

Storefront for Art and Architecture

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Storefront for Art and Architecture and DESIGN TRUST present:

STOREFRONT IS HONG KONG



Event Dates:

Friday, July 7th - Sunday, July 9th, 2017

Friday, July 7th:

Reading Images: Transborder Territories [RSVP]

Paella/Wok Series: Sharing [By invitation]

Saturday, July 8th:

Definition Series: Smallness [RSVP]

Manifesto Series: Scale [RSVP]

Sunday, July 9th:

Walking Series: Legibility [RSVP]

Cabaret Series: Excess (Too High Density) [RSVP]

#storefrontishongkong #storefrontinternationalseries #DTFS #futuresstudio @storefrontnyc @designtrust

Hong Kong, China -- From July 7 to 9, 2017, Storefront for Art and Architecture, in partnership with the Hong-Kong based DESIGN TRUST (an initiative of the Hong Kong Ambassadors of Design) will present *Storefront International Series: Hong Kong (Storefront IS Hong Kong)*, a three-day series of events that take place in contested sites across the city of Hong Kong. Events seek to address the nature of urban public life, and to highlight the challenges and opportunities faced by Hong Kong residents. Local and global agents from various fields present and discuss their ideas and observations about various places within the city, bringing to the forefront a larger conversation about the cultural and physical landscapes of the region. Storefront IS Hong Kong aims to go beyond social, disciplinary, and ideological boundaries, breaking established lines of division to produce spaces of collective thought, reflection, and ultimately, action.

Storefront IS Hong Kong is part of the Storefront International Series, a nomadic project that brings the experimental formats of Storefront's events series to cities and territories around the globe. Establishing a transversal format of inquiry, Storefront International Series works with local individuals and institutions to identify and address the most pressing issues in a particular region through alternative frameworks of discussion. By bringing together agents from the fields of art, architecture, literature, politics, real estate, anthropology, economics, technology, design, and science with members of the public, the Storefront International Series aims to articulate local desires within a global context.

"We are thrilled to partner with Storefront for Art and Architecture, bringing their energy, spirit and criticality to our city. I'm sure this is just the beginning of more conversations, which challenge our perception and understanding of public life. I am also excited to see how Storefront International Series Hong Kong will inflect upon our new flagship programme, which brings local community members in dialogue with global experts to tackle issues of "smallness" and compact living," says Marisa Yiu, Co-founder and Executive Director of the DESIGN TRUST.

Eva Franch i Gilabert, Executive Director and Chief Curator of Storefront, says: "Storefront International Series brings conversations about the future of cities out of auditoriums and meeting rooms and into the streets, allowing architecture to moderate public discourse. Simultaneously a symposium, performance, excursion, and fair, we will engage with the city in new and experimental ways. Hong Kong is one of the most important geopolitical and cultural hubs in the world today, and its metropolitan condition is constantly evolving. Within this context, the Design Trust represents a new and innovative way of examining cultural production, and we look forward to partnering with them on this series and all the future collaborations it might spark."

A schedule of events is below. All events are free and open to the public unless indicated.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DAY 1:

Reading Images Series: Transborder Territories

Date: Friday, July 7th

Time: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Location: Ferry from Hong Kong to Shekou

Meeting point and time: East Bridge, 3/F, Hong Kong Macau Ferry Terminal at 10:45 am

Attendance: Free and open to the public*

Strategically located in the Pearl River Delta region of southern China, Hong Kong, officially an “autonomous territory,” serves as the gateway to modern China. The border between Hong Kong and mainland China is crossed every day by thousands of people who work or study on the other side. The infrastructure of the daily commute and the service economy has developed into a third space, inhabited by migrant bodies and defined by financial and cultural exchange protocols. This transnational community represents a rich and diverse engine for the economic and cultural growth of the region. The Hong Kong-Shenzhen border will be the site for a critical discussion around questions of migration and exchange, learning from local conditions and reflecting upon geopolitical borders on a global scale.

The **Reading Images Series** invites participants to closely look into images and construct arguments, narratives, and observations that produce incisive readings about form, politics, gaze, and representation.

