

APORTACIÓN 01

[re]TOKYO



## ESPECIFICACIONES

### LIBRO

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### BREVE RESUMEN (MÁXIMO 4000 CARACTERES)

[re]TOKYO, es un libro publicado en inglés por ORO Editions (EE.UU.) en 2018, destinado al mercado internacional y financiado por el Concurso Internacional que organiza anualmente la Suntory Foundation (Japón), a través de su programa Support for Overseas Publications 2016.

El libro desarrolla y amplía la tesis doctoral defendida en japonés en The University of Tokyo en 2002, la Universidad más prestigiosa del país atendiendo a los rankings internacionales: THE, TIME, QS, etc.

[re]TOKYO explora, en una visión amplia y comprensiva, los procesos de transformación de una de las áreas metropolitanas más influyentes y desconocidas del mundo, desde las iniciativas a gran escala, como las transformaciones de ingeniería costera, hasta la escala micro, como su sistema de máquinas expendedoras. Cuatrocientas páginas, que recopilan 400 años de historia, que cubren la complejidad de esta conurbación social japonesa. El libro incluye más de 1400 ilustraciones, diagramas, fotografías y mapas para apoyar visualmente el documento. Desde un punto de vista de la investigación, [re]TOKYO desarrolla la idea de procesos de [re]definición para explicar qué, quién, cuándo, dónde y por qué tuvieron lugar esos cambios, concluyendo en una colección de los procesos esenciales de transformación de Tokio: una herramienta para comprender su historia y especular sobre su futuro como ciudad. La mayor metrópolis del mundo y uno de los centros culturales del mundo.

Japón es uno de los países más atractivos del mundo por su singular mezcla y contraste de tradición y modernidad. El país ha exportado con éxito a todo el mundo su cultura y valores como la cocina japonesa, las películas de animación (anime), los cómics (manga), los arreglos florales (ikebana), las artes marciales, el cine, la jardinería tradicional y la arquitectura, entre otros. Sin embargo, la naturaleza enigmática del ámbito urbano y su planificación sigue siendo relativamente desconocida para los lectores extranjeros.

## [re]TOKYO

Cerca de cuarenta millones de personas viven en el área metropolitana de Tokio, lo que la convierte en la megalópolis con mayor población del mundo. La ciudad no solo ha seguido creciendo demográficamente, sino que ha multiplicado la atracción de turistas que esperaban llegar a 40 millones de visitantes para la celebración de los Juegos Olímpicos, los cuales fueron finalmente retrasados un año más tarde a causa de la pandemia. Sin embargo, la ciudad inició una nueva transformación radical en estrategias de sostenibilidad y resiliencia medio ambiental.

[re]TOKYO, propone una metodología de decodificación semántica de análisis urbano de la megápolis nipona basado en la convergencia del pensamiento metafísico oriental y occidental. Permitiendo no sólo conocer su historia, sino proveer de un cuadro de herramientas para el diseño y establecer por tanto un sistema prospectivo para Tokio.

## INDICIOS DE CALIDAD

### PREMIOS

1. [re]TOKYO **[Acr. 01]**, fue premiado por la Fundación SUNTORY a través de su programa Overseas Publication Award for 2016 **[Acr. 02]**.

Al premio se presentaron 283 manuscritos de 22 países diferentes para el que se seleccionaron 7 para la publicación. El Comité de Selección estaba compuesto por: el D. Isao Endo (Profesor, Universidad de Hokkaido); el D. Fumiaki Kubo (Universidad de Tokio); el D. Takashi Shiraishi (Presidente de Universidad de Posgrado en Investigación de Políticas); el D. Zhang Race (Profesor de la Universidad Meiji); y el D. Yasushi Watanabe (Profesor, Universidad de Keio) **[Acr. 03]**.

La candidatura al concurso, estuvo apoyada por el arquitecto de reconocido prestigio Kengo Kuma y el profesor de teoría urbana de Columbia University David Grahame Shane, autor del libro Recombinant Urbanism **[Acr.04]**.

