

For Immediate Release

Design Spectrum of Hong Kong Design Centre Presents:
'PASS THE BATON'
Part 1 of the Exhibition 'FROM PASSING BY TO PASSING ON'
To Unveil the Prologue
Exploring the Multifaceted Nature of Things: Reshaping the Journey of
'Inheritance' through Design, and Welcoming a Future of Infinite
Possibilities

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(For Immediate Release – Hong Kong) When it comes to the tangible heritage surrounding us, do we pay enough attention to objects' relevance in the modern world? How can we redesign and evolve them to create greater value? Design Spectrum, a public platform of the Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC), sponsored by Create Hong Kong of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, will present a new thematic exhibition, **'PASS THE BATON'**, started with Part 1 of the exhibition **'FROM PASSING BY TO PASSING ON'** from 15 May to 30 June 2024. Curated by designer Mr Michael Leung, the exhibition will explore various aspects and values of 'inheritance' from a fresh perspective.

While the value of 'inheritance' extends beyond preserving things in their original form, designers can transform things into something better and more aligned with the present need (progression) via the power of design, sometimes even exceed species, for example the interaction between humans and artificial intelligence in exchange of ideas.

The exhibition **'PASS THE BATON'** is divided into three parts, which will take place throughout the year, with the aim to reveal the all-round value of things, and explore the concept of 'inheritance' from both tangible and intangible perspectives. Part 1 of the exhibition, **'FROM PASSING BY TO PASSING ON'**, acts as a prologue, offering an introduction and laying the foundations for further exploration. Part 2 of the exhibition, **'FROM PROCESS TO PROGRESS'**, will continue the exploration in July, showing how design elevates a standard process to progress when it is needed. Part 3 of the exhibition, **'FROM FUTURE TO NOW'**, will then take place in August, bringing together the preceding sections, creating a cohesive and comprehensive experience.

Prologue: FROM PASSING BY TO PASSING ON – 20+ Design Projects Explore the Meaning of ‘inheritance’

‘FROM PASSING BY TO PASSING ON’ brings together 28 design projects from Hong Kong, the Mainland, the Netherlands, Italy and Iceland. Through these works, curator Mr Michael Leung invited the public to explore the role and value of design in ‘inheritance’, bringing ideas on how we should respond to this global topic. This includes how design can help the public see the value of inheritance in a place, an object or a craft, as well as in culture and knowledge. How do designers use different mediums to show both tangible and intangible values?

East meets West – Design Units Present a Comprehensive Exploration of the Possibilities of Book Design

One of the highlights of this exhibition will be to explore how designers skillfully translate knowledge and ideas through design and convey them in ways such as layout, infographics and font design; such that the knowledge and ideas are more likely to be passed on to a wider audience or even the next generation. Entering a studio-like space in the exhibition, visitors can appreciate book designs by individuals and units including research-based design studio Formafantasma (Italy), speakers at the Prada Frames 2023; Studio Joost Grootens (The Netherlands), which specialises in information graphics, books and map design; Irma Boom (The Netherlands), known as the ‘Queen of Book’; and Victionary (Hong Kong), who focus on book design. They showcase diverse aesthetics and ways of conveying information through graphic design, demonstrating the indispensable value of physical books and publications and examining how to keep books relevant by pushing them in a range of new directions.

Local Design Units – Variations on Tangible and Intangible Traditions

How do we ensure the sustainable inheritance of knowledge, ideas, crafts and skills? Some designers take an interest in preserving crafts, production methods, or our communities, and keep them alive through collaborations or even adopting the skills. Among the participating local talent is fashion designer Karmuel Young, whose work creates unexpected new looks by reinterpreting the classic Levi’s 501 jeans. Bamboo weaving designer Yiwooo elevates traditional craftsmanship by incorporating elements of modern culture, demonstrating how traditional crafts can successfully adapt to changing times. Vintage store Jiksap perfectly preserves the old objects they cherish most, providing a platform to offer unique experiences that showcase the significance of vintage items. The non-profit organisation, Tetra Neon Exchange, provides a stage for local neon design to shine once more and let it be appreciated with a deeper understanding and proper recognition it deserves. A Neon Demo Kit and a documentary are showcased, reflecting the value and cultural significance of local neon design.

