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## **Hong Kong Design Centre and Consulate General of Czechia in Hong Kong and Macao Present: 'Beautiful Craft & Design Exchange: Czechia – Hong Kong' Exhibition**

'East-Meets-West' traditional craftsmanship and contemporary design: Czech artisans and Hong Kong artists collaborate on innovative creations

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**Hong Kong, 7 August 2025** – The 'Beautiful Craft & Design Exchange: Czechia – Hong Kong' exhibition jointly presented by Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC) and Consulate General of Czechia in Hong Kong and Macao, with the Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency (CCIDA) as Lead Sponsor, will be on view in the DX design hub from 7 August to 6 September 2025.

The exhibition seamlessly blends Czechia's rich cultural heritage with Hong Kong's vibrant creative spirit, fostering a dynamic cross-cultural dialogue between tradition and innovation. It unites skilled artisans and emerging designers from both regions, presenting over 40 works that reimagine traditional crafts and folk art to address the evolving needs of today's world. From Czech traditional leather technique to Bohemian crystal glass, the exhibition celebrates the fusion of heritage and modernity, safeguarding near-extinct crafts while inspiring future generations through cross-cultural creativity.

### **Heritage and Innovation: A Design Dialogue Between Czechia and Hong Kong**

The exhibition is structured around three key sections, highlighting the power of collaboration, which bridges tradition and innovation:

- **Czech Design Students and Craft Masters:** The showcase works are born from collaborations between Czech design students and masters of traditional crafts. These partnerships have produced a series of applied objects that combine timeless, traditional forms and decorations with contemporary design sensibilities. This collaborative approach and the exchange of ideas—across generations and borders—Demonstrate shared ideas in shaping objects that honour cultural heritage while meeting contemporary needs.
- **Czech Designers and Master Craftsmen:** Featuring collaborative works by Czechia's renowned designers and top craftsmen, these pieces not only reflect a harmonious blend of design and craftsmanship, but also promote the preservation and advancement of Czech craft techniques, while demonstrating a new philosophy that returns to nature, celebrates craftsmanship, and embraces the pride of tradition.
- **Czech-Hong Kong Creative Collaborations:** The final section for this exhibition showcases recent collaborations between Czech and Hong Kong designers and craftsmen, offering an insight into the growing exchange of creative charge between the two regions.

**Ms. Rainy Chan, Executive Director of Hong Kong Design Centre**, said, 'I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency, the Consulate General of Czechia in Hong Kong and Macao, and all curatorial partners for their invaluable support in this exhibition, which masterfully blends tradition with innovation, to fruition. The exhibition exemplifies HKDC's dedication to establishing the DX design hub as a premier platform for design and cultural exchange, fostering emerging design talent and positioning Hong Kong as a pivotal creative hub.'

**Mrs. Klára Jurčová, Consul General of Czechia in Hong Kong and Macao**, stated, 'We are honoured to collaborate with HKDC, Czech Centres and Studio TIO to showcase Czech traditional crafts reimagined by a visionary curatorial team. HKDC has always been a vital bridge connecting local and international designers. I believe this exhibition will deepen the exchange between Czechia and Hong Kong in the fields of design and architecture, continue the dialogue of contemporary design, and highlight our on-going partnerships with stakeholders in Hong Kong.'

**Klára Hegerová, co-curator of the exhibition and founder of Beautiful Work**, added, 'Over the past years, we were embedded among many amazing creatives from various countries and regions, witnessing the power of collaboration generative ideas and their positive impacts on visual culture. We are grateful to the HKSAR Government, HKDC, the Czech Consulate General, Czech Centres, and Studio TIO for giving us the opportunity to share our efforts.'

**Jaroslava Příhodová, co-curator of the Exhibition Beautiful Work**, said, 'We are thrilled to extend the Czech project 'Beautiful Work' to HKDC, showcasing the shared values between Czechia and Hong Kong in art, design, and craftsmanship, while emphasising cultural legacy as a tool to build a purposeful and meaningful future.'