2. [re]TOKYO es publicado por la editorial norteamericana ORO EDITIONS en 2018, y lanzada al mercado internacional **[Acr.05]**.

3. La tesis doctoral fue FINALISTA de entre 80 trabajos presentados en la quinta convocatoria el concurso Bienal de Tesis de Arquitectura de la Fundación Caja de Arquitectos **[Acr.06]**.

4. La tesis fue seleccionada por la convocatoria internacional de la JAPAN FOUNDATION en su Support Program for Translation and Publication on Japan 2011- 2012, y publicada por Satori en 2011 **[Acr.06]**.

### CONTRIBUCIONES al libro de personas de reconocido prestigio.

Kengo Kuma es profesor de la Escuela de Graduados de Arquitectura de la

Universidad de Tokio y fundador de Kengo Kuma & Associates.

Akira Fujii es Director del Laboratorio Hu+Fujii, fue el director del Laboratorio de Morfología Urbana del Instituto de Ciencias Industriales de la Universidad de Tokio.

David Grahame Shane es un teórico urbano y autor de Recombinant Urbanism. Es profesor adjunto en el programa de Diseño Urbano en Columbia GSAPP. Shane estudió arquitectura en la Architectural Association de Londres **[Acr.07]**.

### **INCLUSIÓN EN CATÁLOGOS**

Libro incluido en el Catálogo de AVERY **[Acr. 08]**.

Presencia en el Catálogo de Worldcat **[Acr. 09]**.

Incluido en la Lista de Society of Architectural Historians, Syracuse University Library., EE.UU. **[Acr. 10]**.

Biblioteca General del Ministerio de Fomento **[Acr. 11]**.

Library Hub Discover **[Acr. 12]**

### **CONFERENCIAS de [re]TOKYO**

Título “[re]TOKYO/ OPEN GRADIENT”

Lugar: Columbia University, Nueva York, EE.UU.

Organiza “Public Space and Recombinant Urbanism” Course, GSAPP.

Fecha 13/04/2016. **[Acr. 13]**.

Título “[re]TOKYO”

Lugar: Graduate School of Architecture, TOKYO University of Science, Tokio, Japón

Organiza TOKYO University of Science

Fecha 17/10/2018. **[Acr. 14]**.

Título “[re]TOKYO”

Lugar: Centro Cultural Gabriela Mistral, Santiago, Chile.

Organiza Fundación Japón. Programa Conferencias itinerantes

Fecha 07/03/2019. **[Acr. 15]**.

## [re]TOKYO

Título “[re]TOKYO”

Lugar: Universidad Técnica Federico Santamaría. Valparaíso Chile.

Organiza Fundación Japón. Programa Conferencias itinerantes

Fecha 08/03/2019. **[Acr. 16].**

Título “[re]TOKYO”

Lugar: Universidad Nacional de Asunción. Facultad de Arquitectura, Asunción, Paraguay.

Organiza Fundación Japón. Programa Conferencias itinerantes

Fecha 11/03/2019. **[Acr. 17].**

Título “[re]TOKYO/ gradiente Abierto, invariantes del espacio libre japonés”

Lugar: Sociedad Colombia de Arquitectos. Auditorio Gabriel Serrano Camargo

Organiza Fundación Japón. Programa Conferencias itinerantes

Fecha 15/03/2019. **[Acr. 18].**

Título “[re]TOKYO. An open Decoding System of Urban Phenomena”

Lugar: Columbia University, Nueva York, EE.UU.

Organiza “Public Space and Recombinant Urbanism” Course, GSAPP.

Fecha 27/01/2020. **[Acr. 19].**

Título “[re]TKO  $\supset$  K2. Decoding Urban Phenomena from Megalopolis to Low City”

Lugar: Columbia University, Nueva York, EE.UU.

