



A Tribute To

Architect Felipe M. Mendoza

Fellow, UAP

As The First Recipient Of The

Likha Award

and

Gold Medal

Conferred By The

United Architects Of The Philippines.

December 11, 1982

UNITED ARCHITECTS OF THE PHILIPPINES

To All Who Shall See These Presents

GREETINGS

Know Ye, that

ARCHITECT FELIPE M. MENDOZA

Fellow, United Architects of the Philippines,

for having contributed to the attainment of the highest standard of ethical conduct and excellence in the practice of the architectural profession, when he undertook the role of prime mover in the preparation and publication of significant adopted professional documents such as the Architect's National Code consisting of the Code of Ethical Conduct and the Standards of Professional Practice and UAP General Conditions, International Code of Ethics on Consulting Services, Standard Guidelines on Consulting Services, and others, all benefiting the architectural profession;

for having achieved a marked technical excellence in the design of numerous landmark structures he has built through forty three years of high ethical standards of professional practice, reflecting a distinct architectural style and philosophy deserving recognition;

for having given distinguished contributions and service to the UAP organization, when he served as its President and demonstrated his vision, leadership and unrelenting vigor and zeal, by instituting various reforms within the organization and by projecting the UAP in the international scene leading to its recognition as a founding member of the Architects Regional Council of Asia (ARCASIA) and the ASEAN Association for Planning and Housing (AAPH), and as national section of the Union Internationale des Architectes (UIA) in the Philippines;

for having led the UAP's professional and cohesive interactions with allied professional organizations thereby projecting the UAP as a lead professional technical organization, when he served as President of the Philippine Federation of Professional Associations (PFPA), Vice President of the Philippine Council for Planning and Housing (PCPH), Vice Chairman of the Philippine Technological Council (PTC), Treasurer and Member of the Governing Council of the ASEAN Association for Planning and Housing (AAPH) and Deputy Chairman of the Architects Regional Council of Asia (ARCASIA);

for having made notable contributions to his community, his government and country, by his active civic endeavors through the Jaycee organization having served as Manila Jaycee Director and Jaycee Senator, and by his continuing professional participation in government, in its physical and planning programs particularly unselfishly serving in the Board of Advisers for Urban Design and Development for the Metro-Manila Commission and such other similar capacities, benefiting community, government and country;

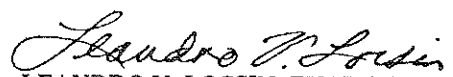
and for all these accomplishments worthy of emulation and deserving the highest recognition and upon recommendation of the UAP Committee on Awards and the Committee on Resolutions, the UAP National Board unanimously approved, to give the highest distinction that may be bestowed by the National Board upon a Fellow of the United Architects of the Philippines in accordance with the UAP By-Laws,


is hereby bestowed the

LIKHA AWARD and GOLD MEDAL

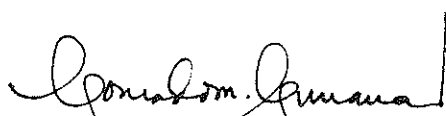
this eleventh day of December in the Year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred eighty two and that of the UAP, the eight.

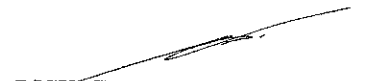
In witness whereof, are hereunto affixed the Seal of the UAP, the signatures of the National President of the United Architects of the Philippines, the Chancellor of the College of Fellows, the Chairmen of the Committees on Awards and Resolutions and attested by the National Secretary.


LEANDRO V. LOCSIN, FUAP, HFAIA
National President


VICTOR N. TIOTUYCO, FUAP
Chancellor, College of Fellows

Attested:


CONRADO M. CUNANAN, CUAP
National Secretary


RICHE TO C. ALCORDO, CUAP
Chairman, Committee on Awards


CESAR V. CANCHELA, FUAP
Chairman, Committee on Resolutions

**ARCHITECT FELIPE M. MENDOZA. -- Fellow, UAP
FIRST UAP LIKHA AWARDEE**

Architect Felipe M. Mendoza was born in Manila on May 26, 1917. He graduated from the Mapua Institute of Technology with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Architecture in 1938, placed sixth in the Board Examination for Architects in 1939, with registration No. 95.

He served for 24 years as a faculty member of the School of Architecture and Planning at the Mapua Institute of Technology and later joined the College of Architecture, University of the Philippines for a period of two years as a professional lecturer.

He is the recipient of numerous awards. Among them are the "Outstanding Professional of the Year in the Field of Architecture" Award in 1982 from the Professional Regulation Commission, the Araw ng Maynila Award in 1976 as "Outstanding Architect", and the "Golden Award" in 1978 as most outstanding Jaycee International Senator in the Field of Architecture. He also received awards as Outstanding Alumnus of his alma maters, the Mapua Institute of Technology, the Arellano High School and the Isabelo delos Reyes Elementary School aside from being conferred an Honorary Member of Eta Sigma Mu Honor Society of M.I.T.

