

**École  
des arts  
décoratifs**  
PSL



## **Signing of a partnership agreement between the École Des Arts Décoratifs – PSL and the Hong-Kong Polytechnic University**

**Monday, June 30th the School of Decorative Arts - PSL had the pleasure of welcoming a delegation from the School of Design of Hong-Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), in order to sign a memorandum of understanding.**



Professor KP Lee, Dean of PolyU Design, and Professor Henry Duh, Associate Dean, were received by Emmanuel Tibloux, Director of the École des Arts Décoratifs – PSL, along with the teams in charge of international relations and research. The signing of the agreement was followed by a tour of the school, allowing the delegation to discover the many technical workshops that contribute to ENSAD's reputation.

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This two-year agreement aims to foster strategic collaboration between the two institutions, both in the field of academic exchanges as well as of research.

It reflects the commitment of both schools to strengthen cooperation between their countries, increase opportunities for student, faculty, and administrative mobility, and above all, to establish close collaboration in research through the implementation of joint projects.

This memorandum of understanding has helped identify key areas of cooperation, and the teams from both institutions will work in the coming months to define more precisely the format of this partnership.

This agreement reflects a shared commitment to invest in common areas of interest: user-centered design, forward-looking approaches to practices, responsible innovation, and the local integration of environmental design.

The École des Arts Décoratifs – PSL is developing this partnership in the frame of its active internationalization strategy, particularly in Asia, where it has been developing long-term academic ties, as evidenced by the double degree program established with Bunka Gakuen University (Tokyo) in 2016.

With PolyU Design, ranked among the world's top design schools according to the QS World University Ranking, it is the start of a new synergy emerging between two complementary institutions. Located at the heart of a dynamic urban, economic, and technological ecosystem, the PolyU School of Design is renowned for its expertise in strategic design, social innovation, urban design, UX/UI, mobility, and branding.

For its part, the École des Arts Décoratifs – PSL asserts a vision of design that is deeply rooted in the challenges of ecological and social transition. Through its programs in Product Design, Graphic Design, and Textile and Texture Design, as well as its research lab in art and creative practices EnsadLab, the school promotes an engaged approach to eco-design, low-impact in creative processes, and a design practice oriented toward the common good.

This partnership represents a remarkable opportunity for students and faculty alike to exchange perspectives and methods, develop hybrid and context-sensitive practices, and explore their creative imaginaries through a dynamic dialogue between Europe and Asia.

The École des Arts Décoratifs – PSL is delighted with the signing of this agreement, an exciting first milestone in a partnership that is intended to grow and deepen over the years.

“The signing of this agreement with the School of Design at Hong Kong Polytechnic University, one of the most dynamic and forward-thinking design schools in Asia, marks a new milestone in our School’s international engagement.

This partnership enables our students and faculty to engage with design challenges in a cultural, technological, and urban context that is very different, while building strong ties with a leading academic community.

In a world where challenges are shared but approaches are diverse, this collaboration offers the opportunity to exchange perspectives, broaden practices, and enrich learning journeys.

At l’Ecole des Arts Décoratifs – PSL, we place particular emphasis on eco-design, low-impact processes, and the local grounding of projects. Our approach is rooted in a vision of design that serves society and the commons.

This agreement with PolyU School of Design offers a valuable opportunity to bring these perspectives into dialogue with those of a major player on the Asian design scene.”

**- Emmanuel Tibloux, Director of the École des Arts Décoratifs – PSL**

“Design problems are becoming increasingly complex, and new socio-technological changes are driving the need for structural transformation in design education. The scale of this transformation is too great for any single design school to address alone; collaboration is essential.

The School of Design at Hong Kong Polytechnic University, with its 60-year history, is one of the leading design schools in Asia, ranked 22nd globally in Art and Design by QS. We are exploring various forms of collaboration with ENSAD, one of the most renowned design schools in France and the world. Potential areas of collaboration include joint classes, student exchanges, joint or dual degrees, staff exchanges, and joint research labs.

We look forward to learning from each other, sharing our experiences, and creating together.”

**- Kun Pyo Lee, Dean of the School of Design of PolyU Hong-Kong**

## About Us

### L'École des Arts Décoratifs – PSL



Today, the École des Arts Décoratifs – PSL is rooted in multiple locations fully realizing its mission: to reinvent the arts of living and inhabiting in our time. Acting as a rhizome at different geographical and symbolic levels, it reawakens the very spirit of the decorative arts, in close dialogue with the issues and challenges facing us on the scale of our earthly home.

*'Our ambition: not just another school, but more than a school. Our mission: to educate students, not simply to fit into the world, but to empower them to transform it.'* Emmanuel Tibloux, Director

A unique educational model, a broad opening to the world through a global network of partner Grandes Écoles, an outstanding research center as well as an ambitious cultural program place the École des Arts Décoratifs – PSL among the select group of Grandes Écoles actively engaged in ecological, social, technological and solidarity-driven transformation.

A public institution of higher education under the authority of French Ministry of Culture and a constituent of Université PSL (Paris Sciences & Lettres), the École des Arts Décoratifs – PSL also leads the Campus of Excellence in Fashion, Fine Crafts & Design – MoMaDe. Located in the heart of the Gobelins Manufactory and bringing together a unique network of schools and institutional partners in Île-de-France, in Paris and Créteil school districts.





### **The School of Design of Hong-Kong Polytechnic University**

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) strives to be an innovative world-class university that pursues excellence in education, research, and knowledge transfer for the benefit of Hong Kong, the Nation, and the world. The University nurtures socially responsible professionals and leaders with a strong sense of national pride and a global perspective, and pursues world-leading research and innovation for societal benefits. A robust culture of knowledge transfer and entrepreneurship is a cornerstone of the University, ensuring PolyU's technologies are transformed into practical real-world applications.

The University's unwavering commitment to excellence has earned it international recognition, with PolyU consistently ranking among the top 100 universities worldwide. Based on this solid foundation, the University will continue to make positive contributions to society to foster a brighter future, living up to its motto, "To learn and to apply, for the benefit of mankind".

PolyU Design has been an important hub of design education and research for Hong Kong since 1964. The School thrives on its geographical position in bridging the East and the West, allowing its students to develop their design strengths with a uniquely international cultural awareness at both professional and social levels. The School is ranked among the top art and design schools in Asia according to the QS World University Rankings, placing world's 22<sup>nd</sup> in the 2025 edition.

The School provides a high level, well equipped environment that includes significant research infrastructure with design laboratories, a variety of first class technical workshops and exhibition galleries that have hosted hundreds of design showcases and events since the opening of the Jockey Club Innovation Tower, the School's home.