Organiza “Public Space and Recombinant Urbanism” Course, GSAPP.

Fecha 21/01/2021. **[Acr. 20].**

## OTROS MÉRITOS

Expuesto en la exposición Doble o Mitad del Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, 2018  
**[Art. 21].**

Cita en la bibliografía de la tesis doctoral "J.A.D.E. Jardín y Arquitectura Doméstica del Este (La Casa contemporánea japonesa, el refugio y el Jardín. Tokyo 1991-2011) de Andrea Julia Gonzalez (2016), de la Universidad Politécnica de Madrid. **[Acr. 22]**

En venta en Harvard Bookstore, Amazon, Bars & Noble, Kinokuniya, agapea, fnac, entre otros. **[Acr. 23]**

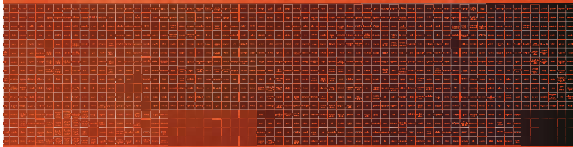


[re]TOKYO





# [re] TOKYO



JIN TAIRA

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This book has been published with the support of SUNTORY FOUNDATION.



16 ▼ JIN TAIRA (2018)

[re]TOKYO unveils the logic hidden in the urban transformation processes of one of the most enigmatic and unknown megacities of the world.

Japan is one of the most attractive countries in the world due to its unique mixture and contrast of tradition and modernity. It has successfully exported worldwide its culture values as Japanese cuisine, animation films (anime), comics (manga), flower arrangement (ikebana), martial arts, movies, traditional gardening, and architecture among others. But still, the enigmatic nature of its urban realm remains unknown by foreign readers and connoisseurs of Japan.

Tokyo metropolitan area concentrates more than 30 million inhabitants, the biggest megacity population in the world. With an increase of 3.5 times overseas tourists in the last decade, 40 million are expected in the year 2020 when Japan will host the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. Deep transformation processes are planned by the government in order to provide this unexpected demand that will radically change this global city.

[re]TOKYO explores 400 hundred years of history of Japan's capital, using more than 1400 illustrations, diagrams, photographs and maps in order to unveil the logics hidden in its massive complexity. The book adopts an extensive biography of partial studies to present a general understanding of Japanese Urban culture, its origin, influences, and trends.

[re]TOKYO navigates between Oriental and Western thinking, melting both worlds in order to achieve a universal understanding of our global urban realm.

At the end, the book proposes a methodology to decode the nature of change of the city of Tokyo in particular, and the essence of change itself. Understand how things are [re]defined is an open door to understand how could change in the future.

[re]TOKYO explores in 33 chapters a wide and understanding vision of the transformation processes of one of the most influential and unknown metropolitan areas in the world. From the big scale such as Tokyo's land engineering transformations, to the small ones like the