Commissioned Work – Building the Future of Sham Shui Po District with AI

What is your vision for the city of the future? Multimedia designer Essa, visual effects and interactive media artist Samson Wong Sing Wun, sound designer Homan So and curator Michael Leung will collaborate on an interactive installation ‘PROPHETIC ARCHIVES’. Using AI-generated images, it presents predictions of Hong Kong’s future from three perspectives: Natural Energy Resources, Urban and Rural Futures, and Intangible values, serving as a starting point for discussion. The public are invited to express their thoughts on Sham Shui Po and Lai Chi Kok through the on-site interactive AI installation, participating in the generation of the future. The data collected during the exhibition will be processed collectively by designers and AI to create a brand-new exhibit in Part 3 of the exhibition, showcasing the collectively harvested and created future of the Kowloon community.

On-site Experiences, Workshops and Sharing – Passing the Baton Together

Same as the previous exhibitions, this event will provide free guided tours, workshops, talks and other public activities during the exhibition period. In addition, the public can create multi-coloured layering prints by using a block stamp designed by hand-lettering artist Katol for more hands-on experience. Don’t miss out on the chance to take selfies with ‘The Meow Meow Boss’ by Stickyline!

‘PASS THE BATON’ Exhibition Details:

Part 1 – ‘FROM PASSING BY TO PASSING ON’	
Date	15 May – 30 June 2024
Time	10:00am – 7:00pm (Mon to Sun)
Location	Unit A, 7/F, D2 Place ONE, 9 Cheung Yee Street, Lai Chi Kok (Pre-registration, Free Admission)
Part 2 – ‘FROM PROCESS TO PROGRESS’	
Date	5 July – 14 August 2024
Time	10:00am – 7:00pm (Mon to Sun)
Location	Unit A, 7/F, D2 Place ONE, 9 Cheung Yee Street, Lai Chi Kok (Free Admission)
Part 3 – ‘FROM FUTURE TO NOW’	
Details	To be announced

For further details and latest updates, please visit: www.designspectrum.hk

Please refer to the attached appendix for more information on selected exhibits.

Organiser 主辦機構



Lead Sponsor 主要贊助機構



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府
文化體育及旅遊局
Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
of the People's Republic of China



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About Design Spectrum

Design Spectrum is an initiative organised by Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC) and sponsored by Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR Government) to foster a good design culture in the community. Design Spectrum features year-round exhibitions, exchanges, design appreciation and other promotion programmes to cultivate a creative atmosphere, while nurturing local creative capital. It serves as a unique public face for HKDC to strengthen linkages with the community and partners locally, in other cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, ASEAN cities and overseas, and contributes towards creative and cultural tourism.

(Website: <http://www.designspectrum.hk>)

About Exhibition Curator Michael Leung



Michael Leung was born in Hong Kong. He completed the Contextual Design masters course at Design Academy Eindhoven and co-founded his studio in the Netherlands, which specializes in multiple disciplines, from 2D to objects to spatial. His (?) works explore different aspects of design from crafts and industry to local culture and sustainability, and have been showcased internationally, including in Milan and Dutch Design Week. Michael was an awardee of Hong Kong Young Design Talent Award* and Perspective's 40 under 40 Award. With his collaborations with Vitra Design Museum (DE) and V&A Museum (UK), Michael's creativity is reflected in the form of exhibitions as well.

* sponsored by CreateHK

About Hong Kong Design Centre

Hong Kong Design Centre is a strategic partner of the Hong Kong SAR Government in leveraging the city's East-meets-West advantage to create value from design.

To achieve our goals we:

- ◆ Cultivate a design culture
- ◆ Bridge stakeholders to opportunities that unleash the value of design
- ◆ Promote excellence in various design disciplines

(Website: <http://www.hkdesigncentre.org>)

About Create Hong Kong


Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) is a dedicated office set up by the HKSAR Government in June 2009 to spearhead the development of creative industries in Hong Kong. From 1 July 2022 onwards, it is under the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau. Its strategic foci are nurturing talent and facilitating start-ups, exploring markets, promoting cross-sectoral and cross-genre collaboration, and promoting Hong Kong as Asia's creative capital and fostering a creative atmosphere in the community. CreateHK sponsors HKDC to organise various projects to promote Hong Kong design and design thinking.

(Website: www.createhk.gov.hk)

Disclaimer: The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region provides funding support to the project only and does not otherwise take part in the project. Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in these materials/events (or by members of the project team) are those of the project organisers only and do not reflect the views of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau, Create Hong Kong, the CreateSmart Initiative Secretariat or the CreateSmart Initiative Vetting Committee.

