

Fes

REBORN | PROJECT ON AN ANCIENT CITY



PRESENTED BY

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Master of Architecture Thesis

OPENING
8pm on 12 May 2011

EXHIBITION
12 – 19 May 2011
Monday 1pm – 7pm
Tuesday – Sunday
9am – 7pm
(9am - 9pm on Friday)



Exhibition Fès Reborn

studioFÈS
Department of Architecture
National University of Singapore

Fès is magnificent. Fès is conservation. Fès is reborn.

Massive walls shimmer golden in the evening light. A maze of narrow sand-colored alleys with an aura of spices, chorus of prayers and hidden mysteries is unveiled. Founded in the 9th century, the Medina of Fès was the capital of Morocco and it is still considered today to be the intellectual and cultural heart of the kingdom. As the largest car-free city in the world, Fès is a living museum with immense architectural and historic treasures that is faced with deterioration and abandonment. Will conservation enhance a cultural dialogue and foster socio-economic cohesion towards a sustainable redevelopment?

This exhibition presents projects on an ancient city by five young minds. *studioFÈS* embarks on an architectural journey in one of the most important UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the Islamic world. An intensive discourse on research, analysis and architecture of Fès awaits. You are invited to join us on a journey of exploration into this mysterious city through photographic images, architectural drawings and models. Four students narrate their experiences, observations, research of the Medina and design projects for Place Lallal Yeddouna - the founding site of Fès along the river. Each design proposal seeks to engage a dialogue in cultural authenticity, craftsmanship and sustainable technologies. Re-interpreting conservation guidelines, these projects provoke new ideas for a meticulous revitalisation and rehabilitation of the Medina while addressing the complexities and contradictions brought about by cultural tourism.

The design of the exhibition is inspired by the narrow and winding streets prevalent in the ancient city. The abstraction of the street is designed as a piece of furniture that runs through the studio space. Through the media of photographs, analytical graphics, architectural drawings and models, the exhibition shall narrate a story of this mysterious Islamic city while projecting a vision of Fès Reborn.

studioFÈS is a Masters Thesis Studio initiated by Florian Schaetz, German Architect and Assistant Professor at the National University of Singapore (NUS) Department of Architecture. The studio, comprised of four postgraduate students pursuing their Masters degree at the NUS Department of Architecture, lived in the Medina of Fès for two weeks where they compiled their research and site studies.

studioFÈS:

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Wong Lei Ya

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