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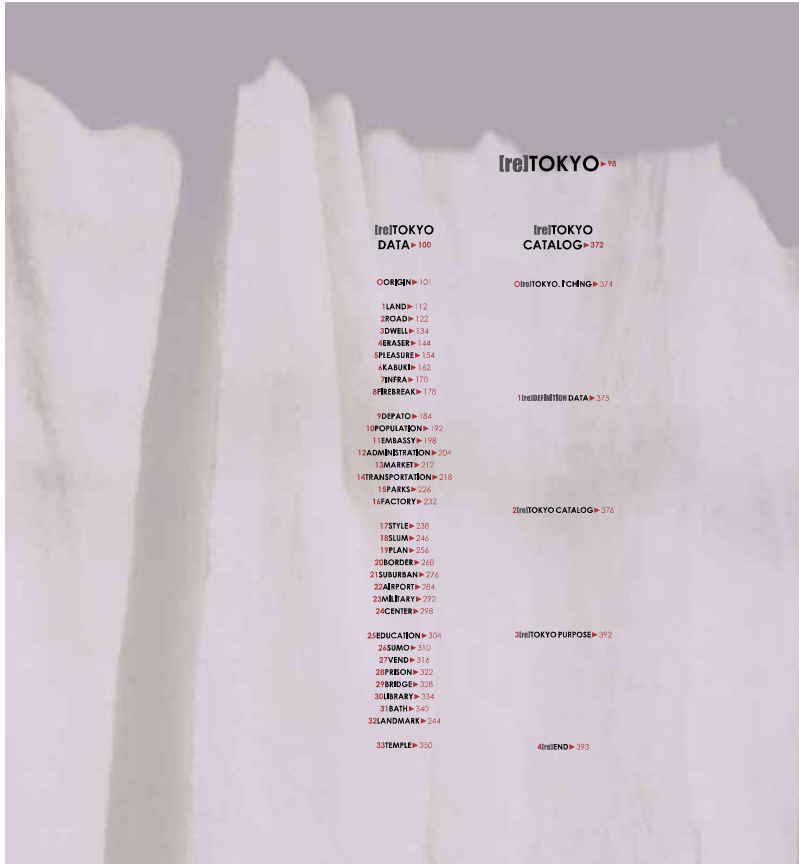
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サントリー文化財団  
SUNTORY FOUNDATION

Dr. Jin Javier Taira Alonso

Professor Jin Javier Taira Alonso

c/ Jose Franchy Roca, N47, 2

350007 Las Palmas de Gran Canaria SPAIN

March 3, 2017

The Support for Overseas Publication: the Notice of Approval

Dear Dr. Alonso,

This is to inform you that the screening committee of the Suntory Foundation has deliberately examined all the works submitted for the Support for Overseas Publication for fiscal 2016, and we decided to make a grant to following publication.

Selected publication project: *"Ire/Tokyo"*

Amount of grant: 500,000 Japanese yen

We sincerely hope that this grant could be of any help for your publication plan and contribute to deeper understanding of the Japanese culture in your countries.

Sincerely yours,

Miyuki Maeba  
Secretary General  
Suntory Foundation

No. 12874 (Mar. 24, 2017)

## Suntory Cultural Foundation Determination of overseas publication subsidy for 2016

The Suntory Cultural Foundation (Chairman Shingo Torii Torii) has decided on the following seven subjects for grant as a subsidy for overseas publication in FY 2016. The total grant amount is 631 million yen.

The grant project aims to promote understanding of Japan overseas by providing excellent research results written in Japanese, or translating books written about Japan into foreign languages and publishing in foreign languages. It is a thing to do.

By the last fiscal year, we decided 283 publications in 22 languages, including English, to be eligible for grant, and introduce Japanese achievements and Japanese culture widely abroad.

\* Selection

committee Mr. Isao Endo (Professor, Hokkaido University)  
Mr. Fumiaki Kubo (University of Tokyo) Mr. Takashi Shiraishi (President of Policy Research Graduate University)  
Mr. Zhang Race (Professor of Meiji University)  
Mr. Yasushi Watanabe (Professor, Keio University)

- Record -

1. Outline of books subject to subsidy this fiscal year

A. Publication in English

"War Historical Dynasty Vol.26" Lanqing Bengal Bay Naval Promotion Operation"" (Defense Agency Defense Training Institute War History Room Edition) "War Historical Scriptures

" (total 102 volumes) marked with a record on the Great East Asia War was postwar 70. Currently it is valuable material to know things at the time as more than a year passed. The translation of Volume 26 is part of a project to translate six books related to Lanqi, translated by the Coats Foundation (the Netherlands), into English. Published by Leiden University Press (Netherlands).

"[Re] TOKYO (Definition of Tokyo's "Re")" (written by **Tyra, Alonso, Jin - Javier**) With regard to Tokyo that is still a mysterious city in the eyes of foreigners while having great influence worldwide, An ambitious urban theory arguing in the form of "re" defining the historical transition of cities and architectural spaces. Ahead of the Tokyo Olympic Games, it is expected to help deepen understanding of overseas understanding of the origin of Tokyo, the history of evolution, its future. It will be published by Oro Editions (USA).

