



For Immediate Release

To: Assignment Editor/Editor of Local News, Education, Supplement Sections

20th July 2020

Celebration of the Establishment of the Department of Art and Design at HSUHK The opening of the Exhibition of Watercolour Sketches by Professor Desmond Hui

On July 16, 2020, a simple yet solemn ceremony was held at the Library of The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong (HSUHK) - the opening of the *Exhibition of Watercolour Sketches by Professor Desmond Hui in Celebration of the Establishment of the Department of Art and Design at HSUHK*. Although the government re-enacted the Restriction Order because of the recent rebound of the pandemic, the gathering at HSUHK belonged to the exempted group gathering at a place of work for the purposes of work. The organiser also arranged an online platform for both local and overseas participants who could not attend the event in person.

President Simon Ho of the HSUHK introduced the vision of setting up the Department of Art and Design at the beginning of the opening, recapturing the initiative four years ago to establish the first BA in Cultural and Creative Industries Programme in Hong Kong at the University, also by Professor Desmond Hui, to provide education in the cultural and creative sector in response to the Government's policy and industry demand and development, and with some admirable results. The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong set out in its *2018-2023 Strategic Plans* its first priority of establishing an academic unit in Art and Design, which was also echoed by the recent report *Innovating Creative Cultures – Arts Tech* from the Our Hong Kong Foundation, pointing out that arts tech will influence and even change people's perception and understanding of art and culture, and is a 'blue ocean' with vast opportunities. The report suggests to establish more promotional and supporting platforms for the development of arts tech in Hong Kong, so that Hong Kong may have a greater edge on the world stage.

President Ho explained that the BA (Hons) in Art and Design, together with the BA (Hons) in Cultural and Creative Industries, will form the new Department of Art and Design under the School of Humanities and Social Science. The University will strive to develop a new building on campus as a hub of creative and innovative studies.

Professor Desmond Hui, the Founding Head of Department of Art and Design, gave his opening remarks by introducing the members of the new department. He then explained the theme and contents of the exhibition as a collection of his sketches during travels in the past 6 years. The pandemic lockdown for the last half year has created a common longing of people for travelling and his exhibition hopefully would provide an alternative escape as a spiritual journey to the viewers' romantic destinations – whether in Barcelona, Majorca, Provence, Tuscany, Scandinavia or even Sai Kung and the outlying islands near Hong Kong.



After Professor Hui's speech, there was a ribbon cutting ceremony by President Simon Ho, Professor Y V Hui, Vice-President (Academic and Research); Dr Tom Fong, Vice-President (Organisational Development); Professor K K Tam, Dean of School of Humanities and Social Science; and Professor Gilbert Fong, Dean of School of Translation.

Part I of the exhibition is now open until August 14, 2020 and Part II will be from August 17 to September 16, 2020. The exhibition is also viewable online at: <https://library.hsu.edu.hk/Glimpses> .

Photos:



President Simon Ho of the HSUHK (3rd from left), Professor Y V Hui, Vice-President (Academic and Research) (2nd from right), Dr Tom Fong, Vice-President (Organisational Development) (2nd from left), Professor K K Tam, Dean of School of Humanities and Social Science (1st from right), Professor Gilbert Fong, Dean of School of Translation (1st from left) and Professor Desmond Hui, Head of Department of Art and Design (3rd from right) jointly participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony.



President Simon Ho of the HSUHK (8th from left), Professor Y V Hui, Vice-President (Academic and Research) (7th from right), Dr Tom Fong, Vice-President (Organisational Development) (7th from left), Professor K K Tam, Dean of School of Humanities and Social Science (8th from right), Professor Gilbert Fong, Dean of School of Translation (6th from left), Professor Desmond Hui, Head of Department of Art and Design (9th from right) took a photo with colleagues of HSUHK.



President Simon Ho of the HSUHK explained that the BA (Hons) in Art and Design, together with the BA (Hons) in Cultural and Creative Industries, will form the new Department of Art and Design under the School of Humanities and Social Science.



Professor Desmond Hui, the Founding Head of Department of Art and Design of HSUHK, explained the theme and contents of the exhibition as a collection of his sketches during travels in the past 6 years and hoped to provide an alternative escape as a spiritual journey during the pandemic.

Download: <https://bit.ly/32ywIjQ>



About HSUHK

The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong (HSUHK) is a non-profit private liberal-arts-oriented university with five Schools (Business, Communication, Decision Sciences, Humanities and Social Science, and Translation) and around 5,800 full-time students. Adopting the unique “Liberal + Professional” education model, HSUHK is a residential institution which puts quality teaching and students’ all-round development as its highest priorities.

Aspiring to be a leading private university in the region, HSUHK features a primary focus on undergraduate education, top-quality faculty members, award-winning green campus facilities, innovative degree programmes, unique residential college system combining living and learning, interactive small class teaching, very close student-teacher relationship, RGC-funded impactful research, and excellent student development/support services. The University aims to nurture young talents with critical thinking, innovative minds, human caring, moral values and social responsibilities.

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