

DESIGN TRUST FUTURES STUDIO UNVEILS MICRO-PARK DESIGNS FOR HONG KONG

(Hong Kong, 10 October 2017) Design Trust, an initiative of the Hong Kong Ambassadors of Design, will host the exhibition for its inaugural flagship programme, **Design Trust Futures Studio**, from 15-31 October at Yat Fu Lane, a newly-launched creative space in Shek Tong Tsui developed by District-15. The exhibition will showcase design concepts generated as a result of the intensive 10-month initiative. Established as part of Hong Kong Ambassadors of Design's 10th Anniversary celebration, the programme encourages public debate and dialogue on design issues and brings to light the critical role that design plays in society.

Conceptualised by Marisa Yiu, Co-founder, Executive Director of Design Trust, **Design Trust Futures Studio** is a cross-disciplinary think tank. Bringing together design experts, the focus is on creating meaningful outcomes that will impact society or public spaces in Hong Kong and the Greater Pearl River Delta Region.

For the inaugural year, **Design Trust Futures Studio** focused on the theme of “*small is meaningful*” as a key design issue. The groups were challenged to examine the importance of smallness in local communities and how it can be harnessed to create positive change. The ultimate goal is to generate new ideas and inspire prototype micro-parks for Hong Kong.

Four design teams consisting of 12 designer mentees from Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta Region participated in the first edition of the programme. Working closely alongside expert mentors and advisors over an eight-month period, the groups attended a series of workshops, field trips and discussions to brainstorm and critique ideas. Organised as an extra-curricular programme, all members participated in the activities outside of their full-time jobs.

Hong Kong-based mentors include architect Gary Chang and artist, photographer and designer Stanley Wong (anothermountainman). The international mentors are Elizabeth Diller of Diller Scofidio + Renfro (New York), Mimi Hoang of nARCHITECTS (New York) and Sam Jacob of Sam Jacob Studio (London).

“Design Trust Futures Studio provides a new platform for young designers (less than ten years out of school) to explore and experiment with new ideas. Our objective is that it will ultimately transform both the individual and the collective notion of how we participate in the creation of a city,” says Marisa Yiu, Co-founder, Executive Director of Design Trust. “Following a 10-month research and design process, we’re excited to finally present the results from the four teams this year. We also look forward to continuing this unique approach and further expanding this creative momentum with our community in 2018!”

The inaugural exhibition will showcase the teams’ research findings and concept proposals, presenting a range of visual displays and prototype models. Visitors to the show can also view the 10-minute documentary chronicling the group’s creative processes and behind-the-scene footage captured over the duration of the programme. In addition, two public workshops will be held during the exhibition period.

The four micro-park concepts include:

Part(k) of the City

By Zoey Chan (architecture and landscape graduate), Jose Fu (new media and technology designer based in Shenzhen) and DickWai Lai (advertising and branding designer) with Mentor Gary Chang

Part(k) of the City explores the possibilities of creating micro parks through railing interventions. It looks at how railings, a critical element of our city that are usually neglected and overlooked in our everyday lives, can be reclaimed and adapted into pleasant micro public sharing spaces. Inspired by how people have been adapting railings for different purposes, the team endeavors to go beyond the linear and singular use of railings (as city management barriers) to create a playful design intervention with minimal proportions (foldability and portability) with maximized functions (seating, reading, sharing).



Skip-Park

By Cesar Jung-Harada (environmentalist, new technology maker), Stephen Ip (young practicing architect) and Ffion Zhang (landscape architecture recent graduate) with Mentor Mimi Hoang

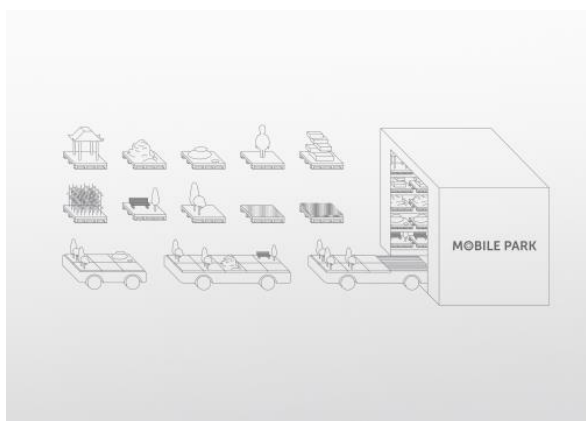
Skip-Park utilises street skips (commonly used in Hong Kong to store and transport construction debris) as a way of bringing change to a community. The concept involves transforming construction skips into a network of mobile micro-parks that can be deployed on demand. Combining a playscape and an algae wall designed to absorb excess CO₂, the Skip-Park offers a low-cost green solution for densely populated and polluted districts such as Mong Kok. Residents of the neighbourhood can also monitor changes in air quality through a series of sensors installed in the skip.



MobilePark

By Wendy Wu (urban designer and researcher based in Shenzhen), Ricky Lai (graphic and branding designer) and Xavier Tsang (industrial and product designer) with Mentor Sam Jacob

Focused on a speculative future Hong Kong, MobilePark is a park “delivery system” that allows communities and individuals to order personalised park experiences on demand. By accessing a mobile application, users can construct their own temporary micro-parks by selecting a variety of modules and features. Once an order is received, the components, which are stored at a centralised facility, will be delivered through a third-party truck-sharing scheme for users to enjoy over a designated period of time.



Ting Yat Ting

By Sylvia Chan (architecture critic and design writer), Vivian Ng (industrial and production design recent graduate) and Samuel Wong (architecture graduate) with Mentor Stanley Wong

Ting Yat Ting (Chinese: to pause for a moment) is a pop-up micro-park that can be planted at different locations in Hong Kong. Envisioned as more than just a public resting space, the semi-enclosed pavilion invites users to take a break from their busy lives to engage with the city on a deeper level. Stepping inside, visitors will view a slideshow of images captured by a camera installed on top of the pavilion. These photographs depict seemingly insignificant elements of the neighbourhood that are often overlooked. Users are encouraged to operate the camera device to frame their own unique perspective of surrounding streets, and uncover surprising moments of Hong Kong.



For more information on Design Trust Futures Studio, visit <http://designtrust.hk/design-trust-futures-studio> or stay tuned to the following social media accounts:

Instagram: [@designtrust](#)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/designtrust>

Design Trust Futures Studio – Exhibition Details

Exhibition Period: 15th October – 31st October 2017

Public Workshop: 21st and 26th October

Opening Hours: 12pm-8pm (Daily)

Fees: Free admission

Venue: Yat Fu Lane

G/F, Yat Fu Lane, 554-560 Queen's Road West,
Shek Tong Tsui, Hong Kong

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

Social media: Facebook: Design Trust

Instagram: [@designtrust](#)

Enquiries: +852 2739 6889

To access high-resolution images of the programme and exhibition, please click:
http://ftp.catchonco.com/DTFS_Images.zip

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For media enquiries or interview opportunities, please contact:

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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 Pearl River Delta Region. 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 Organisers and Sponsors

Lead Organizer: Design Trust

Major Sponsor: Create Hong Kong

International Event Collaborator: Storefront for Art and Architecture

Exhibition Venue Partner: District15/Yat Fu Lane

Workshop Venue Partner: Spring Workshop

Hotel Partner: Tuve

Exhibition Opening Event Sponsor: Black Kite Brewery

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