"The Rise and Fall of Modern Japanese Literature" (written by John W. Treat)

History of modern Japanese literature by John W. Treat. I will also cover overseas well-known writers such as Murakami Haruki and Yoshimoto banana, introducing Japanese literature from the Meiji era to the present comprehensively. It is expected as a history of Japanese modern literature written in full-fledged English since "Dawn to the West" (published in 1984) by Donald Keen. Scheduled to be published by University Chicago Press (USA).

To the attention of  
Support for Overseas Publication program for fiscal 2016  
Suntory Foundation

As architect and Professor at the University of Tokyo I am pleased to recommend the book [re]TOKYO an original research work of the architect and Professor at the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain), **Mr. JIN JAVIER TAIRA ALONSO**. [re]TOKYO is a PhD research presented at The University of Tokyo in 2002. The studies were conducted from my former laboratory of Urban Morphology at the Institute of the Industrial Science, The University of Tokyo when it was directed by Professors Hiroshi Hara, Akira Fujii and Hidekuni Magaribuchi.

Tokyo is one of the most important urban conurbations in the world. More than 35 million inhabitants live in the metropolitan area with a surprising little more than 400 years of history. In 2015 Japan attracted almost 20 million international tourists, demonstrating an emerging foreign interest in Japanese culture and society, and an openness attitude of Japanese Government promoting the country as an attractive and accessible tourist destination.

Tokyo is considered one of the most important attractions, a gateway for foreigners, discovering innovative technology, exciting creativity, original social manifestations, historical discoveries and natural beauty. And still Tokyo remains an enigmatic urban system. Professor TAIRA explores the city and its transformation processes in his research [re]TOKYO. A study supported in an extended graphical material in order to provide an accessible and deeper understanding on Japan's capital in 33 selected key themes. Such research is a unique opportunity for foreign audience to learn about the origin, evolution and future of the city of Tokyo. For all these I consider the book of Prof. TAIRA an opportunity towards the promotion of Japanese city culture, and sincerely recommend its publication in your Overseas Publication Program.

Yours faithfully  
Kengo Kuma







Suntary Foundation,  
Support for Overseas Publication Program  
Fiscal 2016

July 23 2016.

Letter of Support for Professor Jin Javier Taira Alonso.

Professor Jin Javier Taira Alonso was a Visiting Scholar at Columbia University in 2015 at the Graduate Masters in Urban Design program at Columbia 2015-16 at the invitation of the current Director Professor Kate Orff.

I have taught in the Columbia Graduate Urban Design program since 1990, when I was co-director, both in studio and seminars. I have taught a highly specialized theoretical Recombinant Urbanism Seminar since the late 1990's. The seminar provides a general background to the development of the discipline of urban design in the last 50 years based on my text book *Recombinant Urbanism* (Wiley 2005). I am also the author of *Urban Design Since 1945; a global perspective* (Wiley 2011). Tokyo as a major metropolitan megalopolis plays a great role in my work. I have visited the city frequently and lectured at Tokyo University in the past, giving the Bi-annual National Urban Design Lecture in Yokohama in 1999.

I invited Professor Jin Javier Taira Alonso to return to Columbia in the Spring 2016 to lecture to my seminar because I thought his work on Tokyo would be an inspiration for my students. In the Recombinant Urbanism Seminar, besides studying the text book, in the second half of the semester students apply the modeling and design techniques described in the four chapters to a city of their choice, developing a theory of urban codes contained in the text book. Professor Jin Javier Taira Alonso has deeply understood this system of codes, that also owes a debt to Professor Hara who was in part my inspiration and also his previous teacher. Professor Jin Javier Taira Alonso's lecture did indeed inspire the students who responded with many sophisticated and probing questions.

