



**Opening Ceremony of the
Centre for Communication Design
7 October 2021 (Thursday)**

**Welcome Speech by
Mr. Tony TAI
Chairman of VTC**

Distinguished Guests, VTC Colleagues and Students, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon! It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to the official opening of the Centre for Communication Design at the Hong Kong Design Institute (HKDI). First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our officiating guests today, including Mr Freeman Lau, Mr Jackson Leung, Mr John Wu, Mr Henry Steiner, Mr Stanley Wong and Dr Kan Tai Keung. I would also like to thank our friends and longstanding partners from the industry and academia for attending today's event to share our excitement.

VTC has been in the forefront in helping young people reach their full potential, gearing them up with innovative spirit and practical know-how. As one of the leading design education institutions in Hong Kong, our member institution, HKDI, has always been committed to nurturing young creative design talents for industry. Apart from our professional teaching staff and state-of-the-art hardware, HKDI's Knowledge Centres including this new Centre opened today offer our students access to interdisciplinary platforms and enable them to engage in projects with industry partners.

The Centre for Communication Design is an applied research and consultancy hub dedicated to the advancement of knowledge in all areas of graphic communication. It also acts as a knowledge exchange platform between our staff, students and external organisations, integrating practice, research, teaching and outreach activities. I am confident that all of our teaching staff and students of HKDI can benefit from the Centre's research and activities.

I am delighted to share with you about the Hong Kong Graphic Archive, a



highlight of the Centre which serves as a physical and digital library that preserves, records and makes available graphic design artefacts of historical significance for teaching and research purpose. We are thankful for the generous support of Mr John WU for donating his extraordinary private collection of historically significant printed ephemera. With over 30,000 artefacts, this comprehensive collection traces the evolution of Hong Kong's graphic design profession since 1930s. The Centre will photographically document the collection and store them in an online database to facilitate search and access by the public.

On this memorable occasion, may I once again thank our industry partners for their support to the establishment of the Centre. We look forward to continuing our work with the industry and academia to develop quality creative talent for a bright future.

Thank you.