



DESIGN TRUST FUTURES STUDIO'S "PLAY IS FOR THE PEOPLE" EXHIBITION

Creative solutions for public spaces | Unveiling of micro-park concepts



The Communal Living Room, concept design for Yi Pei Square Playground

(Hong Kong, 4 January 2019) Design Trust, an initiative of the Hong Kong Ambassadors of Design, is pleased to present "PLAY IS FOR THE PEOPLE", an exhibition reflecting on the creative processes and collective design for four distinct locations across Hong Kong. Working closely with the local communities and other stakeholders from both private and public sectors, the design teams translated their findings from site research and analysis, as well as various public engagement sessions into unique concepts for four micro-parks. Going beyond conceptual ideation, the aim is to transform the micro-park designs into reality after the exhibition.

Exhibiting at Warehouses on West in Sai Ying Pun from 17th to 29th January 2019, "PLAY IS FOR THE PEOPLE" will showcase the outcomes of the critical design phase, as well as 1:1 prototypes and scaled models for the public to envision the future micro-parks and design concepts. A series of programmes, talks and workshops will be open to public during the exhibition period.

Design Trust Futures Studio (DTFS) is the flagship programme of Design Trust. Designed to be a cross-disciplinary think tank, DTFS brings together design experts and creates meaningful outcomes that will impact society or public spaces in Hong Kong, the Greater Bay Area and internationally. "DTFS continues to look for ways for emerging designers to excel. The 2018-2019 theme 'PLAY IS FOR THE PEOPLE' came to life this past year through exploring the ideas of innovation, leisure and play in the city. We are thrilled to unveil the four projects to contribute to Hong Kong's urban and neighborhood design processes, and we look forward to creating more dialogue in the coming year," says Marisa Yiu, Co-founder, Executive Director of Design Trust.



In 2018 DTFS has been working alongside public and private agencies including the Policy Innovation and Coordination Office, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, and Architectural Services Department. As conceptual designer, the task of DTFS was to design four micro-parks as public spaces of the future. These locations include: Portland Street Rest Garden, Hamilton Street Rest Garden, the Sitting-Out Area under Hill Road Flyover*, and Yi Pei Square Playground. The aim is to transform the micro-park designs into reality, to be carried out by Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Architectural Services Department.

17 mentees formed the four multidisciplinary design teams, accompanied by one mentor per group, to oversee the projects. The team of mentors consist of local Hong Kong-based architect **Gary Chang** (Founder, EDGE Design Institute) and artist, photographer and designer **Stanley Wong** (anothermountainman) alongside international mentors **Mimi Hoang** (Principal, nARCHITECTS, New York) and **Sam Jacob** (Principal, Sam Jacob Studio, London). **Richard Hassell** (Co-founder of WOHA) has also been providing ongoing support and guidance to the teams as international workshop mentor for this year, along with **Elizabeth Diller** (Founding Partner, Diller Scofidio + Renfro) and her team, who shared their design philosophy and processes for the Highline and other public space projects at the DTFS 2018 Research Study Tour in New York.

Yi Pei Square Playground, Tsuen Wan

By Stephen Ip (Architecture and Landscape), Kay Chan (Industrial and Product Design), Christopher Choi (Architecture and Landscape) and Jonathan Mak (Graphic and Branding). Mentor: Mimi Hoang, principal of nARCHITECTS, New York.



The Yi Pei Square proposal explores the idea of a “communal living room” suitable for residents of all ages. Located within a densely populated residential area in Tsuen Wan that is surrounded by subdivided flats, Yi Pei Square will open up the public space as a communal living room for the neighbourhood, conceptualised to facilitate multi-generational interactions for residents. Through a series of public engagement and workshops with residents of Yi Pei Square, the design of the space was created to incorporate the residents’ needs. This includes adding activities including play equipment, alongside dedicated leisure and activities zones for the existing users, as well as specially designed graphics and floor patterns to connect the different zones through a colorful palette and playful graphics.

**Micro-park concept plan to be approved*



Portland Street Rest Garden, Yau Tsim Mong

By Ricky Lai (Graphic and Branding), Xavier Tsang (Industrial and Product Design), Wendy Wu (Architecture and Landscape) and Kam Fai Hung (Architecture and Landscape). Mentor: Sam Jacob, principal of Sam Jacob Studio, London.



