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REDRESS DESIGN AWARD 2022 SEMI-FINALISTS ANNOUNCED, WITH SUSTAINABLE FASHION TALENT EMERGING FROM FIVE CONTINENTS

People's Choice Award voting now open until 9 May 2022 – winner guaranteed spot in the 2022 Grand Final Fashion Presentation

[20 April 2022, Hong Kong] Today the Redress Design Award, organised by Redress with Create Hong Kong of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region as the Lead Sponsor, announces its 2022 semi-finalists – 30 talented sustainable fashion designers from diverse regions including Chile, Nigeria, Vietnam, Hong Kong and others – and kicks off the voting for its People's Choice Award.

The public is invited to vote <u>HERE</u> for their favourite designer among the semi-finalists. The winner of the most votes will be fast-tracked to the final round of the competition, where they will present their collection at the Grand Final Fashion Presentation in September 2022, alongside nine other finalists to be selected by an international panel of expert judges.

In their search for the ten finalists and, ultimately, the winning designers, the judges will be looking for creativity and originality; sustainability and innovation including skillful use of circular design techniques; marketability and scalability; and in the Grand Final round, workmanship.

All 30 semi-finalists will join the Redress Design Award Alumni Network. Currently over 240 designers strong, the network offers ongoing support to designers as they develop their careers in sustainable fashion, providing opportunities such as exclusive retail collaborations and promotion of their work to

targeted industry professionals and the media. Each designer will also receive a selection of digital fashion books from Bloomsbury Publishing.

The ten designers who advance to the final stage of the competition, to be announced on 10 May and including the People's Choice Award winner, will be eligible for career-boosting prizes including a design collaboration opportunity with Timberland and a development fund of HK\$50,000 (US\$6,400) for the First Prize winner; a development fund of HK\$15,000 (US\$1,900) and a tailored mentorship programme with distinguished sustainable fashion designer and competition judge, Orsola de Castro for the Runner-up; and a development fund of HK\$15,000 (US\$1,900) for the Hong Kong Best Prize winner, as well as a high-performance JUKI sewing machine for each of all three winners, among other prizes.

The Redress Design Award 2022 received applications from 47 countries and regions, including for the first time in the competition Guatemala, Myanmar, Rwanda, and Slovakia. The emerging designers showcased exceptional creativity in their use of circular design strategies to reduce carbon footprints in their applications. "Year on year, the quality of the applications we receive keeps improving. It is amazing to see these emerging designers from all over the world proposing so many diverse solutions to make our industry circular," shared Morgane Parizot, Redress' Education Director.

The Redress Design Award 2022's Semi-finalists are:

- Ashutosh Panda, India
- Cal Carver, United States of America
- Lam Chi Fu, Hong Kong
- Trần Thị Kiều Chinh, Vietnam
- Cris Miranda, Chile
- Darius Jireh Juson, Philippines
- Drina Marco, Spain
- Elahehsadat Hosseini, United Kingdom
- Federico Badini Confalonieri, Italy
- Guntas Grewal, India
- Hoàng Hồng Hải, Vietnam
- Laura Borrmeister, New Zealand
- Lívia Aguiar de Castro, Brazil
- Lola Clavel, Hong Kong
- Lorenzo Restagno, Hong Kong

- Louise Boase, Australia
- Loveleen Tokas, India
- Lucy Mitchell, United Kingdom
- Zheng Luyao, Mainland China
- Maria Pons Porta, Spain
- Marie-Eve Aubry, Canada
- Melissa Pereira Rodrigues, Portugal
- Micaela Clubourg, Spain
- Mohammed Numaan Khan, India
- Nawoda Bandara, Sri Lanka
- Ruth Hadinjoto, Australia
- Ruwanthi Gajadeera, Sri Lanka
- Samira Mohammed, Nigeria
- Wang Sizhe, Mainland China
- Yang Yimiao, Mainland China

In tandem with the main Redress Design Award programme, a new 'Rising Talents' programme from Redress launches this year, offering exclusive sustainability enrichment experience to four talented designers who have not been selected as semi-finalists but whom the Redress team have found to demonstrate exceptional potential in their applications. Taking place in spring 2022, the first edition of the programme aims to enrich the selected designers' knowledge in circular fashion through mentorships, project pitching, and other educational activities. Upon successful completion of these activities, the designers who graduate from the Rising Talents programme will be admitted to be Redress Design Award Alumni and will remain eligible to apply to future cycles of the competition.