### Highlighted Exhibits

The exhibition features a curated selection of works that exemplify the fusion of traditional craftsmanship and contemporary design:

<p><b>MEMORY CABINET</b></p> <p>Design: Picky Parents, Klára Šumová Design of the woodcarving motif: Barbora Idesová Craftsmanship: Štěpán Holoubek Carved relief: Klára Paclíková Technique: Woodcarving, woodturning Material: Maple and limber wood</p>	<p>The 'Memory Cabinet' is designed to preserve objects from a child's life. This table-sized cabinet serves as a kind of reliquary, holding meaningful items connected to early development, whether a first lock of hair, a lost baby tooth, photographs, drawings, and letters written to the child.</p>
<p><b>CÍGR, Tote bag</b></p> <p>Design: Klára Hegerová, Matěj Michalčák Matěj Michalčák - Barons Leather Work</p>	<p>A tote bag called <b>CÍGR</b>, decorated with symbols of love, traditionally used in South Bohemia, particularly in the Doudleby region, specifically dedicated to collecting gifts for brides-to-be.</p> <p>The contents of the CÍGR typically includes foodstuffs essential for preparing the wedding feast—flour, eggs,</p>

<p>Technique: Traditional leather manufacturing processes, screen printing</p> <p>Material: Decorated cowhide leather</p> <p>Craftsmanship &amp; Manufacturing:</p>	<p>butter, meat, or poppy seeds. According to long-standing folk belief, the CÍGR was to be stored in the attic of the household; otherwise, misfortune might befall the family. The CÍGR on display is a contemporary interpretation of this traditional object—one that, the artists note, would surely resonate with today's single mothers and fathers.</p>
<p><b>DREAMER'S GARDEN</b></p> <p>Design: Linda Procházka &amp; Jive Lau</p> <p>Technique: Hand-blown glass</p> <p>Material: Bohemian crystal glass, neon</p>	<p>The project Dreamer's Garden, by Czech designer Linda Procházka and Hong Kong artist Jive Lau, exemplifies this creative dialogue, originated from the 'Embracing Craft, Connecting Culture' initiative at Crafts on Peel. Their work, an elegant pairing of hand-blown crystal vases with neon-lit flowers, has been showcased at Designblok 2024 and London Craft Week 2025.</p> <p>A new version debuting in Hong Kong, featuring white vases with colourful arrangements, symbolises the ongoing evolution and cultural dialogue within their practice. Procházka's previous collaboration in Hong Kong, facilitated by the Hong Kong Design Institute (HKDI), involved working with Czech glassmaker Marek Effmert to produce 'Moonlights', illuminating how cross-cultural craftsmanship can generate innovative lighting objects inspired by Chinese heritage. The project culminated in an exhibition at Designblok 2023.</p>
<p><b>'KING KONG' Porcelain Figurine</b></p> <p>Design: Peter Wong Kai Ho</p> <p>Craftsmanship &amp; Manufacturing: Antonín Tomášek</p> <p>Technique: Sculpting, mold-making processes, slip-casting</p> <p>Material: Slip cast porcelain, Wood</p>	<p>In the spirit of creative exchange, Czech porcelain master Antonín Tomášek, Professor at the Ceramics Studio, School of Art and Design at Jan Evangelista Purkyně University (FUD UJEP), collaborated with Peter Wong Kai ho, a student from HKDI. Inspired by Czech design pioneer Jaroslav Ježek's works showcased at the Czechoslovak Pavilion during the 1958 World Expo, they created a series of animal-themed tabletop sculptures. Their piece 'KING KONG' debuts in this exhibition, symbolising the ongoing evolution of design collaboration between the designers and HKDI students.</p> <p>In addition, Antonín Tomášek's sculpture 'Silence of CHARLES BRONSON', exclusively created for the Křehký Gallery will also be featured in the exhibition, further deepening the cultural dialogue.</p>

### Beyond the Exhibition:

In addition to the exhibition, DX design hub will host a series of workshops, masterclasses and sharing sessions, like Czech leathercraft master **Mr. Matěj Michalčák** and Hong Kong leather worker **Ms. Amus**

**Leung** will host leather handbag and ring-making workshops, where participants can create bespoke artworks. Czech craft masters will also conduct masterclasses, sharing their profound insights on craftsmanship. Design enthusiasts are invited to engage with these hands-on experiences to explore the intersection of craft and creativity.

#### **Exhibition details:**

Exhibition period: 7 Aug – 6 Sep, 2025

Address: The Gallery, 1/F, DX Design Hub, 280 Tung Chau Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon

Opening Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays to Sundays: 11:00 – 19:00 (Open on Public Holidays)

Closed on Tuesdays (except Public Holidays)

*For more details on curators and designers, please refer to the appendix.*

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#### **About DX design hub**

Operated by Hong Kong Design Centre, DX design hub in Sham Shui Po nurtures emerging design talents and fashion designers, fostering creativity and collaboration. Showcasing the synergy between design disciplines, it serves as a vibrant platform for community engagement and creative tourism. The Hub offers exhibition spaces, activity spaces, and a retail area for designers to gain hands-on experience. It functions as a central workstation for HKDC and design-related Associations, leading initiatives to promote fashion and diverse design projects. With a mission to inspire creativity and innovation, we aim to enable the Hub to become the creative anchor in Hong Kong with various specialized zones including The Square, The Fashion-Pop, The Box, The Gallery, The Design Museum, The Annex, The Steps, The Lounge, The Barn and The Fashion Spotlight.

