

MEDIA RELEASE

Appointment of Architect for Singapore's National Art Gallery

*Studio Milou Architecture and CPG Consultants chosen
after extensive expert assessments and public consultation exercise*

Singapore, 28 May 2008 – The Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts MICA is appointing Studio Milou Architecture and CPG Consultants Pte Ltd, to be the Principal Consultants to design and build the new National Art Gallery of Singapore (*working title*).

2 This appointment comes after a rigorous due diligence process that was conducted with the winning three schemes. In accordance with the competition, the due diligence process comprised the following:

- (i) Jury's assessment: This was a collection of the Jury's comments from the competition on the winning schemes.
- (ii) Public feedback: A survey was conducted at the public exhibition of the schemes in October 2007 to gather feedback on the winning schemes.
- (iii) Technical evaluation: MICA hired a panel of technical experts to evaluate the technical concerns of each scheme. This also ensured that the architects had a good grasp of the technical requirements/difficulties of their proposed schemes.
- (iv) Track record: The teams' CVs were evaluated. MICA took into consideration each team's architectural experience, as well as their experience in building similar institutions.
- (v) Cost evaluation: Independent cost consultants were hired to evaluate the architect's ability to meet their proposed budget. Clarifications were also conducted with each team, to accurately assess the proposed costs.

3 Studio Milou Architecture and CPG Consultants were selected based on the following merits:



- (i) Studio Milou Architecture's scheme was placed first by the Jury Panel for their excellent architectural design proposal for the competition.
- (ii) The public had also showed a strong preference for Studio Milou Architecture's scheme.
- (iii) Studio Milou Architecture has a professional and competent team that understands MICA's concerns and the complexities of a project of this scale. They were also able to meet MICA's cost and technical requirements for the project.
- (iv) Both Studio Milou Architecture and CPG Consultants have an impressive combined track record of designing museums and galleries in France and Singapore, including several major NHB museums. This is the only team among the three winning teams with such extensive experience.

4 Dr Lee Boon Yang, Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts, commented: "We arrived at this decision after much deliberation, carefully studying each scheme and holding extensive discussions with the architectural teams. Studio Milou Architecture and CPG Consultants have captured our vision for this project well, understood its complexities, and are a professional and extremely competent team. I have great confidence in this architectural team we have selected, and have no doubt that they will be able to deliver an iconic building for Singapore's National Art Gallery."

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Notes to the Editor

About the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA)

The Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA) is a multi-faceted ministry. It is both an economic and social ministry with the vision to nurture and develop a Creative Economy, Gracious Community and Connected Singapore.

The Ministry's mission is to develop Singapore as a Global City for information, communications and the arts, so as to build a creative economy and a connected society with a Singaporean identity rooted in our multicultural heritage. It aims to propel the creative economy through the development and promotion of the creative industries (arts, design and media) and infocomm technology sector to create new economic value and jobs. It also aims to forge a strong sense of community, national identity, rootedness and inclusion among Singaporeans, and to foster better understanding between the Government and its various stakeholders through effective public communications. Information on MICA is available at www.mica.gov.sg.

About the National Art Gallery of Singapore

The National Art Gallery of Singapore (*working title*) is a new visual arts institution which will contribute to building Singapore as a regional and international hub for visual arts. It will focus on the display, appreciation, promotion, research and study of Southeast Asian and Singaporean art, as well as play host to international art exhibitions.

Situated in the heart of the Civic District, the City Hall and adjacent former Supreme Court building - two important heritage buildings symbolic of Singapore's nationhood - will be converted to house this exciting new visual arts venue, and is anticipated to be completed by 2013. The National Art Gallery will be a civic and creative space, established for the enrichment, enjoyment and engagement of Singapore residents and visitors from all over the world. Information on the National Art Gallery is available at www.nationalartgallery.sg.