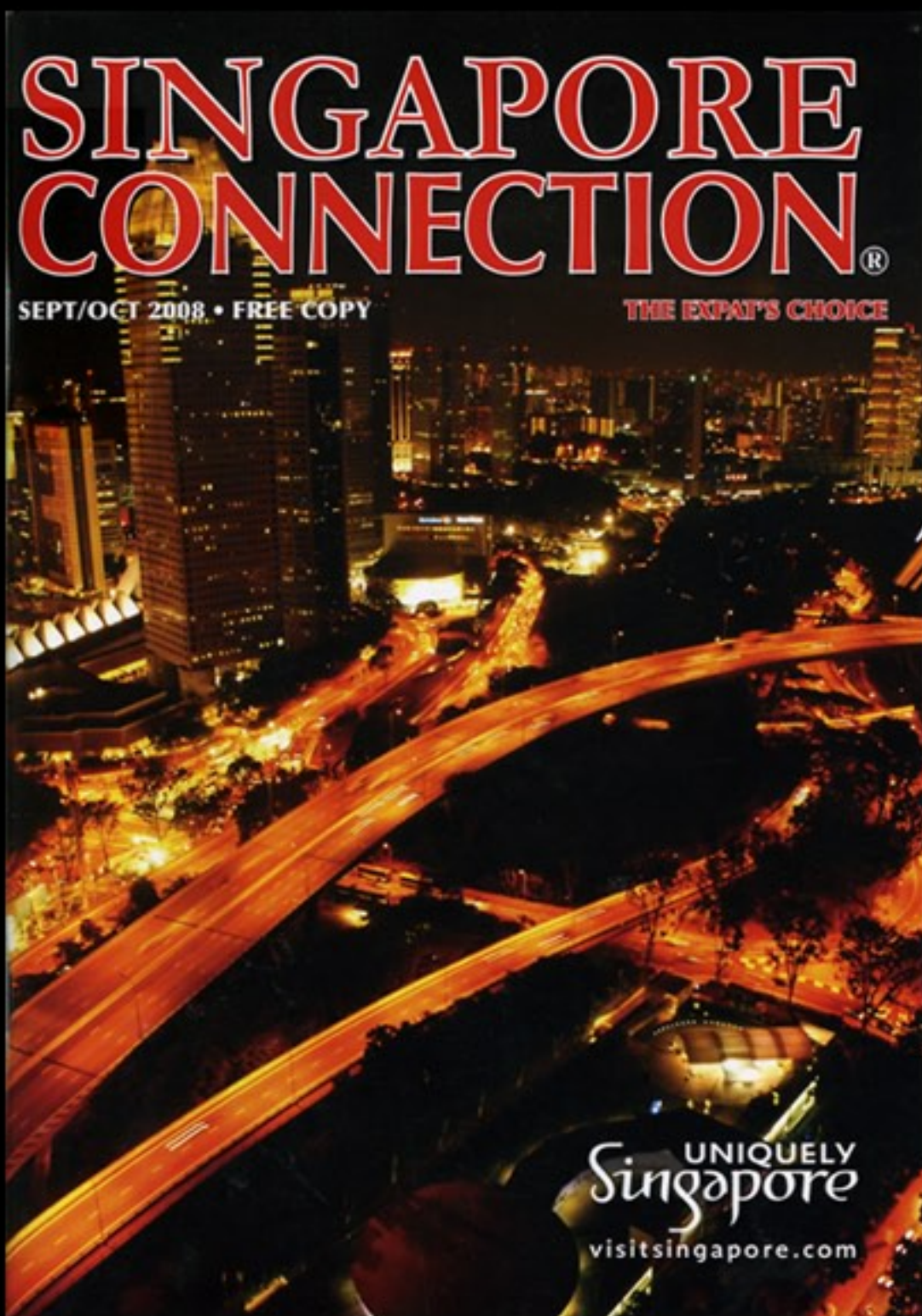


SINGAPORE CONNECTION
sep/oct 2008



and local craftsmen were commissioned to copy the European style furnishings in local exotic woods. The languor of the tropics made seating the most predominant furniture. The typical colonial easy chair with its seat and back of cool, open weave cane allowed air to circulate and yet had the feel of upholstered furniture. Another variation of the easy chair is the classic 'Planter's chair' Its swing out arms were designed for the 'sahib' to rest his feet on, as he sipped his evening gin & tonic. Initially planter's chairs were used exclusively in the male-dominated environments of the camp and plantation. However, by the late nineteenth century, planter's chairs were

firmly established as a prerequisite for every colonial house, principally for use on the veranda.

If you find the colonial style attractive and appealing, check out the local stores for ideas on decorating your home interior. Perhaps one of these days you can treat yourself to the tradition of a high tea or an evening drink in the relaxing colonial surroundings of your own home. ♦

Marie-Hélène Piederiet is director of Past Perfect Collection, a store in Singapore specialising in colonial antique furniture from India. www.pastperfect.sg

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