

## **THE RISE OF ASIA IN GLOBAL HISTORY AND PERSPECTIVE**

### **Sub Theme / Special Session on “Cultural Hypnosis”**

*The development in China is massive. And the speed, the quantity, doesn't allow you to think too much. And the easy ways [to deal with this situation is] to take experience from other place ... copying the cases from western countries ... Many modern urban image become the, I say, ideals for many Chinese cities. On the other hand, China has some [ideal] cities [of its own], traditional cities with a long history. They are so beautiful. And they were planned [their plan were] so smart, I call them Gardens in the city scale. For example Beijing; they have mountains, and water, lake, the bridge, the tower, so it's very poetic city. How this traditional philosophy, which is I think very advance, can transform in to future cities; I think that's another question that lead us to new root beside the western typology. (Ma Yansong / MAD Architects, interview with Royal Institute of British Architects, retrieved from: [https://youtu.be/BEm1Ia4j\\_6E](https://youtu.be/BEm1Ia4j_6E))*

With GDP already taking over USA, China is undeniably rising to the top of the world. Despite of the slow establishment of NDB BRICS; China's own initiative AIIB is already on its course to overtake paid-in/subscribed capital of long-established competitors like ADB, trailing only behind World Bank's IBRD. On the other hand, by putting Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Shenzhen Stock Exchange(s) on world's top fifth, sixth, and eight, China is respectively crowning herself as world's newest economic powerhouse, disrupting the long standing global status-quo. Great progress came with great challenges. China is physically morphing, building new architectures, new cities, and entire civilization from big to bigger and biggest scales in speed never seen before. Flocking the migration if not legal invasion of foreign experts embodied with foreign values. Threatening the existence of the very root of Chinese traditions.

#### **SESSION FOCUS**

What happened in China in the past 3 decades defines what recently happened in most parts of Asia; what was started in Latin America few decades earlier, and what is now starting to happen in Africa. Like Pandora, the gateway to modern internationalism comes with the risk of losing cultural sovereignty. A global epidemic not only endangering the world of architecture/urbanism, but also the wider spectrum of cultural products such as painting, textile, music, theatrical drama, movie, etc. This session will discuss the metamorphosis of physical/visible/audible archetypal roots in the creation of recent cultural products. Discourses maybe generated around but not limited to the questions of metamorphosis speed (how fast?), methods (how it happened), and reversal possibility (how to deal with it).

#### **SESSION PROMOTOR**

This session is promoted by SPIRIT\_45, group of 3 young Indonesian architects –Andy Rahman (principal of ARA), Eka Swadiansa (principal of OSA), and Realrich Sjarief (principal of RAW)- keen to exhibit 4 presentations in the theme of *Iconoloci Manifesto*; design methods developed to reinterpret cultural identities into today's more contextual architectural vocabularies.