Appendix 2: Highlights of Design Spectrum's 'PASS THE BATON' Exhibition

Part 1 – 'FROM PASSING BY TO PASSING ON'

Commissioned Work (Region)	Description
<p>Essa, Samson Wong Sing Wun, Homan So, Michael Leung (Hong Kong)</p> 	<p>PROPHETIC ARCHIVES</p> <p>How can we collectively preserve local cultures and the environment? Observing our urban and rural environments, how can we imagine new futures to be integrated into the daily activities and lifestyles of people living in Hong Kong?</p> <p>In PROPHETIC ARCHIVES, a prayer counter redesigned with interactive and generative AI tools as surveying methodologies receives collective wishes and memories of Sham Shui Po and Lai Chi Kok for. Under three themes; Natural Energy Resources, Urban and Rural Futures, and Intangible Values, a series of AI generated presentations will be conducted in two phases -- in Part 1 of the exhibition, the future predicted by the design unit will be presented to collect public's views, which will be analysed by AI, and then in Part 3 of the exhibition revealed in the format of collectively harvested, generated futures of our Kowloon neighbourhoods.</p>

Designer/Exhibitor (Region)	Description
<p>Formafantasma (Italy)</p> 	<p>Cambio</p> <p>'Cambio' is an ongoing investigation into the governance of the timber industry and its impact on the biosphere. It showcases rare hardwood samples from 1851, representing trees logged to the point of extinction, and the furniture made from a fallen tree in modern days. The perimeter spaces offer case studies that provide insight into how wood is sourced and used.</p> <p>Through in-depth analysis of data, case studies, and the examination of sourcing and utilisation practices, it emphasises the role of design in the environment and the need for informed, collaborative responses to environmental issues.</p>
<p>Studio Joost Grootens (The Netherlands)</p> 	<p>Port City Atlas</p> <p>This atlas documents 100 European port cities through maps and data visualisations. The tension between nature and urbanisation is manifested through the use of different inks: metallic inks for water and nature, versus fluorescent inks for the ports, cities and infrastructure. The data pages show goods flow and ship types statistics.</p>

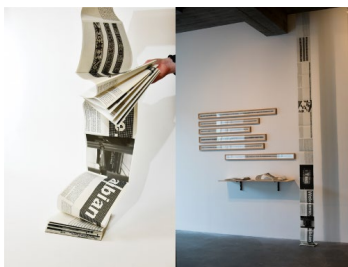
Irma Boom (The Netherlands)



Book Manifest

World renowned Dutch designer Irma Boom is known for her bold experimental approach to her projects, often challenging the convention of traditional books in both physical design and printed content. In the book 'Book Manifest', Irma Boom presents her vision of the essence, meaning and relevance of the book. The basis of this book is formed by the in-depth research that Irma Boom carried out into the development of the book in the library of the Vatican. The knowledge she gained about this, and the inspiration it gave her, is shared with a selection of more than 350 books she designed, in which she extensively discusses the context and relationship with the old book.

Völundur Hafstað Haraldsson (Iceland)



On Long

The experimental book 'Álengdina' draws inspiration from the long waistbands of 19th-century Icelandic women, which were heartfelt gifts from mothers to daughters. The book is 9 metres long and consists of 46 individual pages. It linearly narrates the discovery of stytuband and attempts to weave love poems using the letters of stytuband, presenting a visually engaging experience. Through unique text and image layout, it interacts with readers in different ways: text seeps into the layout, and images occupy significant space without affecting the size of the book.

Mint Design (The Mainland)



POIESIS - BIFT GRADUATION WORKS BA, CLASS OF 2023

'POIESIS' implies ingenuity. 'New' things often arise unexpectedly from mistakes. The occasional irregularities that turn up during book production are deliberately magnified, including unexpected paper folding and larger pages. By considering the bleed margin, irregularly folded pages and page corners on the front cover and chapter pages are created, presenting a reading experience that is 'beyond the ordinary'.

Victory (Hong Kong)



Type In Use Series — Sans In Use & Serif In Use

In the world of typography, it is not uncommon to see combinations of serif and sans serif typefaces in the same design. However, it takes skill to combine them in order to avoid tension and clashes, and ensure maximum readability of the text in the design.

From font weights to classifications, each font has its own distinct personality and should be carefully paired to convey the right tone and mood of the design. Featuring a selection of type specimens and their design applications, the Type In Use series (Sans In Use and Serif In Use) collates the best combinations of the two typeface categories and serves as a reference point for inspiration-seeking designers and typographers.