The construction work of the Hub is undertaken by the Urban Renewal Authority (URA), ensuring a state-of-the-art facility that supports our vision. The Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is responsible for strategy

formulation, coordination, and supervision, guiding the Hub's initiatives to align with industry needs and aspirations.

**About Hong Kong Design Centre ([www.hkdesigncentre.org](http://www.hkdesigncentre.org))**

Hong Kong Design Centre is a strategic partner of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in leveraging the city's East-meets-West advantage to create value from design.

To achieve our goals, we:

- Cultivate a design culture
- Bridge stakeholders to opportunities that unleash the value of design
- Promote excellence in various design disciplines

**About Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency ([www.ccidahk.gov.hk](http://www.ccidahk.gov.hk))**

The Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency (CCIDA) established in June 2024, formerly known as Create Hong Kong (CreateHK), is a dedicated office set up by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR Government) under the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau to provide one-stop services and support to the cultural and creative industries with a mission to foster a conducive environment in Hong Kong to facilitate the development of arts, culture and creative sectors as industries. Its strategic foci are nurturing talent and facilitating startups, exploring markets, promoting cross-sectoral and cross-genre collaboration, promoting the development of arts, culture and creative sectors as industries under the industry-oriented principle, and promoting Hong Kong as Asia's creative capital and fostering a creative atmosphere in the community to implement Hong Kong's positioning as the East meets-West centre for international cultural exchange under the National 14th Five-Year Plan.

Disclaimer: The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region provides funding support to some of HKDC's activities/projects only, and does not otherwise take part in such funded activities/projects. Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication and relevant materials/events (or by members of the project teams) are those of HKDC only and do not reflect the views of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau, the Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency, the CreateSmart Initiative Secretariat or the CreateSmart Initiative Vetting Committee.

## Appendix: Curatorial Team

<b>KLÁRA HEGEROVÁ</b>	<p>Klára Hegerová is a graphic designer and design researcher based in Prague. She earned her BFA in Graphic Design from the Faculty of Art and Design in Ústí nad Labem and received a Fulbright scholarship to study at the School of Visual Arts in New York. After returning to the Czechia, she completed her MFA in the History and Theory of Design at the Academy of Arts, Architecture &amp; Design in Prague. She is currently pursuing a PhD at the Faculty of Art and Design in Ústí nad Labem, focusing on the reinterpretation of traditional techniques within contemporary design. Hegerová works as a freelance designer and leads the Beautiful Work collective. Her research examines how traditional craft methodologies can inform contemporary design practices, creating new frameworks for cultural preservation and innovation. Through the Beautiful Work initiative, she facilitates cross-cultural exchanges that celebrate craftsmanship whilst addressing contemporary design challenges.</p>
<b>JAROSLAVA PŘÍHODOVÁ</b>	<p>Jaroslava Příhodová is a visual artist, designer and curator based in Central New York. She earned her BFA from the Studio of Natural Materials at the Faculty of Art and Design in Ústí nad Labem, Czechia, where she was selected as one of four students to participate in a residency at SUNY Cortland, New York. She later completed her MFA in Jewelry and Metalsmithing at Syracuse University, where she also taught as an adjunct instructor. Her practice explores interdisciplinary themes and collaborative approaches. She is a founding member of the Beautiful Work collective, which focuses on bridging traditional craftsmanship with contemporary design discourse. Through her curatorial work, Příhodová examines the evolving relationship between heritage techniques and modern creative expression, fostering dialogue between craftspeople and design communities across cultural boundaries.</p>

### DX design hub Information:

Address: 280 Tung Chau Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon (MTR Sham Shui Po Station Exit C2 / Nam Cheong Station Exit D1)

### Opening Hours:

- Exhibition venues: Monday, Wednesday to Sunday 11:00-19:00 (Open on public holidays);
- Closed on Tuesdays (except public holidays)
- Fashion-Pop: Monday to Sunday 11:00-19:00 (Open on public holidays)
- The Lounge and The Barn (by appointment): Monday, Wednesday to Saturday 11:00-19:00; Closed on Tuesdays and public holidays

For details, please visit: [www.hkdesigncentre.org/en/dx](http://www.hkdesigncentre.org/en/dx)