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College of Liberal Arts
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香港城市大學
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For immediate release

FASHION TO RECONNECT: A Tale of Two Style Capitals

From today to 25 December

Bringing together the fashion capitals of the East and West, featuring 9 Hong Kong-based and 16 Italian designers and brands

**FASHION TO RECONNECT Exhibition creates an immersive journey of sustainable aesthetics
Establishing Cultural Bridges: Symposium, Roundtable and Seminars to Discuss East-meets-West
Exchange Strategies in Creative Industries**

Download press release and hi-res photos here at: <https://bit.ly/3JHW9aQ>



[December 2025] The global fashion extravaganza, FASHION TO RECONNECT: A Tale of Two Style Capitals, organised by the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS), City University of Hong Kong (CityUHK) with Fondazione Pistoletto Cittadellarte in partnership with Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana and sponsored by the Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency as a programme of the Hong Kong Fashion Fest which is presented by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, will be held from today to 25 December 2025. This cultural exchange project is supported by the Consulate General of Italy.

The exhibition by Fondazione Pistoletto Cittadellarte and curated by Tiziano Guardini will showcase masterpieces by 9 Hong Kong-based and 16 Italian designers and brands reflecting the cultural exchange and resonance between two regions. It will also serve as a platform to recognise designers' contributions to sustainable fashion worldwide. The FASHION TO RECONNECT project is being activated through 6 Third Paradise art installations reinterpreted by Hong Kong-based artists and collectives and will be further explored through a two-day symposium.

The large-scale Third Paradise art installations are being unveiled in Hong Kong with the first one having officially debuted on 17 November. During the launch event, the Consul General of Italy expressed his deepest gratitude to all partners, with special words of appreciation to the CCIDA and the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences of City University for their commitment to a project that combines art, fashion, and sustainability, reflecting the very best of Italian craftsmanship and tradition. The FASHION TO RECONNECT exhibition will take place at ArtisTree



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in Taikoo Place from 25 November to 24 December. The exhibition aims to elevate fashion as an artistic medium for driving social change, showcasing the creative processes and works of 9 Hong Kong-based and 16 Italian designers and brands. Through fashion, the exhibition invites visitors to consider humanity's relationship with nature and encourages them to make conscious choices for a sustainable future.

To promote exchanges between Hong Kong (China) and Italy in the field of sustainability, FASHION TO RECONNECT hosted a symposium, a roundtable, and two seminars under the theme “Sino-Overseas Exchange: The Tale of Two Style Cities.” These events were held at Soho House in Sheung Wan from 27 to 28 November. Among the speakers were Paolo Naldini, General Director of Fondazione Pistoletto Cittadellarte; Sara Sozzani Maino, Creative Director of Fondazione Sozzani and International New Talents and Brands Ambassador of Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana; and Tiziano Guardini, eco-conscious designer and exhibition curator. Participants explored the challenges and opportunities in sustainable fashion and examined various strategies in eco-conscious design, resource management, cultural preservation, and cross-sectoral collaboration. The discussions highlighted the shared values and distinctive perspectives nurtured within the cultural contexts of Hong Kong (China) and Italy, fostering deeper and more creative interdisciplinary exchange.

Prof. Alfred Tat-kei Ho, Dean of CLASS, CityUHK, and part of the project team expressed his enthusiasm in announcing the project “CLASS is proud to announce this project as it represents a high-impact activity that will engage not only academics and professionals interested in fashion, sustainability, and art, but also the wider public through activations that will contribute to brand Hong Kong as a creative and cultural hub focusing in East Meets West. This is a concrete example of cross-sectoral collaborations that represent the direction for companies to grow and enhance their brand awareness”.

Prof. Esterina Nervino, Assistant Professor at CityUHK and Project Coordinator of FASHION TO RECONNECT commented: “With my research rooted in luxury, sustainability, and art, I am especially proud of this initiative, which brings together exceptional partners to create cultural experiences that will inspire communities and enliven districts across the city”.

