

For immediate release:

## **World's First Intelligent Illuminative Interactive Bag Collection Debuts at DESIGNINSPIRE**

***“Zaixin” by Kan Tai-keung × GERI Limited: A Cross-disciplinary Collaboration Showcasing Hong Kong’s Strength in Research and Creativity***

**3 December 2025** – Internationally renowned designer and artist **Dr. Kan Tai-keung** and his cultural lifestyle brand **“Zaixin”** have joined hands with Hong Kong-based intelligent textile solutions company GERI Limited to launch the cross-disciplinary project **“Zaixin × GERI: Innovative Artistry”**. The collaboration introduces the **world’s first intelligent illuminative interactive knit bag collection**, which will be showcased at DesignInspire 2025, the annual signature design event organised by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC). Sponsored by the Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency (CCIDA), the project marks a new milestone in linking Hong Kong’s research achievements with cultural innovation.

To offer the media an in-depth understanding of the collaboration and its underlying vision, Dr. Kan Tai-keung; Prof. Jeanne Tan, Professor of School of Fashion and Textile of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and Co-founder and Director of GERI; and Tan Jun Jong, Co-founder and CEO of GERI, attended the DesignInspire 2025 media preview today to share the creative concept, technological applications and market development plans behind the collection.

### **Technology As Cultural Vessel: Translating Research Into Tangible Experiences**

The illuminative interactive handbag showcased in this project is powered by GERI’s proprietary photonic fibre textile, developed over many years by Prof. Jeanne Tan and her research team at PolyU’s School of Fashion and Textiles, this technology successfully integrates optical fibres into industrial-grade knitting processes, allowing fabrics to be soft to the touch, elastic, and visually responsive to light, while also being machine-washable and ready for commercial-scale production.

The fabric’ custom-engineered photonic structure enables light effects, with further control of rhythm and brightness available through a mobile application, bringing a new dimension of interactivity to textile craftsmanship. Beyond fashion, the technology extends to premium lifestyle products, interior environments and immersive art installations, and has been adopted by international brand ANTEPRIMA and property developers in Hong Kong.

### **“Zaixin × GERI”: Where Eastern Aesthetics Meet Intelligent Light**

In this collaboration, GERI’s technological breakthroughs provide a new medium for Dr. Kan’s artistic vision. Drawing inspiration from several of Dr. Kan’s works, the collection

uses photonic fibre technology and crafted knit structures to guide light along the path of the brushstroke, turning static compositions into dynamic light expressions. The bag silhouettes and construction are created by Hong Kong fashion brand DEMO (designers Derek Chan and Mite Chan), pairing soft, oriental contours with refined illuminative effects to express a contemporary interpretation of “light from within”. The series comprises five designs, named “Caprice”, “Mind”, “Chanting”, “Melody”, and “Constant”, each reflecting natural imagery and the Eastern spirit found throughout Dr. Kan’s creative journey. Each handbag is produced in limited editions. The hand-finished knit surfaces give every piece a distinctive luminous qi-yun—a unique rhythm and resonance of light.

**Dr. Kan Tai-keung** remarked, “Intelligent photonic textiles allow light to become a creative material. This collaboration brings traditional craft and advanced technology together, realising the idea of ‘shaping with light, creating from the heart’, and highlights the potential of Hong Kong design to merge culture with innovation.”

**Integrating Research into Design: Advancing Hong Kong’s Innovation and Culture**  
**Prof. Jeanne Tan** said, “Through intelligent photonic fibre textiles, GERI is building an experimental platform that connects research with design. Our collaboration with Dr. Kan and Zaixin shows how scientific research can become a language of creation, bringing technology closer to cultural life.”

GERI CEO **Tan Jun Jong** added, “Research creates real impact only when it becomes something people can touch and use. This collaboration demonstrates how Hong Kong’s scientific spirit and cultural creativity can strengthen one another.”

Through the world’s first intelligent illuminative interactive knit bag, the collaboration between Zaixin and GERI highlights the possibilities of merging technology and artistry, and manifests how Hong Kong’s home-grown innovation and cultural creativity can reach the global stage through forward-looking design.

GERI has advanced the commercialisation of illuminative knit textiles, building a collaborative ecosystem across design, engineering and material science. In September, at the 10th anniversary haute couture presentation of Hong Kong’s fashion event CENTRESTAGE, **Guo Pei**, China’s first haute couture designer formally invited by the Chambre Syndicale de la Haute Couture in Paris, served as the ELITES featured designer. Her new Spring/Summer 2026 couture collection, “Giltternity: An Everlasting Radiance”, opened with a look crafted using GERI’s intelligent photonic knit textile, underscoring its real-world potential in high fashion.