Located in Yau Tsim Mong District with the highest population density in Hong Kong, the team discovered a need to create a familiar yet innovative space to enhance the quality of leisure space for residents and park users. With the majority of park users being longtime users and elderlies, the team envisioned a thoughtful approach to incorporate existing elements from the site, while injecting new energy and ideas. The future park will be a multi-functional space for the users, and incorporate a range of flowering plants and green walls. Testing new ideas and challenging existing practice, the park will also have a series of movable furniture as well as a set of newly designed graphic signage.

Hamilton Street Rest Garden, Yau Tsim Mong

By Sylvia Chan (Writing and Criticism), Vivian Ng (Industrial and Product Design), Samuel Wong (Architecture and Landscape), Elaine Tsui (Architecture and Landscape), and Owen Chim (Environment and Interior Design). Mentor: Stanley Wong, artist, photographer and designer (also known as anothermountainman).



The Hamilton Street Rest Garden located in Yau Tsim Mong, is themed under the Chinese table sharing culture, and the park “aDapTable” is designed to cultivate a sense of community in the neighbourhood. This newly designed communal space will accommodate a range of activities, drawing visitors to engage in dialogues and interact with one another. Working with local shops and craftsmen, including copperware, steel ware, and wooden chopping board makers, various objects within the garden were designed with the local community, and prototyped using their specialty materials and techniques.



Sitting-Out Area under Hill Road Flyover, Shek Tong Tsui*

By Zoey Chan (Architecture and Landscape), Jose Fu (New Media and Technology), Aron Tsang (Architecture and Landscape), and Andy Cheng (Architecture and Landscape) Mentor: Gary Chang, founder of EDGE Design Institute.



Through the exploration of “play”, the team tests the verticality of the site under the Hill Road Flyover and proposes the installations inspired by its mountainous surroundings, offering the community new possibilities and excitement through a playful approach. The design also includes seating areas and communal activity zones, as well as chess tables, accommodating one of the most popular activity at the site.

For more information on “PLAY IS FOR THE PEOPLE” exhibition, please visit

<http://designtrust.hk/design-trust-futures-studio> and stay tuned on the following social media accounts:

Instagram: [@designtrust](https://www.instagram.com/designtrust)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/designtrust

PLAY IS FOR THE PEOPLE EXHIBITION

Exhibition Period: 17th January – 29th January, 2019

Opening Hours: 12pm – 8pm (weekdays), 10am – 8pm (weekends)

Opening Reception: 17th January, 2019

Fees: Free admission

Venue: Warehouses on West

Shop B, G/F, Samtoh Building, No. 384A Queen's Road West,
Sai Ying Pun, Hong Kong

Website: <http://designtrust.hk/design-trust-futures-studio>

Enquiries: +852 2739 6889

To access high-resolution images of the programme and exhibition, please click:

http://ftp.catchonco.com/DTFS2018_PlayIsForThePeopleExhibition.zip

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For media enquiries or interview opportunities, please contact **CatchOn**.

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About Design Trust

Design Trust was established in 2014 by Hong Kong Ambassadors of Design, a registered charity in Hong Kong since 2007, as a grant funding platform. Design Trust supports creative projects that develop expertise, build research initiatives and content related to Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area. Working across a multiplicity of design disciplines from graphics, media, architecture to the built environment, Design Trust aims to actively accelerate creative research, design and development of meaningful projects that advocate for the positive role of design.

Design Trust Futures Studio Exhibition “Play is for the People” Partners

Lead Organiser: Design Trust

Major Sponsor: Create Hong Kong

Education & Community Outreach Partner: Ng Teng Fong Charitable Foundation

Exhibition Venue Co-sponsor: District15

Design Trust Futures Studio Past Events and Workshop Partners

Education & Community Outreach Partner: Ng Teng Fong Charitable Foundation

Community Event Partner: Kerry Hotel Hong Kong

International Event Collaborator: The Architectural League New York

Hotel Partner: TUVE

Past Workshop Venue Partners: The Hive Spring, Kafnu, Campfire Collaborative Spaces, Strokes

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