

MEDIA AND SPEAKING PACK

Associate Professor Li Ping Thong

Associate Dean, Digital Design | School of Design, RMIT University

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Profile



Associate Professor Li Ping Thong is Associate Dean of Digital Design at RMIT University's School of Design, where she leads the school's largest discipline area across Games, Animation, Digital Media and the Master of Animation, Games and Interactivity (MAGI). Her work spans digital design, user experience (UX), user interface (UI), games, emerging technologies, immersive media, design education, creative practice and the social impact of applied research.

Li Ping translates complex ideas in design, technology, education and public-facing systems into accessible public conversation. Her media and speaking work draws on more than 20 years of academic, curriculum and leadership experience, alongside a research portfolio that includes interdisciplinary projects with government, industry and community partners.

She is available for media interviews, expert commentary, podcasts, panels, invited talks, keynotes, guest lectures, workshops and public conversations across academic, industry, public and community contexts.

Languages Spoken: English, Mandarin, Malay, Cantonese

Current public positioning

A senior academic voice on digital design, UX/UI, public-facing digital systems, games, emerging technologies, design education, creative practice, and the social impact of applied research.

An emerging voice on land-based digital practice, environmental interaction, more-than-human design and regenerative digital futures.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Digital design, UX/UI and public-facing digital systems
- Games, play, interactive media and serious games
- AI, creativity and the future of design practice
- Emerging technologies, immersive media and AR/VR/XR
- Higher education, curriculum design and future creative skills
- Design education, student experience and digital learning
- Technology, culture and everyday life
- Solitude, attention and creative practice
- Rural digital life, Farm Lab, land-based digital practice and more-than-human design

Media Commentary

Television, radio, podcast, online and social media commentary translating design expertise and applied research for broader audiences.

Li Ping has contributed expert commentary across ABC News, ABC Nightlife, ABC Victorian Statewide Drive, ABC NSW Statewide Drive, ABC Pilbara, 3RRR and ABC digital/social channels.

FEATURED MEDIA

ABC News - Bureau of Meteorology Website Redesign

ABC News | October 29, 2025

National live television interview with Joe O'Brien examining the design and usability issues surrounding the Bureau of Meteorology's website redesign. The discussion focused on navigation, information architecture, accessible communication and the importance of inclusive testing with diverse user groups, including farmers and regional Australians who depend on weather information during high-stakes events.

[Full Interview](#)

ABC Nightlife with Philip Clark - Research Translation and Public Impact

ABC Nightlife | May 27, 2026

National radio interview on food waste in Australia's quick service restaurant sector, drawing on the completed End Food Waste Australia CRC Sector Action Plan project. The interview formed part of a national media cycle that translated applied design research into accessible public discussion on a topic of public interest.

[Full Interview](#)

SELECTED MEDIA APPEARANCES

Real InSight Podcast - Designing the Future of Design

Real InSight Podcast | May 6, 2025

Long-form conversation with Myke Ireland exploring digital design education, cross-cultural perspectives, creative practice, representation, emerging technologies and the role of design in shaping more inclusive futures.

[Full Interview](#)

3RRR Byte Into IT - Instagram and Interface Design

3RRR | November 12, 2025

Radio interview discussing Instagram, user experience, interface design and how everyday digital platforms shape behaviour, communication and public culture.

[Full Interview](#)

ABC Victorian Statewide Drive with Prue Bentley - Applied Research in Public Conversation

ABC Victorian Statewide Drive | May 21, 2026

In-studio radio interview at the ABC Ballarat studio discussing the completed End Food Waste Australia CRC Quick Service Restaurant Sector Action Plan project and translating research findings into a broader public conversation about where waste occurs, why it occurs and what practical actions can help reduce it.

[Full Interview](#)

ABC News Social with Nathaniel Kelly - Public Interest Research Commentary

ABC News digital/social channels | May 21, 2026

Expert commentary for an ABC News social media segment released across ABC's social channels as part of the national media cycle for the completed QSR Sector Action Plan project. The segment translated applied research into short-form public communication with broad reach.

