



A Tribute to

Architect Angel Lazaro, Jr.

Fellow, United Architects of the Philippines

Recipient of the

Likha Award

and

Gold Medal

Conferred By

The United Architects of the Philippines

April 14, 2000

UNITED ARCHITECTS OF THE PHILIPPINES

To All Who Shall See These Presents

GREETINGS

Know Ye, that

ARCHITECT ANGEL LAZARO, JR.

Fellow, United Architects of the Philippines.

for having successfully fused in his person, the professions of architecture and civil engineering, topping both licensure examinations given by the Board of Civil Engineering and the Board of Architecture of these professions in 1938 and in 1962, respectively;

for having loved architecture with such passion that no years in engineering would quench, which drove him to pursue the profession of architecture even after 25 years in the profession of engineering;

for having achieved technical excellence in the architectural and engineering design of innumerable landmark projects, built in half a century of dedicated practice, that demonstrated his independence of mind in conceptualization, proficiency in design, and boldness in the execution of the projects in construction;

for having demonstrated a rare kind of leadership and management style when he served as National President of the United Architects of the Philippines, which was characterized by warmth, friendliness, informality, closeness and intimacy; expressed through personal letters written to thousands of members and through arduous travels to visit all the chapters of the organization all over the country; the likes of which the members had not known and experienced before, and for which he is now remembered and admired;

for having performed with exceptional vigor, strength and resolve as Chancellor of the College of Fellows of the United Architects of the Philippines, in leading not only the architects but all other Filipino professionals, as Task Force Chair of the Philippine Federation of Professional

Associations and the Philippine Technological Council, in the lobby for better laws, rules and regulations for the professionals in the country with regards to such issues as continuing professional education and membership to the accredited professional organization;

for having projected the architect as a reliable partner and ally, amongst other professionals, by leading the Confederation of Filipino Consulting Organizations as the umbrella organization of all domestic consultants:

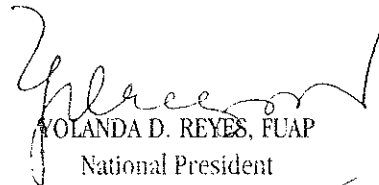
for being the epitome of the health professional – with a healthy mind and a healthy spirit on a healthy body: even as he had reached the ripe eighth decade of his life on earth:

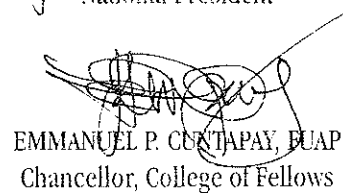
is hereby bestowed the

LIKHA AWARD and GOLD MEDAL

this 14th day of April in the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and that of the UAP, the twenty-fifth.

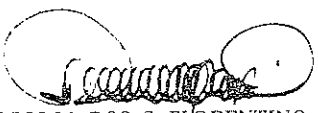
In witness whereof, are hereunto affixed the Seal of the UAP, the signatures of the National President of the United Architects of the Philippines, the Chancellor of the College of Fellows, the Chair of the Committee on Awards and attested by the Secretary General.


YOLANDA D. REYES, FUAP
National President


EMMANUEL P. CENTAPAY, FUAP
Chancellor, College of Fellows


AQUILES C. PAREDES
Chairman, Committee on Awards

Attested:


EDRIC MARCO C. FLORENTINO, UAP
Secretary General

Arch. Angel Lazaro, Jr. - Likha Award

ARCHITECT ANGEL LAZARO, JR., FELLOW, UAP
Nominee for LIKHA AWARD

Architect and Environmental Planner Angel Lazaro, Jr., born in Malabon, January 11, 1918, a B.S. Architecture Cum Laude, National University in 1954; a Board of Architecture topnotcher in (First place) 1962 with PRC Registry No. 1525. And an accomplished Environmental Planner (before his registration as such) with PRC Registry No. 1298 in 1995. Registered Structural Engineer in 1972, Registered Civil Engineer (1st Place) 1938, Registered Hydraulics Eng. 1974, was Faculty Member of Mapua Institute of Technology, National University, Manila and the University of the Philippines - total of 29 years a manifestation of dedication in the education and training of young aspirants in this noble profession.