Participants: Ethel Baraona, Ole Bouman, Christina Li, Cole Roskam, Shirley Surya, Paul Tse, Evelyn Ting

Moderators: Eva Franch, Carlos Mínguez Carrasco, Marisa Yiu

Image contributors: Merve Bedir, Venus Lau, MAP Office, Stanley Wong

**Please note: members of public must buy their own ferry tickets (event will take place in the first class lounge - HKD180) and arrange a Shenzhen visa independently. The ferry from Hong Kong to Shekou departs at 11:30 am. Please be reminded that all participants will have to depart the ferry on arrival at Shekou and independently arrange further transportation back to Hong Kong, via the ferry (1:10pm / 2:15pm / 3:35pm) or alternative border crossing.*

Paella/Wok Series: Sharing

Date: Friday, July 7th

Time: 7:00 pm - 10 pm

Location: Undisclosed space in Chai Wan

Attendance: By invitation only. For more information, contact: mavis.wong@designtrust.hk

The concept of the contemporary sharing movement, increasingly ubiquitous, is influencing the exchange of goods, data, images, services, and spaces of residence and work globally. Hong Kong's scale, growth, and political situation have favored various forms of sharing experiments. Peer-to-peer local technologies,

the architectures of informal rooftop communities, and the urbanisms originated from the so-called “umbrella revolution” serve as points of departure for a discussion around the potential of the culture of sharing. This series will explore the spatial, social, public, and private consequences of the sharing movement for the construction of more aspirational forms of public life.

This event is kindly hosted by Mina Park. Food will be prepared by Eva Franch, Alan Lo, and Mina Park.

The **Paella Series** is a format that aims to produce intense conversations on delicate subjects through a space of intimacy and quotidian action, in this case cooking and eating. Held in a state of floating attention and distracted thoughts, conversations between a select group of guests are private but recorded and archived for possible public access.

Participants: Ethel Baraona, Merve Bedir, Rony Chan, Janice Leung Hayes, Jason Hilgefert, Michael Leung, Alan Lo, Lionello Lunesu, Mina Park, Michelle Poon, Markus Wernli

Moderators: Eva Franch, Carlos Mínguez Carrasco, Marisa Yiu

DAY 2:

Definition Series: Smallness (Design Trust Futures Studio Public Ideas Review Session 1)

Date: July 8th

Time: 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Location: Spring Workshop, 3/F, Remex Centre (enter on Heung Yip Rd), 42 Wong Chuk Hang Rd, Aberdeen

Attendance: Open to the public (RSVP required)

“In mid-2014, the population of Hong Kong was 7.24 million, including 7.03 million Usual Residents and 0.22 million Mobile Residents. During the period 2010 to 2014, the population grew at an average annual rate of 0.8%.” Hong Kong’s limited physical territory and its population growth have increased the development of spaces for micro-living, augmenting the already high density of the city. *Definition Series: Smallness*, part of the Design Trust Futures Studio Public Review, examines how “smallness,” also understood as a form of agility in the face of seemingly fixed structures, can be operative in architecture. Addressing both public and private spaces, participants will present a definition of the notion of “smallness” and its impact upon the development of the city of Hong Kong.

Definition Series: Smallness is hosted in partnership with Spring Workshop.

The **Definition Series** invites participants to produce their own definitions of a given term, constructing a multifaceted edifice around particular words and their contemporary usage in specific fields, contexts, and practices.

Design Trust Futures Studio Mentors: Gary Chang, Stanley Wong

Design Trust Futures Studio Designer Mentees: Sylvia Chan, Zoey Chan, Jose Fu, Cesar Harada, Stephen Ip, DickWai Lai, Ricky Lai, Vivian Ng, Xavier Tsang, Samuel Wong, Wendy Wu, Ffion Zhang

Guest Participants: James Acuna, Ethel Baraona, Arnault Castel, Donald Choi, Patrick Hwang, Tat Lam, William Lane, Lesley Lau, Leslie Lu, Duncan Pescod, Suhanya Raffel, Cole Roskam, Eric Schuldenfrei, Ada Wong, Sara Wong, Eric Yim

Moderators: Eva Franch, Carlos Mínguez Carrasco, Marisa Yiu

Manifesto Series: Scale (Design Trust Futures Studio Public Ideas Review Session 2)

Date: July 8th

Time: 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: Spring Workshop, 3/F, Remex Centre (enter on Heung Yip Rd), 42 Wong Chuk Hang Rd, Aberdeen

Attendance: Open to the public (RSVP required)

The notion of scale allows us to understand relationships between space and context; born out of historical precedents and conventions of knowledge production, scale is a shifting cultural construct. Discussions about scale during the end of the last century in Europe focused on reevaluating scale in accordance with emerging infrastructural spaces and typologies. With homogeneous city models appearing worldwide, ideas of scale have been disseminated as yet another force of globalization. What scalar conditions are endemic to the contemporary reality of global metropoli in Southeast Asia and elsewhere? What can be understood from this context in Hong Kong? *Manifesto Series: Scale* presents seven-minute manifestos by a group of participants who will each take a position on scale in Hong Kong.