FASHION TO RECONNECT is a touring exhibition presented by Fondazione Pistoletto Cittadellarte and inspired by the dynamic equilibrium of Michelangelo Pistoletto's *Third Paradise*. The exhibition opens with artist Michelangelo Pistoletto's very own words “In the Third Paradise, nature and humanity interweave into a single breath: in sustainable fashion, that breath becomes freedom, becomes responsibility, becomes ethical beauty.” Imagining garments and fashion objects as artworks, the exhibition seeks to showcase the possibilities of sustainable fashion, as drivers of social change and testaments of beauty. Designers, entrepreneurs, brands, and artists articulate new pathways for reconnecting with nature, where material choices, processes, and a renewed sensibility toward creation become catalysts for a more virtuous evolution of the fashion system.



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Curated by Tiziano Guardini, with contributions from a scientific committee, including Mr. Carmelo Ficarra, Consul General of Italy in Hong Kong, Prof. Alfred Tat-kei Ho, Dorian Ho, Project Consultant, Ms. Sara Sozzani Maino, Ambassador of Camera Nazionale della Moda, Mr. Paolo Naldini, General Director, Fondazione Pistoletto, and the Project Coordinator Prof. Esterina Nervino, the exhibition grows from the encounter between East and West in a city long shaped by cultural exchange.

The Curator commented: “Each designer and brand featured demonstrates that creating does not merely mean producing, but generating value, respect, and regeneration at every stage of the process. This exhibition is a bridge between Italy and Hong Kong, between past and future, between who we are and who we can become”.

Through this international exchange of ideas, visitors are invited to experience a heightened, nature-rooted fashion. The exhibition stands as one of the flagship initiatives of Cittadellarte Fashion B.E.S.T., the platform created by the artist Michelangelo Pistoletto and late Vogue Italia Editor in Chief Franca Sozzani, that since 2009 has advanced sustainability within the textile and fashion sectors, and forms part of the *Fashion to Reconnect: A Tale of Two Style Capitals* programme of Fashion Fest.

Bringing Together Hong Kong (China) and Italian Design Power

The FASHION TO RECONNECT Fashion Exhibition Creates an Immersive Journey of Sustainable Aesthetics



The FASHION TO RECONNECT fashion exhibition is being held from 25 November to 24 December at ArtisTree in Taikoo Place. Created by Fondazione Pistoletto Cittadellarte and curated by Tiziano Guardini with exhibition design by GuardiniCiuffredaStudio, it features sustainable fashion pieces from Italy, selected by Fondazione Pistoletto Cittadellarte in partnership with Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana. The exhibition

showcases the diversity of Italian fashion, featuring 16 established brands, emerging designers and outstanding artisan businesses. For the first time, the exhibition will also include shoes with a curated selection from archives. There will also be a special section highlighting the creative works of 9 Hong Kong-based designers, demonstrating how sustainability is at the core in the Asian context as well. Every piece in the exhibition embodies the 4 core values of FASHION TO RECONNECT: care, transformation, connection and responsibility. This visually stunning event blends sustainable aesthetics with immersive experiences, encouraging attendees to reflect on the potential for harmony between humans and nature. The exhibition aims to inspire conscious choices and a shared commitment to a sustainable future.



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FASHION TO RECONNECT Fashion Exhibition*

Date: 25 November – 24 December

Time:

Monday to Friday (12:00 - 20:00)

Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays (11:00 - 20:00)

Venue: ArtisTree, Taikoo Place

*Free admission and guided tours upon request

Participating Hong Kong-based Designers (in alphabetical order): Arto Wong, Dorian Ho, Jasmine Leung, Jason Ying, Mandy Fong, Mountain Yam, Tiger Chung, Toki Wong and Vivienne Tam

Participating Italian Designers and Brands (in alphabetical order): Antonio Marras, CAVIA, Diesel, Etro, Ferragamo, Giorgio Armani, Institution, Lorenzo Seghezzi, Marco Rambaldi, Max Mara, Missoni, Oh Carla, Piero D'Angelo, Pietra Pistoletto, Tiziano Guardini and Zegna
(For designers and brands introduction, please refer to the appendices.)

