

Editorial Preface

IS AI A THREAT TO DESIGNERS?

SREETHERAN MARUTHAVEERAN ^{1,2}

¹Editor-in-Chief

²Department of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Design and Architecture, Universiti Putra Malaysia, 43400 Serdang, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming the world, and the design industry is no exception. A multitude of AI-driven tools are now at the disposal of designers, offering support in various design tasks, from conceptualization to the creation of printed materials. These tools, far from being a threat, are additional resources that can significantly enhance the creative potential of designers.

Despite this progress, designers still have some exceptional skills that cannot be replicated. While AI can programme specific design characteristics, such as producing layouts or colour schemes, more is needed to replace the creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills designers bring to their work. When designer design, elements of thoughts and feelings are embedded in their plans or towards a human-centred approach. Designers are also able to evoke emotions through their products. Designers can also communicate effectively with their clients and stakeholders regarding their needs and ideas. At the same time, AI algorithms cannot use designers'

interpersonal and communication skills. Many designers also have a deeper understanding of the cultural and social aspects of design and are aware of the needs of each user group.

As designers, it is crucial to always keep in mind that any successful implementation must prioritize the users' needs. AI, in its entirety, presents designers with new opportunities to swiftly gather data about users and test ideas while maintaining a user-centric focus. However, it is equally important not to become overly reliant on AI. Excessive use of AI can stifle designers' ability to innovate and lead to the production of uninspired ideas.

Finally, I thank the authors who contributed to this issue, which has published ten articles. ALAM CIPTA hopes to receive more topics related to how designers solve problems using AI in the future. On behalf of the editors, I thank all the authors and reviewers who have contributed to this issue.