

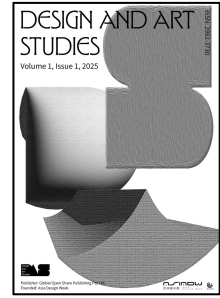


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Editorial

Rooted in Asia, Engaged with the World: *Design and Art Studies* Launch Statement

Sheng Li¹ 

¹Asia Design Week

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Abstract

Design and Art Studies is a new open-access, English-language journal founded by Asia Design Week in partnership with Global Open Share Publishing Pty Ltd. Positioned at the intersections of design, art, social science, and engineering, the journal aims to amplify Asian scholarly voices while fostering global interdisciplinary dialogue. Our thematic focus encompasses design and social innovation, digital art and artificial intelligence, cultural sustainability, green design, human-computer interaction, Asian design philosophy, and contemporary art studies. Distinguished by a diverse international editorial board spanning over ten countries, we particularly value the contributions of our young editorial board members, who bring cutting-edge perspectives and enhance the journal's global visibility. Beyond traditional academic publishing, *Design and Art Studies* integrates research with practice through collaborations with Asia Design Week's exhibitions, forums, and creative industry networks. We challenge the center-periphery paradigm in academic publishing by creating a multilingual, multicentric platform that bridges theoretical inquiry with practical application. Our vision is to establish a living knowledge ecosystem where critical scholarship meets creative innovation, positioning Asia not as peripheral but as a vital source of theory-making and cultural leadership in the global design and art discourse.

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This journal was founded by Asia Design Week, in partnership with the international academic publishing platform Global Open Share Publishing Pty Ltd. Drawing upon extensive academic and creative networks across Asia and beyond, *Design and Art Studies* aims to become a high-quality, open-access, English-language journal focused on the intersections of design, art, social science, and engineering. Our goal is not only to amplify Asian scholarly voices globally but also to create a vibrant, interdisciplinary space for knowledge exchange among the international community of design and art professionals.

1. From Cultural Platform to Academic Catalyst

Since its inception, Asia Design Week has been committed to building a design and cultural network rooted in Asia and oriented toward the world. With a focus on socially relevant design and creative communication, it has successfully organized a number of influential initiatives, including the Asian Vanguard Art and Design Award and the

International Poster Exhibition of Asia Urban Culture, which have gained strong recognition across the fields of visual culture, public design, and creative industries.

Over the past decade, in close collaboration with universities, research institutions, and professional organizations across East Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia, we have encountered an abundance of original research. Yet, there remains a lack of academic publishing platforms capable of authentically representing the depth and diversity of Asian perspectives on a global stage.

The founding of *Design and Art Studies* represents a strategic evolution from cultural programming to knowledge production. It also signifies our commitment to contributing to the formation of a more balanced and inclusive global discourse in design and art.

2. Our Position: Interdisciplinary Inquiry, Critical Vision

We believe that design and art are not isolated aesthetic practices, but integrative forces that bridge technology, the humanities, ecology, and society. *Design and Art Studies* will emphasize interdisciplinary scholarship through the following key thematic areas:

Design and Social Innovation: Including public service design, inclusive design for aging societies, rural revitalization, and community-based co-creation;

Digital Art and Artificial Intelligence: Encompassing AI-generated art, XR and immersive experiences, interactive media, and emerging forms of digital expression;

Cultural Sustainability and Intangible Heritage: Exploring identity, memory, localization, and cultural reinterpretation in the global context;

Green Design and Ecological Materials: Addressing circular design, sustainable materials, eco-architecture, and urban ecology;

Human-Computer Interaction and Experience Research: Covering user behavior, sensory design, emotional computing, and intelligent interfaces;

Asian Design Philosophy and Practice: Generating theories from within Asia and constructing indigenous approaches to contemporary issues;

Contemporary Art and Visual Studies: Including visual communication, installation art, digital practices, curatorial research, and public art.

We welcome diverse research methodologies, including empirical studies, speculative design, theoretical inquiry, artistic research, and practice-based investigations. *Design and Art Studies* encourages a dialogue between critical theory and practical application.

3. Rooted in Asia, Engaged with the World

As a fully English-language international journal, *Design and Art Studies* is open to researchers worldwide and committed to advancing inclusive academic exchange across cultures.

We aim to challenge the dominant "center–periphery" paradigm in global academic publishing by fostering dialogue that is multilingual, multicentric, and contextually aware. Through rigorous peer review and inclusive editorial governance, we aspire to build a journal that reflects both regional specificity and universal relevance.

3.1. A Distinguished Editorial Collective

Our editorial board represents a remarkable constellation of scholarly excellence, bringing together distinguished academics from over ten countries—including China, South Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, India, Australia, the United States, and the United Kingdom—across disciplines such as design, art, social sciences, engineering, and the humanities. We extend our deepest gratitude to our Co-Editors-in-Chief, Associate Editors, and the entire editorial board for their unwavering commitment to advancing interdisciplinary scholarship.

3.2. Special Recognition for Our Young Editorial Board Members

We are particularly honored to collaborate with our exceptional young editorial board members, who represent the future stars of academic research. These emerging scholars bring fresh perspectives, innovative methodologies, and cutting-edge insights that significantly enrich the quality and diversity of our published research. Their deep understanding of contemporary digital cultures, emerging technologies, and evolving social dynamics ensures that our journal remains at the forefront of scholarly discourse. The involvement of these young academic talents not only enhances the rigor and relevance of our peer review process but also elevates the international visibility and reputation of *Design and Art Studies* within the global academic community.