A foremost recipient of numerous professional awards namely: Most Outstanding Alumnus of Mapua in 1957, Most Outstanding Alumnus of National University in 1975, Most Outstanding Professional Association (PFPA) thru the Philippine Technological Council (PTC) – 1989; Dangal ng Malabon – 1982; Gintong Ama – 1987; Fellow, ARCASIA.

His achievements as President of the UAP, 1989 – represented the UAP in Forum 5 ARCASIA CONGRESS in Bangkok. Presided in the National Convention of 1500 delegates at PICC, Manila, Oct. 1989. Visitations to all Chapters of the UAP all over the archipelago, responsible for revival of numerous inactive chapters and formed new chapters (Cotabato and Butuan and turn over of P1.8 million to the incoming administration.)

He has demonstrated the significant role of the architect as prime professional not only in the total design of buildings and environmental planning but also established the UAP as a lead professional organization in mutually beneficial relationship with the allied professionals as President of Confederation of Filipino Consulting Organization (COFILCO) in 1998, as Chancellor of both UAP COF and PICE in 1998; and Task Force Legislation of both PFPA and PTC particularly in opposition to the PRC Bill in Congress which tends to disenfranchise hundreds or thousands of registered professionals in the Philippines for failure to comply to CPE as required in the proposed House Bill.

On community and government service he was ten years president of Malabon Foundation for the Poor KASAMA Award – 1982. Member. Metro Manila Citizens Committee Study on Earthquake of 1967; Member BROS team on Study with 1972 earthquake and tidal wave in Mindanao. 1972 (DPWH appointed sans pay).


As a private practitioner, he is an Architect, Structural Engineer, and Environmental Planner had designed: the first Industrial Estate: Bataan Export Processing Zone (planned 90% of everything to be seen there): followed by Baguio City Export Processing Zone; Mactan Export Processing Zone; CAREBI Sugar Mill Refinery Complex in Zambales; Port of Brooke's Pt., Palawan; Navotas Fish Port Complex; Metro Iligan Regional Agro-Industrial at Linamon; 4-storey Engineering Building of De La Salle University at Taft Avenue, 10-storey Marian General Hospital at UN Ave., Manila; 5-storey EAPI at Ateneo University, Loyola Heights, Q.C.; 5-storey EPZA Adm. Building at Mariveles, Bataan; and Ortigas br. Across Manggahan Floodway, biggest (6-lane) longest 95x34m) in MM.

Prepared for USAID the complete development of General Santos City and South Cotabato, pointed the location of the new General Santos International Airport, improvements of Makar Wharf, Euayan Airport, Telecom, and Fish Port. 1989.


Architect Angel Lazaro Jr., is married to Magdalena Lapuz – Lazaro of some 55 years of happy married life blessed with 4 children namely: Angel Lazaro III, Managing Partner, Angel Lazaro Associates and Chairman, Civil Engineering, Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) and former Administrator of MWSS; Delfin, Chairman, Executive Committee, Globe Telecommunications and immediate past Secretary of Energy; Amelia, Derma Pathologist; and Ismael, Businessman.