[Watch Clip](#)

Speaking

Keynotes, invited talks, panels, teaching presentations and public conversations on digital design, technology, education and creative practice.

Li Ping's speaking work sits at the intersection of digital design, emerging technologies, games, higher education and creative practice. Her talks connect design practice with broader questions of culture, technology, learning and the changing conditions of creative work.

SPEAKING THEMES

- Digital design futures
- UX/UI and public-facing digital systems
- AI, creativity and design process
- Games, play and interactive media
- Immersive media, AR/VR/XR and spatial computing
- Future creative skills and design education
- Higher education, curriculum and student experience
- Technology, culture and everyday life
- Rural digital life, solitude and creative practice
- Farm Lab, environmental sensing and land-based digital practice
- More-than-human interaction and regenerative design futures

SELECTED KEYNOTES AND INVITED TALKS

World Design Cities Conference - Keynote Presentation, Shanghai

September 25, 2025

Keynote titled “Designing Cultures: Whose Culture Are We Designing through Digital Design?” The talk examined culture, authorship and inclusion in digital design, drawing on Li Ping's work in immersive environments, digital storytelling, UX/UI and digital design education.

[Watch Clip](#)

The Problem of Pace: Design Process in a Generative Age, Beijing

April 28, 2026

Full presentation at the Global Dialogue on Art and Technology forum in Beijing, speaking alongside Chinese and international practitioners across arts and culture. The talk examined how design process is affected in an age of faster and more capable generative tools.

[Full Presentation](#)

TEACHING, LEARNING AND ACADEMIC PRACTICE

Culturally Responsive Practice in Higher Education

February 2026

Video produced for RMIT University's Graduate Certificate for Tertiary Teaching, reflecting on culturally responsive practice from the perspective of a CaLD educator and academic leader.

[Watch Clip](#)

Belonging in Digital Learning Spaces

February 2026

Video for RMIT University's Graduate Certificate for Tertiary Teaching, focused on inclusive learning and teaching through digital experiences, platforms and participation.

[Watch Clip](#)

For Organisers and Producers

AVAILABLE FOR

- Media interviews and expert commentary
- Podcast and long-form interview conversations
- Keynotes, invited talks and conference sessions
- Panels, public forums and moderated conversations
- Guest lectures and teaching presentations
- Workshops, executive briefings, industry and community events

SHORT BIO - 50 WORDS

Associate Professor Li Ping Thong is Associate Dean of Digital Design at RMIT University's School of Design. Her work spans digital design, UX/UI, games, immersive media, emerging technologies, design education and applied design research. She is an experienced media commentator and public speaker on technology, education, creative practice and social impact.

EXTENDED BIO - 100 WORDS

Associate Professor Li Ping Thong is Associate Dean of Digital Design at RMIT University's School of Design, where she leads the School's largest discipline area across Games, Animation, Digital Media and MAGI. Her work spans digital design, UX/UI, games, immersive media, emerging technologies, design education and applied design research. She has contributed expert commentary across ABC News, ABC Radio, 3RRR, podcasts and digital media, and has delivered keynotes, invited talks and public presentations in Australia and internationally. Her current work includes Farm Lab, a land-based digital practice exploring environmental interaction, more-than-human design and regenerative digital futures.

SPEAKER INTRODUCTION

Associate Professor Li Ping Thong is Associate Dean of Digital Design at RMIT University's School of Design in Melbourne, Australia. She leads the School's largest discipline area across Games, Animation, Digital Media and the Master of Animation, Games and Interactivity. Her research, teaching and public engagement span UX/UI, games, immersive media, emerging technologies, design education, creative practice and the social impact of applied research. She is an experienced public speaker and media commentator, with appearances across ABC News, ABC Radio, 3RRR and podcast platforms, and with invited talks in Australia and internationally.

FOR MEDIA, SPEAKING AND COLLABORATION ENQUIRIES

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