FASHION TO RECONNECT Exhibition Pop-Up

Date: 26 November – 31 December

Time: Open all day

Venue: 1/F Lobby, Devon House, Taikoo Place (Outside ArtisTree)

Symposium, Roundtable and Seminars

Discussing Strategies for Cultural Exchange between East and West in the Creative Industries

To foster deeper industry dialogue, FASHION TO RECONNECT hosted a symposium, a roundtable, and two seminars on fashion and art at Soho House in Sheung Wan on 27 and 28 November. Among the speakers were Paolo Naldini, Director of Fondazione Pistoletto Cittadellarte; Sara Sozzani Maino, Creative Director of Fondazione Sozzani and International New Talents and Brands Ambassador of Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana; and Tiziano Guardini, eco-conscious designer and exhibition curator. These events brought together scholars, designers, industry leaders, and business representatives from Hong Kong (China), Italy, and around the world. They focused on key topics in sustainable fashion, cultural heritage, and cross-sectoral collaboration. The exchanges highlighted the rich cultural resonance between Hong Kong (China) and Italy, offering pioneering insights into sustainability and the diverse approaches to eco-conscious design, resource management, and cultural preservation adopted in the East and the West. They also helped establish an international platform through which designers from both regions can contribute to the global development of sustainability.

Exploring the 6 Third Paradise Art Installations: A Sustainable Dialogue Through Urban Spaces

From November onwards, 6 art installations based on the theme of Third Paradise will adorn Hong Kong's cultural landmarks and bustling streets. The entire city will be transformed into an immersive art gallery exploring sustainability, inviting you and other visitors to experience this artistic celebration and capture a sustainable future through your lens.



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6 Third Paradise Art Installations



Date: 17 November - 31 December
Venue: Sophia Loren House, Wan Chai
In Collaboration With: Khalif Yu



Date: 8 -31 December
Venue: Arrival Hall A, Hong Kong International Airport
In Collaboration With: Vivienne Tam



Date: 20 November - 31 December
Venue: Hung Hom Harbourfront Promenade
In Collaboration With: Dorian Ho



Date: 22 November - 19 December
Time: 07:30 – 22:30



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Venue: “Tunnel of Future Innovations”, City University of Hong Kong
In Collaboration With: Zoie Lam

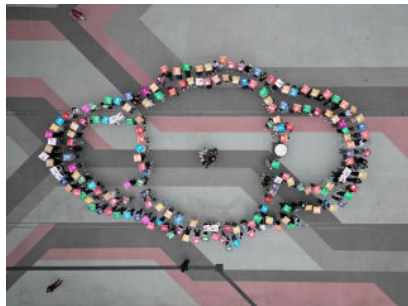


Date: 27 November - 14 December

Time: 09:00 – 23:00

Venue: G/F, Hong Kong Cultural Centre, Tsim Sha Tsui

In Collaboration With: Hong Kong Ballet



Third Paradise Flash Mob

A Third Paradise-themed flash mob took place in Hong Kong on 18 November at CityUHK. This flash mob presented the complete form of the Third Paradise in a performing arts format, creating a surprise showcase that integrated music, art, and sustainability. The orchestra was directed by Mr. Lorenzo Losco, a Hong Kong-based Italian musician. The flash mob was attended by over 200 members of staff, educators and students from To Middle School, Hoi Ping Chamber of Commerce Primary School, Shamshuipo Kaifong Welfare Association Primary School, the Students' Development Services and the Professional Final-Year Project of the Department of English at the City University of Hong Kong.

For more information about FASHION TO RECONNECT, please visit:

<http://www.fashiontoreconnecthk.com/>.

– End –

About Third Paradise

The Third Paradise is the third phase of humanity, realised as a balanced connection between artifice and nature. Within the exhibition FASHION TO RECONNECT, the message of the Third Paradise takes on a new dimension, exploring the dynamic balance in the fashion industry. A balance that can turn into a path where fashion becomes a symbol of sustainable human innovation and evolution. The collaboration between Pistoletto's vision and the theme of the exhibition thus becomes a powerful vehicle for reflection and shared responsibility in building a more ethical future.

