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The Fourth Asian Conference of Design History and Theory
ACDHT 2021 OSAKA
“The Culture of Design and Design in Culture”

The Asian Conference of Design History and Theory (ACDHT), established in 2015, is a small-scale international conference dealing with various design-related topics and is held every other year. With the cooperation of a number of related associations and academic bodies, the conference is held in tandem with each group’s regular meetings and annual general meetings. A specific theme is established for each conference, and the event is notable for its small scale and its open and lively discussions.

The theme of the fourth ACDHT, held at Osaka University, Japan in 2021, was “The Culture of Design and Design in Culture”. Although the academic disciplines of Design Studies and Design History have their origins in modern Western culture/society, there is a growing tendency to emphasize the archetypal nature of design throughout the world. Furthermore, one branch of Design Studies/Historiography focuses on originality of design in a particular regional culture or country.

The purpose of the fourth ACDHT conference on “The Culture of Design and Design in Culture” is 1) to shed light on interactions of design and culture in the age of globalization and 2) to grasp more deeply the value and potential of design as an academic discipline.

This issue of *The Journal of the Asian Conference of Design History and Theory*, therefore, contains a variety of papers presented at the following Sessions of the conference:

- I. Design History and Design Education
- II. Modernizing Craft and Fashion
- III. Rethinking Design Culture in Japan
- IV. Textile Design in Global Context
- V. Design and Identity
- VI. Public Image
- VII. Art and Architecture
- VIII. Reviewing Product Design

We hope the ACDHT and its journal will provide continuing inspiration in the field of design history and theory from global perspectives in the future.

March 2022, Osaka

The ACDHT 2021 OSAKA Organizers