His achievements as President of the United Architects of the Philippines for two terms in 1979 and 1980, are by far unparalleled. Most notable among his projects are the formulation of the new 5-year ladder type curriculum for B.S. Architecture which having been approved by the Ministry of Education and Culture and by the First Lady, was immediately implemented, and the initiation of the Architects' Continuing Education Program and the documentation of the Pilipino Architectural Legacies.

He undertook the preparation and publication of several UAP documents which were approved by the Board of Architecture, Professional Regulation Commission, for use by all practicing architects, including other professional documents for international use and application. These documents are the Architect's National Code consisting of the Code of Ethical Conduct and the Standards of Professional Practice, UAP General Conditions, International Code of Ethics on Consulting Services and the Standard Guidelines on Consulting Services.

He has demonstrated the role of the architect as the prime professional in the built-environment and brought the UAP as a lead professional organization, in close harmonious professional interaction and relationship with the allied professional organizations when he served as President of the Philippine Federation of Professional Associations in 1981, Vice Chairman

of the Philippine Technological Council in 1981, Vice President of the Philippine Council for Planning and Housing in 1982, Treasurer and Member of the Governing Council of the ASEAN Association for Planning and Housing in 1980-83, Deputy Chairman of the Architects Regional Council of Asia in 1982-83, President of the Philippine Institute of Architects in 1963 to 1964 and as one of the founders of the Kanlungan Architectural Foundation of the Philippines.

On community and government service, he was a director of the Manila Jaycee, a member of the Rotary Club and a member of the Board of Advisers for Urban Design and Development of the Metro-Manila Commission where he undertook several community projects.

As a private practitioner, he has designed numerous projects among which are the Batasang Pambansa Complex, Ministry of Education and Culture Building, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Development Academy of the Philippines in Pasig, the Philippine Veterans Bank at Bonifacio Drive, Antonino Building in Luneta, Great Pacific Life Building in Makati, Delta Motors Office Building and Industrial Plant and institutional buildings for the Bicol University in Legazpi City, the Palawan National Agricultural College, the Mariano Marcos State University in Batac, Ilocos Norte, the Central Mindanao University in Musuan, Bukidnon, the UP Los Banos and the College of the Holy Spirit.

He has received commendations from his clients for his professional services rendered in connection with the buildings he designed for the International Rice Research Institute, SEARCA, U.P. Los Baños, the Jesuit Order, Assumption Sisters and the Grace Christian Foundation.

Architect Mendoza married Aurora Alisangco, a beautiful lass from La Union. After 36 years of happy married life, they are blessed with seven children and twelve grandchildren. Although none of his children followed his footsteps, he is still optimistic that two or three of his grandchildren will be architects.

COMMITTEE ON AWARDS


RICHETO C. ALCORDO, CUAP

Chairman


VICTOR N. TIOTUYCO, FUAP

Member


CORAZON F. TANDOC, FUAP

Member


FERNANDO B. ABAD, FUAP

Member



THE WELFARE OF LIKHA

The Likhha Association is a voluntary organization of Likhha people in the United States. It was formed in 1964 to promote the welfare of Likhha people and to preserve their culture and traditions. The association has a number of programs and activities, including a cultural center, a library, and a social service center. It also publishes a newsletter and organizes cultural events. The association is open to all Likhha people, regardless of their religious or political beliefs. For more information, contact the Likhha Association, 1000 1st Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.



ARCHITECT FELIPE M. MENDOZA
Fellow, United Architects of the Philippines

A PHILOSOPHICAL ESSAY
ON MY PROFESSIONAL WORKS

BY

FELIPE M. MENDOZA, FUAP
October 1982

Architecture, as a practice and a profession, is my life. Aside from my practice, I have devoted my life to the education of aspiring architects as well as to the upliftment of the Filipino architect as a professional. This essay is a brief study of my fundamental beliefs about my practice and my profession.

I chose a career in architecture because it provides me with an opportunity to solve specific human needs through the innovative combination of the objectivity of scientific and technical rules and the subjectivity of art and style. As a science, architecture incorporates the technology of the times and the effective use of materials that suit the function of the structure. As an art, however, architecture provides not a single solution to a design requirement but rather it allows the architect to create a form which is spiritually uplifting and is guided not by rigid rules, but by emotions and a liberal interpretation of the art principles.

These are the same emotions that allow me to discover beauty in a blade of grass and joy in a dewdrop on a rose petal or find solace in the vast expanse of an empty shoreline and comfort in the setting of the sun. Because it allows me to combine my emotions with the discipline of science, the solution of architectural design problems continues to provide nourishment to my soul.

My style of design is, to say the least, not spectacular. I avoid frills and ornamentation, but indulge in exploring the aesthetic and functional potentials offered by a modulation of spaces, planes and masses using the texture and color of materials in a harmonious composition. I invoke discipline in my design in order to reflect the function for which the structure is to be used, incorporating the requirements of material and human traffic flows, and maximizing the benefits from natural light and ventilation.