Manifesto Series: Scale is hosted in partnership with Spring Workshop.

The **Manifesto Series** invites participants to denounce a present or past condition; proclaim an alternative present, past, or future situation; and indicate a strategy or method of action.

Design Trust Futures Studio Mentors: Gary Chang, Stanley Wong

Design Trust Futures Studio Designer Mentees: Sylvia Chan, Zoey Chan, Jose Fu, Cesar Harada, Stephen Ip, DickWai Lai, Ricky Lai, Vivian Ng, Xavier Tsang, Samuel Wong, Wendy Wu, Ffion Zhang

Guest Participants: James Acuna, Ethel Baraona, Arnault Castel, Donald Choi, Tat Lam, William Lane, Lesley Lau, Leslie Lu, Suhanya Raffel, Cole Roskam, Eric Schuldenfrei, Sara Wong, Eric Yim

Moderators: Eva Franch, Carlos Mínguez Carrasco, and Marisa Yiu

DAY 3:

Walking Series: Legibility

Date: July 9th

Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: Sai Ying Pun, Sheung Wan, Wanchai, North Point

Attendance: Open to the public (RSVP recommended via Facebook)

The collective imaginary of a city is made up of recognizable icons, signs, symbols, ratios, chromatic palettes, smells, acoustic signatures, and other multiple modalities of perception. Moving through Hong Kong, from its continuous interior walkways to its sidewalks and onto the upper platforms of the city's tram infrastructure, one perceives a city from particular types of vantage points. These perspectives, or geographies of perception, constitute an identity signature of Hong Kong's urban imaginary. Moreover, we now navigate the city with the aid of digital technologies that guide us each time through a different optimized experience. Our ability to read the city has shifted; neon signs are being substituted by pop-up ads, for example. In a time where the urban and the digital are colliding, how should we read the city?

What forms of experiencing the built environment are obsolete, and which are emerging? *Walking Series: Legibility* is a series of city tours led by local and international experts that will each render visible and legible a particular layer of the urban fabric and public life.

The **Walking Series** is an event that invites individuals both familiar with and foreign to a particular territory to lead a walking exercise through its streets or paths. Borrowing from examples of guided tours, the Walking Series unveils latent realities through a real-time experience of navigation and transit.

Participants: Adonian Chan, Eva Franch, Maggie Lin, Brian Kwok, Kevin Mak, Pauline Tsang

Cabaret Series: Excess (Too High Density)

Date: July 9th

Time: 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Location: Studio 9 design gallery and studio, Wong Chuk Hang

Attendance: Open to the public (RSVP required)

Excess, a fundamental term in modern aesthetic theory, enables the self but also annihilates it. The high density of Hong Kong constitutes one of its fundamental identities, but when is high density too high? *Cabaret Series: Excess* presents a series of performances about the costs and benefits of high-density urban living, as well as explorations on more sustainable ideas of growth and development.

Cabaret Series: Excess is hosted in partnership with Studio 9. Refreshments are kindly provided by The Coffee Academics.

The **Cabaret Series** develops modes of expression that engage with contemporary discourses, audiences, and physical space in a playful and humorous manner. These events aim to produce new forms of communication between speakers, performers, and spectators through provocation, seduction, and immediacy.

Participants: Ethel Baraona, Gary Chang, William Lane, Thomas Tsang, Ahlaiya Yung

Moderators: Eva Franch and Carlos Mínguez Carrasco

Members of the Press

Members of the press are invited to attend events that are part of *Storefront IS Hong Kong*. If you would like to RSVP for events, arrange an interview with the curators or participants, or cover the events, contact jk@storefrontnews.org at Storefront or mavis.wong@designtrust.hk at the Design Trust.

About Storefront for Art and Architecture

Storefront for Art and Architecture advances innovative and critical ideas that contribute to the design of cities, territories, and public life. Storefront's exhibitions, events, competitions, publications, and projects provide alternative platforms for dialogue and collaboration across disciplinary, geographic, and ideological boundaries. Since its founding in 1982, Storefront has presented the work of over one thousand architects and artists.

Storefront's gallery space is located at 97 Kenmare Street, New York, NY 10012, USA. The space is free and open to the public on Tuesday through Saturday from 11 am to 6 pm. More information is available at www.storefrontnews.org.

About the DESIGN TRUST

DESIGN TRUST was established as a grant funding platform in 2014 by Hong Kong Ambassadors of Design, a registered charity in Hong Kong since 2007. DESIGN TRUST supports creative projects that develop expertise, and that 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, and 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. More information is available at www.designtrust.hk.

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