wong, proud parents of Stephanie Wong, Class of 2010

Graduating seniors, contact aaezine@yahoo.com or call 631 831 6062 for details & to RSVP

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