

HONG KONG CITY HALL LOWER BLOCK EXHIBITION HALL

Open To Public • Free Admission 6-28 June / 10:00 am - 8:00 pm Daily

Opening Ceremony: 5 June/ 5:00 am - 7:00 pm

HONG KONG DESIGN CENTRE 1/F, INNOCENTRE, 72 TAT CHEE AVENUE, KOWLOON TONG, HONG KONG

www.hkdesigncentre.org

Organiser: Hong Kong Design Centre Presenter: Create Hong Kong of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

[PRESS RELEASE]

Hong Kong Design Centre Confluence • 20+ Design Exhibition Officially Opened to the Public Twenty collaborations by leading designers showcase a coming together of creativity

(Hong Kong, 6 June 2017) Organised by the Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC), the Hong Kong edition of Confluence • 20+ Design Exhibition was officially opened yesterday (5 June) to welcome the public. The exhibition is an accredited event celebrating the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).

Mr Gregory So Kam-leung, GBS, JP, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR Government, officiated at the opening ceremony of the exhibition yesterday as the Guest of Honour. He was accompanied by Dr Louis Ng, Deputy Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Culture); Ms Fiona Lam, Assistant Head of Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) of the HKSAR Government; Prof Eric Yim, Chairman of HKDC; Dr Edmund Lee, Executive Director of HKDC; Ms Amy Yuen Mei Chow, Confluence • 20+ Curator; and the exhibition's participating designers.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr So said, "The Confluence•20+ has attracted 95,000 visitors to its first stop in Milan, which was also nominated as one of the 50 best exhibitions at Milan Design Week 2017. These show that Hong Kong designers are well-recognised by the international community."

"In three weeks' time, we will celebrate the 20th anniversary of establishment of the HKSAR. It will be meaningful to pull together 20 design units from different design disciplines at this juncture of time to present their works, with a view to showcasing the vitality and achievements of Hong Kong designs," he said.

Prof Eric Yim, Chairman of the HKDC, said, "The Confluence • 20+ design exhibition fully showcases the capabilities of Hong Kong's design industry, with a mix of veteran and up-and-coming designers pulling together works that fuse tradition with technological innovation. This exhibition is where ideas merge, interact and innovate – as such, creating a true confluence."

Organised by HKDC and presented by CreateHK, the Hong Kong edition of Confluence • 20+ features 20 collaborative design projects by Hong Kong's best design talent, along an array of workshops and activities to engage the general public. The exhibition will run for three weeks from 6 to 28 June at the Hong Kong City Hall, Low Block, 1/F Exhibition Hall, opening to the public for free from 10am to 8pm daily. After exhibiting in Milan in April and in Hong Kong as the home base city in June, Confluence • 20+ will travel to Seoul (August-September) and Chicago (October).

Confluence • 20+ series is the third edition of an ongoing exhibition series that pays homage to Hong Kong's creative encounters and co-evolving ecologies. It follows the Hong Kong: Creative Ecologies – Business, Living, Creativity exhibition* held at EXPO 2010 Shanghai in 2010 and the Creative Ecologies+ exhibition in 2012.

For the Hong Kong edition of Confluence • 20+, Curator Amy Yuen Mei Chow invited 20 locally and internationally renowned design units to participate. They include Nicol Boyd & Tomas Rosén, Alan Chan, Samuel Chan, Gary Chang, Lu Lu Cheung, Chiu Kwong Chiu, C.L. Lam, Freeman Lau, James Law, Lee Chi Wing, Lo Chi Wing, Lo Kai Yin, Lo Sing Chin, Sharon de Lyster, Elaine Yan Ling Ng, Kingsley Ng, Sammy Or, Julie Progin & Jesse Mc Lin, Otto Tang and Stanley Wong.

The Hong Kong edition of Confluence • 20+ will open to the public for free from 10am to 8pm daily. It also features an array of workshops and activities to engage the general public. Visit event website <u>www.confluence20.hk</u> or Facebook Page <u>www.facebook.com/Confluence20/</u> for the latest information on Confluence • 20+.

* The Hong Kong: Creative Ecologies – Business, Living, Creativity exhibition was sponsored by CreateHK.

Opening ceremony photo captions:



 (From left to right) Dr Edmund Lee, Executive Director of HKDC; Dr Louis Ng, Deputy Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Culture); Prof Eric Yim, Chairman of HKDC; Mr Gregory So Kam-leung, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR Government; Ms Fiona Lam, the Assistant Head of Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) of the HKSAR Government; Ms Amy Chow Yuen-mei, Confluence • 20+ Curator; and the participating designers' representative Sharon de Lyster proposed a toast to mark the opening of Hong Kong edition of Confluence • 20+ Design Exhibition.



2. The Guest of Honour, Mr Gregory So Kam-leung, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR Government (eighth from left, back row), is pictured with other guests and the participating designers. They all wished Confluence • 20+ every success.



3. Accompanied by Ms Amy Chow Yuen-mei, Confluence • 20+ Curator, Mr Gregory So Kam-leung, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of the HKSAR Government, toured the exhibition and looked at the design pieces presented by the participating designers.

— End —

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About Hong Kong Design Centre

Established in 2002, the Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC) is a government-funded institution dedicated to promoting design excellence. The institution champions the creation of business values and community benefits through design. In the past decade, the HKDC has presented many widely acclaimed exhibitions, including Creation 9707 (2007), which has travelled to London, Milan, New York, Vancouver, Seoul, Beijing and Shanghai, as well as Hong Kong: Creative Ecologies – Business, Living, Creativity (2010-2011), which was held during the Shanghai Expo 2010 under the sponsorship of Create Hong Kong of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Hong Kong's creative minds have surprised international audiences with their creations and ingenuity.

About the Curator

Amy Yuen Mei Chow is an interdisciplinary design expert and connoisseur with achievements in multiple roles. As a curator and creative director, she has staged numerous critically acclaimed design exhibitions for international audiences, including Creation 9707 (2007) and Creative Ecologies+ (2012). As an intellectual and academician, she has lectured at many design institutions and coordinated academic programmes.

Chow's vision for Hong Kong's creative industries is a crystallisation of her robust insider experience. Trained in multiple creative hubs including San Francisco, Los Angeles and Rome, Chow has international exposure that has given her a unique perspective on Hong Kong's design scene. In this exhibition, Chow maps out Hong Kong designers' intertwining relationships and shows us the blueprint for the city's creative ecologies.

About CreateHK

Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) is a dedicated agency set up under the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in June 2009 to spearhead the development of Hong Kong's creative industries. It co-ordinates Government policy regarding creative industries, focuses Government's resources catering for the promotion and speeding up the development of creative industries in Hong Kong, and works closely with the trade to boost the development of creative industries. CreateHK and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Brussels, Tokyo and New York sponsor the Confluence • 20+ exhibitions in Hong Kong, Milan, Seoul and Chicago respectively.

Disclaimer for the Hong Kong edition of Confluence·20+: 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 Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, Create Hong Kong, the CreateSmart Initiative Secretariat or the CreateSmart Initiative Vetting Committee.