

Cupboard Love

We design as a couple – we have done so since we were in our 20s (over 20 years ago). We are fascinated by couples, and especially by odd ones. The pair becomes something of its own, a new whole created from two diverse halves (which may or may not “match” in aesthetic terms).

CUPBOARD LOVE is a liquor cabinet for two that reflects this odd joining.

At a glance, the two are very much opposites, and their joining is an abrupt juxtaposition: one is refined, highly articulate, and ornamental; the other is reserved, mysterious, and strong. When we look closer, however, there is a subtler accommodation between the parts.

An exchange begins to take place; a strange new form emerges. A ‘heart’ between the two.

The ‘strange new form’ means different things for different couples. For us, it has always been design – ever since we met in our 20s, over a turkey sandwich.

Materials Used

Colour stained ash, colour glazed ash, back-painted mirror, plastic drawer rollers and brass.

Ong Ker-Shing

Shing spent much of her childhood in Singapore and the UK. For university, she left for Harvard, and completed three degrees: a B.A. in Fine Arts, as well as Masters in Architecture and Landscape Architecture (the latter two with distinction).

Shing relocated to Shanghai as a Wheelwright Fellow in 2002 to research the Art Deco housing of the French Concession. Excited by small-scale innovations occurring in socialized interiors, she documented residents’ living spaces and personal histories. Shing founded Lekker Design in 2002, and Lekker Architects in 2015. She is a registered architect in Singapore.

In 1997, Shing met Josh over a turkey sandwich.

Joshua Comaroff

Josh was raised in Chicago, and studied literature, linguistics, and creative writing at Amherst College before joining the Master of Architecture and Master of Landscape Architecture programs at Harvard University Graduate School of Design. He has worked for and studied under Rem Koolhaas, Rafael Moneo, Rodolfo Machado and Jorge Silvetti, Preston Scott Cohen, Luis Rojo de Castro, and David Adjaye.

In 2009, Josh completed a PhD in cultural geography, writing on the subject of haunted landscapes and state power in Singapore. He has published writing in the fields of architecture, urbanism, and politics, with a focus in Asia. Josh is interested in the intersection of art and architecture, and in multi-disciplinary design practice.

To this day, Josh insists it was a turkey sub.

Lekker Architects

Lekker Architects is a group of designers, architects, and social scientists who are fascinated by the power of space to engage us, to create formative moments, and to provide a stage for public life. They relish moments where space enables us to learn and captures our imagination.

Their interest lies in projects with big ambitions: from buildings that promote inclusion, neighbourhoods that encourage walking and socialising, to dreamlike retail experiences that are exciting and transformative.

Together with critical questioning, careful observation and having fun with design, Lekker aims to bring ifresh new perspectives into their projects.