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SOIL CITY CLAIMS **TOP AWARD**

P AM-TAN SRI AR. CHAN SAU LAI ARCHITECTURE AWARD 2017 was recently awarded to Pamela Tan Poh Sin for her winning project – 'The Soil City'. Held at PAM Centre he award ceremony was officiated and graced by Guest of Honour Y. Bhd Dato' Ar. Dr, Kenneth Yeang King Mun.

Founder of this prestigious award, Tan Sri Ar. Chan Sau Lai, who is an architect himself worked as an architect in the early years of his career and appreciates the challenges and aspirations of architects. Co-organised by PAM (Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia/Malaysian Institute of Architects), the award witnessed a tremendous growth since its inception five years ago. It's primary aim is to be an inspirational platform that recognises outstanding achievements in design by architecture graduates in Malaysia.

26-year-old Tan was ecstatic with her win, a clear homerun in the judges' eyes. The University of Greenwich graduate presented The Soil City as an imagined future city where the once abundant natural resource of top soil is running out. The Soil City pictures that the extinction of top soil is imminent, and that a new civilisation has set about the difficult task of cultivating, and protecting, this newly valuable commodity.

The project visualises a society which is structured around the high value associated to top soil, where the wealthy store miniature gardens in the vaults of the central soil bank, and where workers dredge through the domestic organic waste dumping grounds on the periphery of Greenwich Peninsula in an attempt to speed up the process of soil production. The Soil City takes a critical stance on dissolution of natural resources and the impending high value associated with its demise. While The Soil City celebrates all things of soil, it is also mired in a certain doom – an end to the natural growth of things.
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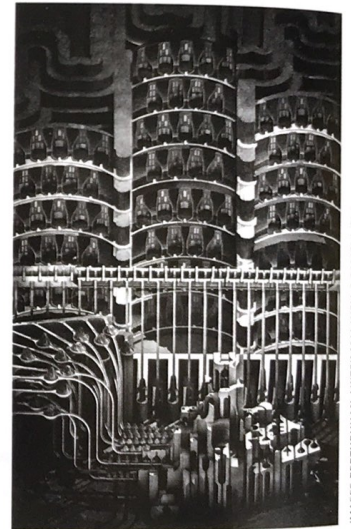
Soil bank and houses depicted and interpreted through the eyes of Pamela Tan, winner of PAM-Tan Sri Ar. Chan Sau Lai Architecture Award 2017.