Recommended for Likha Award

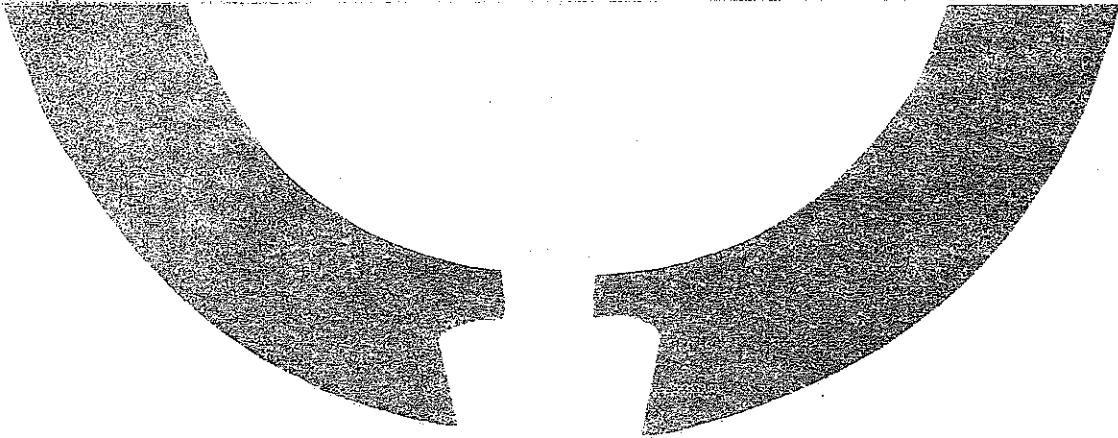

AQUILES C. PAREDES, FUAP
Chair, Committee on Award


CORA S. CHOCO, FUAP
Co-Chair, Committee on Award


ARTURO E. VALENZUELA JR., FUAP
Member


RICARDO R. POBLETE, FUAP
Member


DIONISIO F. CORONEL, FUAP
Member



ARCHITECTURE, PRACTICED AS UNDERSTOOD BY LAZARO.

Only two months MIT freshman in Mining Engineering (1934 was mining boom). I climbed to the 4/F where AR students were drawing beautiful structures. I said, "I like this". Running down to Dean Vales, he said my HS valedictorian scholarship will be cancelled as an irregular transferee to architecture. So, Started my long wait 1934 to 1962 to be an architect.

Topped the CE board 1938, and from 1938 to '41, completed all subjects towards MS in higher math at UP because the 6 existing actuaries (all good in math) were earning a lot and the discovery that I know so little math. I also enrolled ICS in architecture in 1940 but both courses were cut short by the Dec 1941 war. Then US Army Corps of Engineers scholar Fr. Belvoir, VA and after earning MSCE from SUT 1950, added four more years to be "at last" a BS Architecture and topped the board in 1962. Architecture is the hardest and most devoted studies during the 12 years of my college work.

The first break came when with engineers 1965, to design CE, SE, ME, and EE utilities for CAREBI. The Owner, Mr. Luis Santos, discovered that I was also an architect and requested me to be the over-all master planner. It turned out to be a P79 M major project in Zambales. Later, 1969, upon advise of a very dear friend, Engr. Gaitos, I sent my CV to Customs Comm. Rolando Geotina who immediately engaged me to master plan the BEPZ, without involving any cup of coffee and even if we have never met before and I do not even know how he looks like. When he handed me the advance check on our second meeting, he said, "That is only money, we need plans."

I would never have gotten these big breaks if I were not an architect – and also if Mr. Santos and Comm. Geotina did not think highly of architects. Fortunately, my other studies are very important additions to architecture, which I practiced the way I understood it. I have every reason to deeply love architecture and architects, even if I am a pretty good CE if I may say so.

A house has some residents, major projects have thousands. Each occupant has his own needs and functions; what makes him comfortable, satisfied and happy; has his own concepts of social standing and success. How does an architect satisfy all these thousands of factors into a single project? Probably, the golden rule "Design for others what you think they will design for you". Of like a Chess player who continuously thinks 20 moves ahead, the architect weighs 10 to 20 factors simultaneously when drawing each and every line in his plans, figuring proper materials where durability and costs synchronize, estimating frequency of use versus maintenance, evaluating various social impacts to be emphasized at proper spaces and corners, and the greatest challenge. How to create something better than how it used to be done! First, imagination, then draw and after construction, should the product be destroyed or admired? Only time will tell, sometimes centuries, like the Parthenon or the bahay-kubo.





ARCHITECT ANGEL L. LERO, JR.
United Architects of the Philippines

Architecture is buildable art, and art is anything natural or man-created that is not ugly or repulsive to our five common senses. The Parthenon is long-distance architecture, admired for majestic proportions and composition. These are for the gifted architects who deserve their opportunities. They inspire us but are difficult (and prohibited) to imitate. Unfortunately, they are few.