Our young editorial board members serve as vital bridges between established scholarship and emerging paradigms, contributing to:

Enhanced Research Quality: Their expertise in contemporary methodologies and digital research tools brings new dimensions to manuscript evaluation

Global Network Expansion: Their international connections and social media presence amplify our journal's reach across diverse academic communities

Innovation in Scholarship: Their familiarity with emerging technologies and design practices ensures we capture the most current developments in the field

Cross-Cultural Dialogue: Their multilingual capabilities and cultural fluency facilitate meaningful exchanges between Eastern and Western academic traditions

We are also developing long-term collaborations with academic institutions to co-host international conferences, support knowledge co-creation, and amplify emerging voices. These partnerships, strengthened by our diverse editorial collective, create synergies that extend far beyond traditional publishing boundaries.

4. A Platform That Connects Knowledge, Practice, and Impact

Powered by the extensive ecosystem of Asia Design Week, *Design and Art Studies* will actively bridge research, creative industries, and public discourse through the following mechanisms:

From Knowledge to Impact: Selected papers will be integrated into Asia Design Week's exhibitions, forums, and publishing programs, expanding the influence of academic research beyond the page;

Research + Practice: Through curated Research Topics, the journal will not only publish theoretical articles but also spotlight outstanding design projects and feature interviews with emerging designers, thus capturing the dynamic intersections of research and industry;

Conference-Journal Synergy: In partnership with universities and international collaborators, we will develop academic events that align with journal themes, author invitations, and peer engagement;

Open Collaborative Model: We warmly invite researchers, scientists, designers, and artists from around the world to co-initiate Research Topics, creating thematic clusters that address urgent global challenges from interdisciplinary perspectives.

In doing so, we aim to establish *Design and Art Studies* as a living knowledge platform, not just an academic repository—one that fosters intellectual depth, creative energy, and practical relevance.

5. What We Believe In: The Power of Design, the Roots of Culture

We believe that design and art are more than forms of expression—they are instruments of memory, agents of change, and bridges to the future.

We believe that Asia is not peripheral to global innovation, but a vital source of theory-making, cultural renewal, and creative leadership.

We believe that the most meaningful scholarship does not reside in isolation, but emerges from engagement—with the world, with communities, and with the pressing questions of our time.

We believe in the transformative power of intergenerational collaboration, where seasoned scholars and emerging voices work together to chart new territories of knowledge and understanding.

6. Join Us: Contribute, Collaborate, Co-create the Future

In an era of unprecedented transformation and complexity, we envision *Design and Art Studies* not only as a journal of record, but as a hub for global scholarly dialogue and creative thinking. We extend an open invitation to:

Researchers and Educators: To share rigorous studies that advance the discourse in design and art;

Designers and Artists: To bring the lived experience of practice into scholarly conversation;

Cross-disciplinary Teams and Research Institutions: To explore the evolving intersections of design, society, culture, and technology;

Young Scholars and Students: To ask bold questions and become part of an emerging generation of knowledge-makers.

A Special Call to Emerging Scholars

We particularly encourage submissions from early-career researchers, doctoral candidates, and young professionals who are pioneering new approaches to design and art studies. Your fresh perspectives and innovative methodologies are essential to keeping our field dynamic and relevant. Through our mentorship programs and collaborative review processes, we aim to nurture the next generation of academic leaders while ensuring that cutting-edge research reaches the global community.

We encourage the submission of original, English-language manuscripts with strong conceptual frameworks, methodological clarity, and interdisciplinary value. All submissions will undergo thorough peer review in line with international academic standards, guided by our distinguished editorial team whose diverse expertise ensures comprehensive and constructive feedback.

Our Commitment to Excellence and Growth

Looking ahead, *Design and Art Studies* will continue to develop:

High-impact academic conferences and annual forums that bring together our global editorial community and contributors

Collaborative research initiatives for early-career scholars supported by our young editorial board members

Integrated channels for publishing and showcasing award-winning work that bridge academic and professional communities

Knowledge visualization and public-facing research translation making scholarship accessible to broader audiences

Thematic Research Topics that connect global ideas with local actions, curated by our international editorial collective

Mentorship networks connecting established and emerging scholars across cultural and disciplinary boundaries

Digital innovation initiatives that explore new forms of scholarly communication and engagement

Acknowledgment and Gratitude

The vision and success of *Design and Art Studies* would not be possible without the extraordinary dedication of our editorial community. We express our profound appreciation to our Co-Editors-in-Chief, who provide strategic

leadership and scholarly direction; our Associate Editors, who ensure the highest standards of peer review; and our entire editorial board, whose collective expertise spans continents and disciplines.

Most importantly, we celebrate our young editorial board members, whose energy, innovation, and global perspectives are already transforming the landscape of design and art scholarship. Their contributions extend far beyond manuscript review—they are actively shaping the future of our field, building bridges between traditional and emerging paradigms, and ensuring that *Design and Art Studies* remains a vibrant platform for the next generation of scholars and practitioners.

Together, this remarkable editorial collective not only enhances the quality and impact of our published research but also elevates the international standing of Design and Art Studies as a leading forum for interdisciplinary scholarship. Their commitment to excellence, innovation, and inclusivity ensures that our journal will continue to grow in influence and recognition within the global academic community.

We hope this journal becomes an evolving ecosystem of ideas, action, and collaboration—a platform where critical inquiry meets practical relevance, and where creative scholarship charts new paths for our shared future. With the continued support of our exceptional editorial team and the broader academic community, Design and Art Studies is poised to become a defining voice in the global discourse on design and art.