Now in its 12th cycle, the Redress Design Award works to educate worldwide emerging designers about sustainable design strategies and put fashion game-changers in the global spotlight to accelerate the shift towards a circular fashion system. With projections for overall apparel consumption to rise by 63% if the global population rises as expected to 8.5 billion people by 2030, there are vast opportunities for the

fashion industry to meet the world's demands while offering options that safeguard the environment for the next generation. (1)

The coveted People's Choice Award of the Redress Design Award 2022 is now open for public voting until 9 May 2022. Find out more about this cycle's semi-finalists and vote for your favourite designer at https://www.redressdesignaward.com/2022/semifinalists.

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High resolution images are available <u>here</u> and full media kit <u>here</u> for download.

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Editor's Notes

- The Redress Design Award 2022 was open to applications from emerging designers and students with less than four years' professional experience from around the globe, focusing on both womenswear and menswear original collection designs. Ten finalists will be announced on 10 May 2022.
- The Redress Design Award 2022 judges are: Desiree Au, Founding Publisher, Vogue Hong Kong; Sean Cady, Vice President, Global Sustainability and Responsibility, VF Corporation; Orsola de Castro, Fashion Designer, Global Creative Director and Co-founder, Fashion Revolution; Christophe Degoix, Chief Operating Officer, TAL Apparel Ltd; Edwin Keh, Chief Executive Officer, The Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA); Puneet Khosla, Vice President and Managing Director, Timberland APAC - VF Corporation; and Angus Tsui, Creative Director, ANGUS TSUI and Alumnus, Redress Design Award.
- More details of the judges of the Redress Design Award 2022: www.redressdesignaward.com/2022/judges
- The Redress Design Award is run by environmental NGO, Redress, and supported by Create Hong Kong of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region as the Lead Sponsor. Other key partners include VF Corporation, TAL Group, UPS, and Avery Dennison.
- Statistic (1) Source: Global Fashion Agenda and The Boston Consulting Group, Inc., Pulse of the Fashion Industry (2017)
- Explore more of the issues underpinning the Redress Design Award: <u>Redress Design Award</u> <u>Additional Resources - The Issues</u>
- Five alumni of previous Redress Design Award cycles are launching the spring/summer collection 'REVIVAL' with The R Collective, the award-winning social impact business recovering waste from luxury brands into responsible clothes. The collection launches on 22 April, Earth Day, and will be available for purchase on thercollective.com.

About Redress (<u>www.redress.com.hk</u>)

Redress is a pioneering environmental charity working to prevent and transform textile waste in the fashion industry. Its dynamic programmes work to minimise the negative impacts of fashion, whilst promoting innovative new models and driving growth towards a more sustainable industry via the circular economy. Working directly with a wide range of stakeholders, including designers, manufacturers, brands, educational bodies, government and consumers, Redress aims to create lasting environmental change in fashion.

The Redress Design Award is the world's largest sustainable fashion design competition working to educate emerging fashion designers around the world about sustainable design theories and techniques in order to drive the shift towards a circular fashion system. By putting sustainable design talent in the global spotlight, the competition creates a unique platform for passionate and talented fashion game-changers to transform the global fashion industry and rewards the best with career-changing prizes to maximise long-term impact. Create Hong Kong of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is the Lead Sponsor of the Redress Design Award. <u>www.redressdesignaward.com</u>

About Create Hong Kong (www.createhk.gov.hk)

Create Hong Kong (CreateHK) is a dedicated agency set up by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in June 2009. It is under the Communications and Creative Industries Branch of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and dedicated to spearheading the development of creative industries in Hong Kong. Its strategic foci are nurturing talent and facilitating start-ups, exploring markets, and promoting Hong Kong as Asia's creative capital and fostering a creative atmosphere in the community. CreateHK has been sponsoring the Redress Design Award (formerly the EcoChic Design Award) since 2011 to promote Hong Kong's fashion design.