

PLAY IS FOR THE PEOPLE Design Trust Futures Studio Launches Second Edition



(Hong Kong, 19 April 2018) Design Trust, an initiative of the Hong Kong Ambassadors of Design is pleased to announce the second year of their flagship design programme, **DESIGN TRUST FUTURES STUDIO (DTFS)**. In 2017, four design teams examined the theme of smallness in Hong Kong and how it can be harnessed to create meaningful change. Their findings generated a series of micro-park prototypes, which were presented in an inaugural exhibition last October.

The 2018 edition will continue this momentum with a new theme **“PLAY IS FOR THE PEOPLE”**, focusing on notions of innovation, leisure and play. Going beyond conceptual ideation, the 2018 programme will transform micro-park designs into built parks in distinct locations across Hong Kong.

Conceptualised by Marisa Yiu, Co-founder, Executive Director of Design Trust, **DESIGN TRUST FUTURES STUDIO** was launched as a cross-disciplinary think tank. Bringing together industry experts and young design talent, the initiative aims to create positive outcomes to impact society or public spaces in Hong Kong and the Greater Pearl River Delta Region.

“We are thrilled to launch the 2018 programme,” says Marisa Yiu, Co-founder and Executive Director of Design Trust, **“DESIGN TRUST FUTURES STUDIO 2018** will continue to harness positive values in design to shape a better city. This year, we will be working with members of the community, district councils and design agencies from both the private and public sectors on four locations around Hong Kong to turn ideas into reality. With the aim to foster original designs in our city, the teams will be challenged to conceptualise and test new ideas that are practical and playful for a diverse demographic of Hong Kong.”

DTFS 2018 will be defined by four main phases:

- **Phase I** (February – April 2018) is focused on **site research and public engagement** through a series of workshops and dialogues.

- **Phase II** (May to August 2018) is the **critical design phase** where the teams will work closely with contractors to fine-tune their park concepts and **prepare prototypes** for the public presentation and exhibition in September.
- **Phase III** (September 2018 – ongoing) marks the **planning and development stage** for the construction of the parks, in order to realise the design concepts for public enjoyment.

A total of 18 mentees – including nine members returning from 2017 – form the four multidisciplinary design teams for this year. Each group has been tasked to explore an assigned public site in Hong Kong, with the ultimate goal of building recreational spaces that consider the unique neighbourhood characteristics while fulfilling the community's needs.

Hong Kong-based architect **Gary Chang** (Founder, EDGE Design Institute) and artist, photographer and designer **Stanley Wong** (another mountain man) will return to work with the mentees alongside international mentors **Mimi Hoang** (Principal, nARCHITECTS, New York) and **Sam Jacob** (Principal, Sam Jacob Studio, London). In addition, **Richard Hassell**, (Co-founder of WOHA) and **Elizabeth Diller** (Founding Partner, Diller Scofidio + Renfro) will provide ongoing support and guidance to the teams as international workshop mentors for this year.

The four design teams and their respective public sites are as follows:



Sitting Out Area on Hill Road, Shek Tong Tsui

Mentor: Gary Chang

Mentees: Zoey Chan (Architecture and Landscape), Jose Fu (New Media and Technology), Aron Tsang (Architecture and Landscape), Dennis Chau (Architecture and Landscape) and Andy Cheng (Architecture and Landscape)

Yi Pei Square Playground, Tsuen Wan

Mentor: Mimi Hoang

Mentees: Stephen Ip (Architecture and Landscape), Kay Chan (Industrial and Product Design), Christopher Choi (Architecture and Landscape) and Jonathan Mak (Graphic and Branding)





Portland Street Rest Garden, Yau Tsim Mong

Mentor: Sam Jacob

Mentees: Ricky Lai (Graphic and Branding), Xavier Tsang (Industrial and Product Design), Wendy Wu (Architecture and Landscape) and Kam Fai Hung (Architecture and Landscape).

Hamilton Street Rest Garden, Yau Tsim Mong

Mentor: Stanley Wong

Mentees: 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)



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](https://www.instagram.com/designtrust)

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

#DTFS #playisforthepeople #parkyourideas #designtrust #designtrusthk

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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

Community Event Partner: Kerry Hotel Hong Kong

Workshop Venue Partners: Campfire Collaborative Spaces, The Hive Spring, Kafnu Hong Kong Hotel

Partner: TUVE Hotel