About FASHION TO RECONNECT



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FASHION TO RECONNECT an exhibition by Fondazione Pistoletto, inspired by Michelangelo Pistoletto's Third Paradise, fashion inspired by art for responsible social change. Curated by Tiziano Guardini and exhibition design by GuardiniCiuffreda Studio, the exhibition features sustainable garments and videos that narrate their eco-conscious creation. Selected by Cittadellarte Fashion B.E.S.T. and supported by Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana, it invites reflection on humanity's harmony with nature, urging conscious choices for a sustainable future.

About The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at City University of Hong Kong

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) at City University of Hong Kong (CityUHK) is a vibrant hub for multi-sectoral collaboration and impactful research, dedicated to advancing knowledge and addressing the challenges of a rapidly changing world. With a focus on fostering intellectual curiosity, innovation and critical thinking, CLASS includes 7 different departments offering diverse programmes in humanities and social sciences and preparing talents for different sectors, including the creative and cultural industries. The College is also committed to helping students become globally-minded leaders and innovators. Through its strong emphasis on interdisciplinary collaboration, international engagement, and experiential learning, CLASS plays a pivotal role in nurturing future leaders in Hong Kong, the Greater Bay Area, and beyond.

About Fondazione Pistoletto Cittadellarte & Cittadellarte Fashion B.E.S.T.

Fondazione Pistoletto Cittadellarte, founded in 1998 by Michelangelo Pistoletto in Biella, is a social innovation hub that merges art, sustainability, and business. Located in the heart of Italy's textile district, it promotes responsible change through projects involving creatives, businesses, and institutions. One of its most significant initiatives is Cittadellarte Fashion B.E.S.T. (Better Ethical Sustainable Think Tank), a platform dedicated to sustainable fashion. This program unites designers, brands, and manufacturers to develop new production models based on eco-friendly materials, circular processes, and responsible innovation. Fashion B.E.S.T. focuses on researching sustainable fabrics, fostering collaborations between craftsmanship, technology, and design, and promoting ethical fashion through events and workshops. Thanks to this initiative, Cittadellarte has become a key reference point for those seeking to integrate creativity with responsibility, demonstrating how art can be a catalyst for real change in the fashion industry.

About Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana

Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana is a non-profit association, founded in 1958 to represent, promote and support the entire Italian fashion industry by maintaining institutional relationships and activities worldwide. Based in the world fashion capital Milan, CNMI represents approximately 220 brands including the biggest names in Italian fashion. CNMI's operating strategy and development are based on Storytelling, Environmental and Social Sustainability, Education and Emerging brands, Institutional and International relations.

About "Hong Kong Fashion Fest"

Announced by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Chief Executive in the 2023 Policy Address, "Hong Kong Fashion Fest" will be organised to develop Hong Kong into a fashion design hub in Asia. Through consolidating various fashion design events and introducing innovative elements and affiliate activities annually, the Hong Kong Fashion Fest promotes Hong Kong's fashion and textile design brands and boosts Hong Kong's position as a prime destination for hosting mega cultural and creative events. The second edition of Hong Kong Fashion Fest will be held from 22 November and 7 December 2025 at various cultural landmarks and iconic design and fashion locations in Hong Kong. The event will promote digital fashion and sustainable fashion in collaboration with Paris Fashion Week and Milan Fashion Week; attract fashion design industry players from all over the world to participate in Hong Kong; foster collaboration, innovation and business opportunities; establish platform for local and international fashion



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designers and brands and connect with different sectors in the fashion design industry of Hong Kong, the Chinese Mainland and overseas, thereby consolidating Hong Kong's position as the East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange.

About Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency

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 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 start-ups, 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.

For more details about the Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency, please visit:
www.ccidahk.gov.hk

This press release was issued on behalf of CLASS of CityUHK by Poem Communications Limited. If you have any inquiries regarding the event or wish to conduct interviews with the organisers, designers and representatives from the FASHION TO RECONNECT project, please contact:

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