



**BLOCK THIRTY SEVEN
108 N. STATE STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60602**

Open To Public • Free Admission
October 14 - November 4, 2017
Tuesday to Saturday: 12:00 - 7:00pm
Sunday and Monday closed

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

www.hkdesigncentre.org

Organizer:
Hong Kong Design Centre

Major Sponsors:
Create Hong Kong of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in New York

Media Invitation

Hong Kong Design Centre's *Confluence · 20+* exhibition Press Preview and Opening Ceremony

CHICAGO (2017.10.05) – Organized by the Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC), the **Confluence · 20+** exhibition international tour will conclude with a final showing in Chicago from 14 October to 4 November 2017.

Confluence · 20+ is sponsored by Create Hong Kong of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), with the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in New York as a major sponsor of the Chicago edition. It is an accredited event celebrating the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Confluence · 20+ showcases the work of entrepreneurs, thinkers and designers, both native to Hong Kong and those who have lived and practiced in Hong Kong for a long period of time, whose work addresses a global audience and provides the world with a new vantage point on their journey. The creative forces in play in the exhibition are manifest in a city characterized by its unique positioning and unprecedented opportunity within Asia and China. Additionally, cultural diversity, density, state of flux, and contrast between modernity and tradition, the East and the West have had a profound influence on the designers exhibiting.

Each designer represents Hong Kong as a hub of experimentation – generating new approaches and solutions of worldwide relevance – and as a driving force for a new discussion of design in the twenty-first century.

Featured designers in the Chicago Edition of Confluence · 20+ 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, Stanley Wong, and Elaine Young.

Curator Amy Chow said, “Underpinning the exhibits is an extra value added to everyday objects through revisiting with fresh eyes. Hong Kong designers have raised the bar in bridging the aesthetics of the East and West. They offer a vision that transgresses personal, disciplinary, and social boundaries.”

As a monumental roving exhibition on “Hong Kong Creative Ecologies,” Confluence · 20+ was first opened in April 2017 at the Milan Design Week. It was then returned to its hometown Hong Kong in June 2017, and travelled to Seoul in August-September. Each destination featured a variety of new presentations and/or new works that present the unique creative ecologies of Hong Kong.



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Prof. Eric Yim, chairman of the HKDC, said, "The Confluence · 20+ design exhibition garnered accolades throughout the global design circuit when it debuted in Milan in April. This is an exhibition that showcases the design forces of Hong Kong, and it is something no one should miss."

Coming to the fourth and final stop, this exhibition in Chicago will be the biggest and most engaging. Product designer Lee Chi Wing will stage a multi-sensory experience of "Hong Kong Style" tea ceremony with his collaborators; fashion designer Sharon de Lyster will showcase her recently launched Textile Atlas, which aims to preserve a record of disappearing Asian crafts; and architectural designer Gary Chang will create a furniture wall and play lab for visitors to experiment with compact living space.

Along with these highlights are a range of workshops and activities offered by participating designers. From bamboo bundling craft and upcycling of disposable cutlery, to ceramics workshops and photo shoots with heritage costumes, these workshops and activities allow visitors to explore the creative ecologies of Hong Kong.

Details of the Chicago-Edition of Confluence · 20+ are as follows:

Dates: 14 October – 4 November 2017
Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday 12:00noon to 7:00pm
Closed on Monday and Sunday
Venue: 3rd Floor Block Thirty Seven
108 North State Street, Chicago, IL 60602

Admission to the exhibition is free and open to public. Further info and program registration details are available on the exhibition's official website: <http://confluence20.hk>.

Members of the media are cordially invited to the Press Preview and Opening Ceremony:

Press Preview: 13 October 2017 (Friday), 3:00-5:00pm
VIP Preview: 13 October 2017 (Friday), 5:00-6:00pm
Opening Ceremony: 13 October 2017 (Friday), 6:00-9:00pm

Venue: 3rd Floor Block Thirty Seven
108 North State Street,
Chicago, IL 60602

At the preview, the following workshops/activities will be offered to Press and VIPs as tasters of the public programs:

- A multi-sensory experience of "Hong Kong Style" tea ceremony by Lee Chi Wing x Joe Chan x Plantation
- Bamboo bundling craft workshop by Freeman Lau x Lau Tin Ho
- Play lab to experiment with home space by Gary Chang



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- Style to celebrate cultural diversity by Sharon de Lyster
- Cutlerlumen – fire starter kit workshop by C.L. Lam
- Fragment(s) ceramic workshop by Julie Progin x Jesse Mc Lin
- The Golden Record: private and public reflections on 116 images – collage project by Elaine Young

Please RSVP with Emma Terhaar at emmaterhaar@glendalecomm.com.

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Media Inquiry:

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About the Curator

Amy Chow is an interdisciplinary design expert. As a curator and creative director, she has staged numerous design exhibitions for international audiences, including Creation 9707 (2007) and Creative Ecologies+ (2012). As an academic, she has lectured at many design institutions and coordinated academic programs.

Chow's vision of Hong Kong's creative industry is a crystallization of her robust insider experience. Having trained in a number of creative hubs across the globe. Chow has an international outlook that allows her a unique perspective on Hong Kong's design scene.

About Hong Kong Design Centre

Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC) is a non-profit organization founded in 2001 as a strategic partner of the HKSAR Government in establishing Hong Kong as center of design excellence in Asia. HKDC continues its public mission in using design and innovation to drive value creation of business development and improve the well-being of society, through the provision of diverse exchange platforms, anchored by five major work directions: CONNECT, CELEBRATE, NURTURE, ADVANCE and ENGAGE.



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About CreateHK

Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) is a dedicated office set up by the HKSAR Government to spearhead the development of Hong Kong's creative industries. Set up in June 2009, CreateHK co-ordinates the Government policy regarding creative industries, focuses Government's resources catering for the promotion and speeding up of the development of creative industries in Hong Kong, and works closely with the trade to boost the development of creative industries.

Disclaimer for the Chicago Edition of Confluence · 20+: Create Hong Kong of 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 organizers 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, the CreateSmart Initiative Vetting Committee or the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in New York.