

# WHISPERING EXCHANGE

MEMORIES, HABITS, HEARTBEATS IN TIME

## Japanese Invasion

On 11 December, the Japanese Army flying overhead off-loaded several bombs causing death and some destruction to Sia Boey. The army mistaken the rickshaw as artillery weapons.

## The Evolution of Prangin River

The Prangin Canal was built that acts as a defensive ditch during the Napoleonic War.

## The People of Georgetown

As the area evolved into a wholesale hub, an urban village was formed by the Hokkien Community Traders along side other ethnicities that gave the city a multicultural character.

## Freedom of Speech

After Malaysia's Independence, the Penang Labour Party would use Sia Boey to gather for street protests due to its advantageous location to flee or seek refuge.

## "WHISPERS OF OLD TOWN"

[ HISTORY & MORPHOLOGY ]

## The Bus "Hub"

Jalan Maxwell was the heart of the hub for all bus routes where everyone came to shop for groceries and meals at Sia Boey.

## Final Eviction

On stall owners refused to leave which the government resorted to forcibly vacate by demolition and excavation of the place. Sia Boey officially became history.

## Urban Archaeology Park

Now, the park stands as a remembrance of Sia Boey, a place to come and reminisce the olden days in the new green lung of Georgetown.

## "ECHOES OF EXCHANGE IN PLACE"

[ THIRD PLACE ]

## "城市的无声肖像"

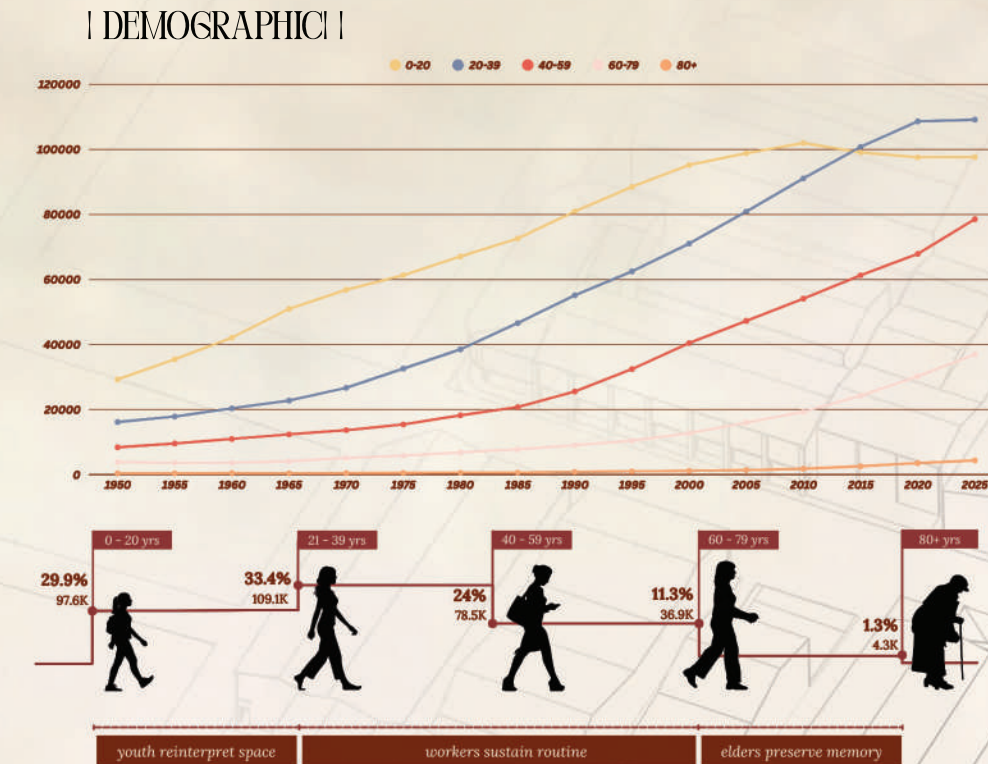
"SILENT PORTRAITS OF THE CITY"

[ IMAGEABILITY ]

## "静悄变迁"

"SILENT EVOLUTION"

[ DEMOGRAPHICS ]



## "痕迹印象"

"TRACES OF FOOTPRINTS"

[ VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN PATTERN ]

## "节奏中交流"

"EXCHANGING IN PACE"

[ SERIAL VISION ]

## "无声更迭"

"SILENT EXCHANGE IN TIME"

[ URBAN WALL ]

The oversized scale clashes with the surrounding low-rise, heritage architecture, causing visual disconnection and overshadowing key views, raising concerns about the loss of site identity, and emotional connection to site

With a Rapid bus stop right at the site and another across First Avenue, it's a natural pull factor, making access easy and inviting everyday interaction.  
  
More than convenience — it's a gateway for

Lack of zebra crossings causes hesitation and unsafe crossings, disrupting foot traffic and daily interaction.  
  
When walking feels unsafe, connection fades.  
  
Add crossings and traffic lights at key nodes to restore pedestrian flow.

The honking and engine of traffic bleeds into the site, breaking the calm with constant loud noises.  
  
Lush greenery can soften the sound — a natural buffer that restores quiet and comfort.

This disrupts foot traffic, breaks visual continuity, and weakens the site's cultural identity.  
  
Losing its original function, of shaded walking, informal exchange & interaction. Promote it as a shared pedestrian place.

Abrupt ends in five-foot ways break pedestrian flow and access to shops, making paths unsafe and underused.  
  
These gaps can become opportunities — turn nearby longings into third spaces that restore movement and invite interaction.

"It's a place where businesses are built by locals, and kindness to the less fortunate practiced"



Jack, 30s

uhhhh... how do i cross the road safely...?

Will it u got see the upcoming hotel ah? its too big la, all the shophouses will be outshined

"Eh, turun sini terus sampai la! Tak payah pusing-pusing!"

This traffic jam ah—non-stop honking, so noisy !!!

"A laid-back town where people greet you with a smile and remember your breakfast order."



Uncle Chu, 60s  
Business Owner

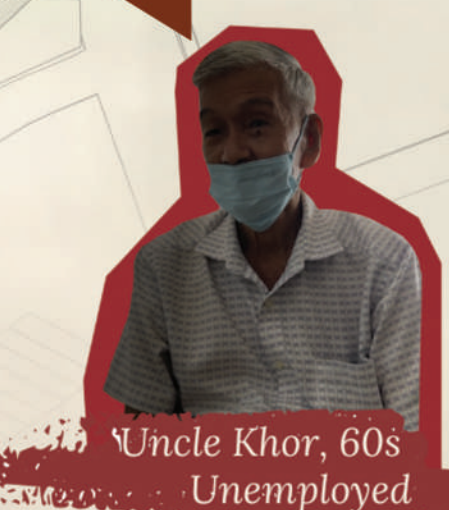
"Alamak... again ah? Every time I walk here, sure got something blocking one!!!"

"Eh, you notice or not? The five-foot way just dies at the corner. Then you kena walk on the road pulak."



Patricia, 30s  
Tourist

"Not much noise here — just coffee, newspapers, and old friends."



Uncle Khor, 60s  
Unemployed

Penang is bouncing back up, tourists, traffic, and all — just like before COVID.



AbdulWasek, 30s

## "拾声构意"

"ENABLING WHISPERS"

[ ACTIVE STRATEGY ]

