

# Artistic Inspiration Wins 8 St Thomas Best Luxury Condo Architectural Design Award 2018

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*Wu Zhi Wei, Director, Asia at DP Architects (right), collecting the prize at the recent gala dinner.*

## **Contributor Feature**

*By Nadia Willan*

The "art of sophistication" and design in harmony, every element of the architectural design of **8 St Thomas** inspires luxury condo living that feels contemporary, lifestyle-friendly and aesthetically stunning. Developer Bukit Sembawang Estates brings over 50 years of experience to the fore with eye-catching aplomb, presenting a visually stunning development with an art-inspired façade in Singapore's iconic Orchard Street.

**Winning Best Luxury Condo Architectural Design at the 8<sup>th</sup> annual PropertyGuru Asia Property Awards (Singapore) in October 2018**, 8 St Thomas is an expression of a creative condo development. Bukit Sembawang utilises design to create the property's best features and enhance the luxurious, city-living experience for residents.

DP Architects were involved with the rare freehold project, which boasts 250 units of one to four bedrooms, including two penthouses, in two towers set in almost a hectare of greenery. Stylish interiors by Janet McGlennon and stunning Ong & Ong landscaping seamlessly complement the architectural features.

Judge Henry Woon, director of environmental design consultants Atelier Ten, has a background in leading award-winning projects and renowned, standout developments. Part of this year's judging panel, he praises the artistic architectural elements of the luxury condo. "The architects' design of the exteriors of 8 St Thomas was inspired by the great painter Piet Mondrian, who was one of the key 20th century artists of abstract style and favoured simple, geometric elements. The wonderful inspiration gave this project an exquisite and timeless look, symmetric, but not square."

Mondrian architecture creates a strong façade design using glass and balconies that look like drawers pulled out of the sleek structure to connect residents with the outdoors. Strategically positioned units, some with bay and corner windows, plus spacious living spaces with balconies are all designed to make the most of views over the city and the Marina Bay skyline. Within the abstract-art design philosophy are well thought-out architectural principles.

Communal sky gardens and sky terraces with dining facilities, along with fitness and chillout pods, offer further proof of Bukit Sembawang's intention to utilise the architectural design of 8 St Thomas to create the art of living luxuriously with nature. Meanwhile, the artistic lines of the towers express a sense of evolved city living in District 9.

Beyond the façade, architectural design reaches out into social spaces too, with every element of 8 St Thomas fitting together as agilely as a Mondrian composition. The tropical-inspired waterfalls complement the geometry of the façade, with the green spaces, lap pool and garden trail adding a sense of movement and life to the architectural concept. The result is a coherent living environment with residential spaces invigorated with rich foliage. While art may be considered a way of life, the way of life at 8 St Thomas is directed by the impressive architectural design, set within a luxury framework.

Even the contemporary style of the interiors' built-in features and elongated living-area design complement the architectural vision of creating a feeling of flowing yet seamlessly ordered space.

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