Art cannot be sacrificed for function, nor should function be sacrificed purely for the sake of art. A building that is designed based on artistic caprice in disregard of function, is nothing but an expensive piece of sculpture. On the other hand, a building that is laid out purely for its functional and technical requirements but is devoid of any creative and aesthetic values can become unpleasant to the human environment.

Nature is an integral factor in my design. In addition to making the best use of natural light and ventilation, I try to bring the pleasant outdoors, indoors. As much as possible, the exterior view is made part of the interior composition in order to expand the visual limits of the internal space. I give the user of the building the maximum opportunity to look at nature more closely, be sensitive to its beauty and have that experience enrich his daily activity. It is for this reason that I utilize wide openings, indoor gardens, patios and atriums, and am meticulous about the use of media aguas and about the proper orientation of the building.

I believe that no two architects can agree on the solution to the same design problem. Neither can one architect be rest assured that his solution is perfect. Since art and science are a continuing search and development, there is no perfect solution, only a satisfying one. The solution used is, and should always be, that which meets all the known requirements of the user and the client as well as that which demonstrates the artistic creativeness and refinements in design of the architect. In addition, the solution should be able to generate a reaction of joy, admiration, and confidence among the users and viewers of the design.

My design is therefore based on the philosophy that structures should be planned to harmonize aesthetics, utility, technology and nature. A proper blending of creativity, technology and nature is what I aspire for in my work. The sculptural effect of my building exteriors and the internal modulation of space are the results of such design philosophy and aspiration.

Over the years, I have come to learn what a true professional is. One who is dedicated to his work, his staff and his clients is a successful practitioner, but is not necessarily a true professional. A true professional should not only be a successful practitioner but also be a leader among practitioners, one who gives part of himself through his involvement in the activities of his professional organization.

I believe that the Filipino professional architect today should devote as much time to the upliftment of his profession as to his own works. The renown of a masterful creation lives in the hearts of the public while the contribution that a dedicated professional gives to his profession remains beneficial to all present and future professionals, allowing them, in turn, to continue creating generations upon generations of masterpieces.

My practice has spanned decades on infantile and adolescent growth in the life of Philippine architecture as a profession. I have witnessed the profession grow from a small band of practitioners to a teeming horde of professionals, all anxious to express themselves in their works. I have devoted my life to the practice with that belief that somehow this youthful profession needed as much nurturing as my own clients' projects.

I believe in the principle and Christian virtue that whatever we receive we should correspondingly give. In applying this philosophy, I do not relate it so much to that elusive commodity called "money," but more importantly with the God-given creative talent that the architect is blessed with. The talent we are privileged to have should be shared, while the knowledge we acquired should be passed on.

It is this dedication to the profession and the belief in the virtue of sharing that has inspired me to take great responsibilities in the professional architects' organization, such as the former Philippine Institute of Architects, the United Architects of the Philippines, and the Architects Regional Council of Asia and even in the multi-disciplinary organizations such as the Philippine Federation of Professional Associations, the Philippine Technological Council, the Philippine Council for Planning and Housing and the ASEAN Association for Planning and Housing.

The more deeply involved I have become in the professional organizations, the more I have come to realize that the Filipino Architect needs an active organization which will protect his rights, improve his stature, and upgrade the quality of his practice. I have felt this need, and I have discovered that in order for the organization to be active, and therefore sustaining and helpful to the profession, its members — including myself — have to be actively involved.

I have also witnessed the evolution of the architect as the prime and lead consultant among the allied design professionals. The architect has now assumed the responsibility of coordinating and implementing the building project as a total package. In like manner, I believe that the organization representing the architectural profession, namely the United Architects of the Philippines, should be the catalyst in upgrading and maintaining a high standard of professionalism among the design and building professions.

I have reached a point in my career where, with dedication and a lot of help from God, I am reaping the benefits of my humble practice. I feel that one can only do so much to improve one's practice; I have now experienced that I have achieved greater satisfaction by helping my profession as well. I believe that the Filipino architect who is also already blessed with fortune sufficient to provide his family, his home and his staff, should actively contribute to the improvement of the profession which, after all, has been generous to him.

To me, there is no better reward for my efforts than to see more practitioners becoming true professionals, each having as much dedication to his practice as to his profession.

When all is said and done, I believe the true measure of any man's achievement is the extent to which he has served other men. A man who immerses his total being into his work directly manifests his love for his fellowmen and his God.

The Architect, in his modest creations, has every opportunity to serve his clients, his profession, and his fellowmen. I believe that only in providing dedicated service to others can the architect honestly deserve all the talent the Lord has graciously provided him.

END



UNITED ARCHITECTS OF THE PHILIPPINES

THE DULY ACCREDITED BONAFIDE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR ARCHITECTS
CULTURAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES, ROXAS BOULEVARD, METRO MANILA
Telephone: Secretariat 57-39-61 to 75 local 267 and 58-98-70