Mak Kai Hang (Hong Kong)



LOLOSOSO – 60 years of anothermountainman

‘LOLOSOSO – 60 Years of Anothermountainman’ takes its design cues from its own title, ‘LOLOSOSO’, which translates to ‘rambling’ in Cantonese. It encapsulates elements from a six-decade creative journey, incorporating text, aphorisms, creative works, and interviews. Utilising over ten different fonts spread across six dimensions of the book, it cultivates a conversational and meandering ambiance.

Upon observing the book’s exterior, one may find it challenging to distinguish where the cover ends, the back begins, the spine lies, and the opening is located. This intentional ambiguity mirrors the author’s desire for readers to approach the book from various angles and perspectives. Like navigating a three-dimensional structure, this book allows readers to select their preferred entry points, diverging from the linear reading path typical of most publications.

Jiksap (Hong Kong)



re : seen tokwawan - ‘Unveil The Vanished Signage’

‘Unveil The Vanish Signage’ started with an archive of sketches, stencils, and documents from a signage workshop. It is an exhibition with workshops and sharing sessions. The aim is to provide a platform for sharing and studying handwritten calligraphy signage sketches from the 1980s to 1990s, allowing participants to engage in the initial stages of exploration and draw inspiration from the traces of cultural transitions. The event delves into the history, cultural heritage, and creative aspects of signage lettering through archival research and reinterpretation, fostering dialogue and exchange among cultural documentation, innovation, and community practices.

Yiwooo (Hong Kong)



Yiwooo

Products from Yiwooo showcase a balance of design elements, combining traditional crafts, modern aesthetics, and functionality. In addition to their crafted products, Yiwooo aims to promote bamboo craft to a wider audience. This is realised through their workshops and bamboo craft kits. With the concept of ‘Make Your Own Bamboo-Work’, these kits enable individuals to experience bamboo weaving at home and incorporate the finished products into their daily lives.

Milk Design (Hong Kong)



Mobile Tea Bar

The concept of a mobile standing bar aims to create a welcoming environment where people can gather, stay, and chat freely while enjoying cups of tea in various locations. The project's intention is to foster a more friendly, social, and communicative atmosphere surrounding tea drinking.

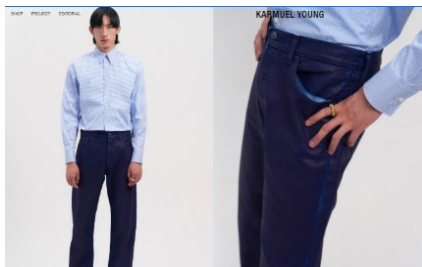
Eureka Limited (Hong Kong)



Two Wonder Stones

In this nursery school, the two wonder 'stones' are introduced in the rectangular floor space, creating a fluid negative space that encourages children to wander and explore. These two stones are thoughtfully carved out to create various learning and playing areas, fostering children's curiosity through exploration and play.

Karmuel Young (Hong Kong)



RE-edition

Dedicated to transforming norms, Karmuel Young is revitalising the world of menswear with some of the most iconic pieces. The collection, named RE-edition, showcases a series of remade classics. One such iconic piece that Karmuel Young has revisited is the blue jeans. Levi's, synonymous with blue jeans, invented the very first pair in 1873. The timeless style of its 501s has remained a wardrobe staple ever since. The RE-edited blue jeans are reimagined in various ways to complement his collections. This includes reconstruction through the addition of twisted pleated stitching and the use of cuboid blocks to restore a fresh expression of vital energy to the raw denim jeans. Different washes and treatments are applied to the fabric, resulting in a unique finish for each pair of jeans. RE-edition emphasises sustainability and breathes new life into wardrobe classics.

Laws Knitters Limited (Hong Kong)



Architecture in SSP from the Eyes of Artisans

This series showcases a captivating collection of knitted works skillfully crafted by Laws Knitters, an established company based in Sham Shui Po with nearly half a century of knitting expertise. Each piece is meticulously woven at the Laws Knitters Studio in Lai Chi Kok, portraying unique and meaningful architecture from the neighbourhood.

Designers and knitting artisans researched the architectural and historical backgrounds of each building, utilising various yarns and weaving techniques to portray the unique design elements and intricate details. The series aims to highlight the cultural narratives of Sham Shui Po and introduce the art of knitting to the public.