**From Eastern Aesthetics to Contemporary Living: The Cultural Vision of “Zaixin”**  
For more than six decades, Dr. Kan Tai-keung has been a leading figure in blending Eastern aesthetics with modern visual language. Rooted in Chinese cultural heritage,

his work, ranging from posters and branding to publications and cultural projects, explores the dialogue between traditional imagery and contemporary design, shaping an influential presence on the international stage. In 2025, Dr. Kan established “Zaixin”, a cultural lifestyle brand dedicated to bringing the essence of Eastern humanistic spirit into contemporary living. Embracing innovation, cross-cultural collaboration and sustainability, Zaixin embodies cultural depth while presenting a modern aesthetic, positioning itself as a lifestyle IP for today’s world.

The name “Zaixin” literally means “within the heart” and “from the depths of the inner self”. It signifies a brand that begins from cultural essence, extending aesthetic ideals into everyday objects and living scenarios, allowing Eastern culture to enter contemporary life in ways that are intimate, perceptible, and experiential. Zaixin aims to cultivate a cultural community with a modern outlook, forging closer connections between lifestyle design, cultural heritage, and holistic well-being, and becoming an important platform for contemporary innovation in Eastern culture.

DesignInspire’s InnoTalks series will feature Dr. Kan and Prof. Jeanne Tan on 6 December (Saturday). Through the “Zaixin × GERIC” collaboration, they will share the development of the world’s first illuminative interactive knit bag. Dr. Kan will discuss how Zaixin’s artistic philosophy transforms Eastern aesthetics through modern technology, while Prof. Tan will outline GERIC’s research in intelligent photonic and knit technologies and how these innovations translate into practical design applications. The talk will offer insights into cross-disciplinary collaboration and the relationship between design, research and everyday life.

### **“Zaixin x GERIC : Innovative Artistry” Exhibition Details at DesignInspire**

Date and time:	3 December 2025 (Wednesday)	2:00pm-7:00pm (VIP Preview, by invitation only)
	4-5 December 2025 (Thursday to Friday)	9:30am-7:30pm
	6 December 2025 (Saturday)	9:30am-7:00pm
Venue:	Booth No. 3E-D04, Hall 3DE, 3/F, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre	

### **“Zaixin x GERIC : Innovative Artistry” Exhibition Networking**

Date: 4 December 2025 (Thursday)

Time: 10:30am-12:00pm

Venue: Booth No. 3E-D04, Hall 3DE, 3/F, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

## **“Zaixin x GERI : Innovative Artistry” InnoTalks Session Details**

Date: 6 December 2025 (Saturday)

Time: 3:30-4:00pm

Venue: InnoTalks, Hall 3DE, 3/F, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

Speakers:

Dr. Kan Tai-keung (Founder of Zaixin; Renowned Graphic Designer)

Prof. Jeanne Tan (Co-founder and Director of GERI; Professor of School of Fashion and Textiles, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

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### **GERI Limited ([www.geri.hk](http://www.geri.hk))**

GERI Limited is an intelligent textile solutions company that redefines textile interaction, offering intuitive, intelligent, and responsive alternatives that enhance functionality and aesthetics. With textile systems that can be applied in wearables, immersive art and experiential sensory spaces. GERI pushes the boundaries of what textiles can do—crafting materials that communicate, transform and inspire. GERI is founded by Prof Jeanne Tan and Tan Jun Jong in 2023.

### **Zaixin (<https://zaixinkantaikeung.com/>)**

From transcending territories and time to crossing disciplines and media, Dr. Kan Tai Keung never stops. In June 2025, he officially launched his personally established lifestyle and cultural IP brand “Zaixin”.

“Zaixin” aims to infuse the essence of Eastern humanistic spirit into contemporary design, while highlighting the profound cultural value of modern aesthetics. The brand will invest substantial resources in research and development to foster creative collaboration among artisans, artists, designers, and manufacturers across Hong Kong, mainland China, and the international community. Through these cross-cultural exchanges, “Zaixin” aspires to weave creativity into everyday life by building and showcasing diverse forms of artistic expression.

### **Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency**

The Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency (CCIDA), established in June 2024 and formerly known as Create Hong Kong (CreateHK), is a dedicated office set up by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau to provide one-stop services and support to the cultural and

creative industries with a mission to foster a conducive environment in Hong Kong to facilitate the development of arts, culture and creative sectors as industries. Its strategic foci are nurturing talent and facilitating start-ups, exploring markets, promoting cross-sectoral and cross-genre collaboration, promoting the development of arts, culture and creative sectors as industries under the industry-oriented principle, and promoting Hong Kong as Asia's creative capital, and fostering a creative atmosphere in the community to implement Hong Kong's positioning as the East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange under the National 14th Five-Year Plan.

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