The more common architects like me and thousands of others practice close-up architecture, always trying to improve the bahay-kubo, attentive to details, making joints between different materials and shapes coincide or harmonize, studying the effects of protrusions or depressions on shadows and color, analyzing comfort versus affordability in short to please the demands of climate, other physical laws, technology, environment, etc. As every architect will say "If there were no utilities and supports, everybody can be an architect".

Some contributions to close-up architecture are: 1) Place water supply system aerial, leaks are easy to detect and repair, it obeys the law of natural downward flow of water – very economical for low cost housing 2) Place CR's at corners to support multi-storey low-cost where land-cost and availability are the more serious problems than cost of house. 3) Experiment with hidden internal supports to produce beautiful exteriors (utilize interior of tanks, ceilings, closets, etc.) 4) Generate other sources of energy (oil will soon disappear) like ability of solid materials (rocks or metals) to absorb and store heat – good also for insulators. More natural ventilation – less mechanical. Natural light – less electrical or fuel. More manual – less automatic. More greens and natural finish – less paint or drapery. More raw décor – less artificial. More indigenous – less imported. More standardization of common / numerous parts – just be creative in different ways of putting them together. Make it easier to do – even if difficult to say or describe. Make it nice and dainty – and still be strong and durable.

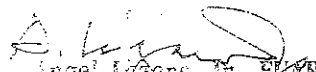
Contribution to long-distance architecture is similar to the façade of the Meraleo bldg, which moves. I call it "Dynamic Architecture". My Norbertina Bldg. Sun breakers sway as you pass by. Fish can be seen jumping alongside a 300m – long corrugated CHB wall which, incidentally, is not hospitable to graffiti. Try using venetian blinds, grillage, screens, accordions, or facets (which make diamond sparkle).

The word "buildable" is the indispensable ingredient to architecture. Pampidou Building in Paris showed how engineering utilities and supports look like if exposed. The Sydney opera house would be un-affordable due to the hyperbolic paraboloid roof – automatically similarly curved ceilings, walls, décor, tiles, details, etc., etc., where **every element has a different radius of curvature**. The contribution of excellent creative engineering is to build the roof (and all the others etc., etc., will follow) by ingeniously joining together different portions taken from the surface of a single sphere and attached together by concealed rigid arches (forget thin-shell design). And so every element (and all the etc., etc.,) **has only one radius of curvature**. Voilà! The world has the Sydney opera house.

A common architect like me is artistically satisfied with a water tank shaped like a top. One – hectare floor area standard factory buildings similar to a college but with uncomfortable CR's to discourage 900 workers from resting too long. My residence without paint, without windows, without AC, without Posts. The kitchen and work area ground floor of Marian Hospital very well ventilated by the vacuum below the common chimney of the exhausts from the AC of the upper nine storeys. Or my small fishpond bahay-kubo 1.5 storeys, six equi-lateral triangle ground floor plan (23.4 sq. m.) with hyperboloid nipa / GI roof whose different façade in any direction is interesting enough to turn the necks of looking – back passengers whose motor boat tends to zoom up the river banks.

I wonder if these common objects are deserving of such honor as our Likha award, which to me, was not even possible to dream of. As 1989 UAP president while presenting the Likha medal to Architect Lindy Locsin, I whispered to him, "This is as close as I will ever get to the Likha award." So I forgot the Likha and focused on LOVE and UNITY of all architects in UAP, which let us all continue to do.

But the Likha is now here and I do not have the guts to refuse it. However, a common architect like me is only a symbolic recipient an award really meant for the thousands of us. Ang daming nabigyan ng award na ito! I shall treasure it for you and let us all continue trying very hard to deserve it. Thank you all for giving and entrusting this award to me.


Angel Lazaro, Jr., UAP
April 2000

Arch. Angel Lazaro, Jr. - Likha Award



the united architects of the philippines

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