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London - Hong Kong | Design Trust / RCA Fellowship in Design Curation 2022

DESIGN TRUST / RCA FELLOWSHIP IN DESIGN CURATION 2022

DESIGNTRUST
信言設計大使
AN INITIATIVE OF THE
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OF DESIGN



Royal College of Art

Applications are invited from individuals based in or connected to Hong Kong or the Greater Bay Area with a background in curating and a research interest in design for the Design Curation 2022 Fellowships offered by the Design Trust (Hong Kong) in partnership with the RCA, addressing the theme of 'Hyperlocal'

Based at the Royal College of Art in London, the two selected Fellows undertake advanced research into curatorial practice in relation to contemporary design and recent design history. Areas of focus might include: strategies for exhibition-making, display, interpretation and collections; design archives; design curating in the public sphere; design theory and method as curatorial practice; curating emergent technologies; and history and current practice in design curating.

The Fellows undertake research and study, embedded within the RCA's vibrant interdisciplinary environment and supported by Design Trust. The programme of studies is designed to broaden the Fellows' knowledge and skills in curatorial practice, theory and

understanding of design, to enable self-reflection on the Fellows' practice to date, and to support their specific research direction. Each Fellow follows a bespoke programme tailored to their needs and interests; components vary across seminars and workshops in design and curatorial history, theory and practice, interdisciplinary workshops and projects and a placement with one of the RCA's external partners.

Additionally, each Fellow devises and pursues an original, independent research project related to curating and design in Asia and its global contexts. The project is supported by engagement with subject specialists at the RCA and guided through regular one-to-one tutorials with a named project supervisor. The project takes the form of written work (ordinarily a body of writing comprising c. 6,000 words) and a public event in London, potentially but not exclusively an exhibition. The Fellows have access to technical resources and training facilities at the RCA, appropriate to their research.

Research may explore curatorial practice and theory in relation to existing and emergent design disciplines (such as product design, service design, wearable technologies, transport, performance or the digital). Projects might reflect on or generate curatorial approaches to design's social, political or cultural contexts past, present and future (for example users/social practices, the public sphere, architectural practice or urbanism). A focus on Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area region is preferred. The research should result in an original curatorial proposal, demonstrate advanced understanding of curatorial contexts and approaches, inform the Fellows' future practice and show clear potential to inform curatorial practice in Hong Kong/the Greater Bay Area region more widely.

Sharing knowledge and experience generated is an important element of the Fellowship. Fellows' written work may be disseminated digitally through the RCA/Design Trust platforms, and/or submitted for publication in an appropriate platform. Each Fellow prepares at least one public presentation at the end of their research to be delivered in Hong Kong and/or London. The Fellows also present a final report on their research findings (including work placement activity) for the RCA/Design Trust and communicate the research process and experience of the Fellowship in an agreed social media programme.

The Fellowship is designed to address the burgeoning field of design curating in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area region in a global context, and its place within the interdisciplinary curatorial field (such as the growth of new institutions devoted to design, the presence of design in art museums, biennales and cultural festivals and other new platforms for public engagement with/through design, including urban development and archives).

Eligibility

Applications are welcome from individuals based in or connected to Hong Kong or the Greater Bay Area with a background in curating and a research interest in design. The provision of the Fellowship depends on whether each Fellow obtains a UK visa. Applicants should either hold a postgraduate degree in a relevant discipline or an undergraduate degree with a minimum of three years relevant professional work or academic research experience. Proficiency in spoken and written English is also required.

Support

The Fellowships are established with kind support to the RCA from Design Trust. This covers full fees for the year-long programme, as well as a stipend of £7,500 for each of the six-month Fellowships to cover living costs. An additional £1,500 budget per Fellowship will be available to cover further expenses. This additional budget can be used towards a one-off payment for round-trip travel between the place of origin and London; research expenses will be allocated after the research plan is developed and agreed with the RCA.

Please see website for the full Assessment Criteria.

Deadline: 23 September 2021

The 2022 Fellowship runs from January - July 2022.

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