Professor Jin Javier Taira Alonso has developed a comprehensive system of coding that is derived from a close study of Tokyo's complex, multi-layered and fragmented history over several millennia. His work is highly organized and very well presented graphically. I highly recommend this elaborate and thorough study of the great megacity of Tokyo for publication.

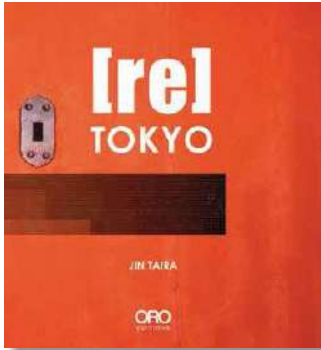
Yours sincerely

David Grahame Shane  
Adjunct Professor of Architecture  
AA, Dipl (Lon.), M.Arch (UD Cornell), PhD.

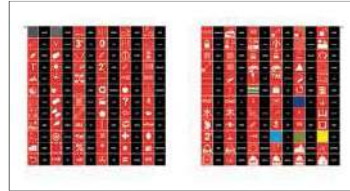
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## [re]Tokyo

Jin Taira



*[re]TOKYO* explores in 33 chapters a wide and understanding vision of the transformation processes of one of the most influential and unknown metropolitan areas in the world: from large scale ones such as Tokyo's land engineering transformations, to the small ones like the capital vending machine system. This four hundred page book compiles 400 years of history covering this unique Japanese, organized, complex social conurbation – the book includes more than 1,400 illustrations, diagrams, photographs, and maps in order to visually support the selected themes. The manuscript develops the idea of the [re]definition processes to explain what, who, when, where, and why all these changes took place. At the end, *[re]TOKYO* collects the essential processes in order to elaborate a comprehensive book of changes for the city of Tokyo—a tool to understand the history and speculate the future of this exciting metropolis as one of the culture centers of the world.



## Contributors

**Jin Taira** is an associate professor and researcher at the University of Las Palmas de GC, Spain. He holds a PhD in Architecture from the University of Tokyo, and is the associate architect at MPC-arquitectos, Spain. He has professional experience with Arata Isozaki, Toyo Ito, and Hiroshi Hara architecture offices.

**Kengo Kuma** is a professor at the Graduate School of Architecture at the University of Tokyo and founder of Kengo Kuma & Associates. He is considered one of the most influential architects of contemporary Japanese architecture.

**Akira Fujii** is head of the Hu+Fuji Laboratory at the Institute and Architectural Design, Architecture and Landscape Design Center, College of Architecture and Environment, Sichuan University, China. He is the former head of the Urban Morphology Laboratory of the Institute of Industrial Science, at the University of Tokyo.

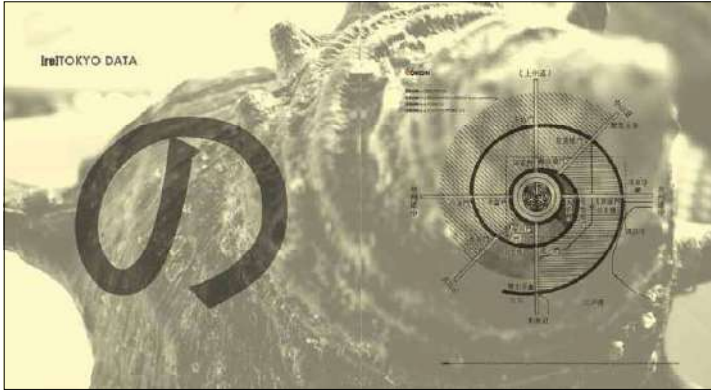
**David Grahame Shane** is an urban theorist and author of *Recombinant Urbanism*. He is an adjunct professor in the Urban Design program at Columbia GSAPP. Shane studied architecture at the Architectural Association, London. He has also taught at the University of Pennsylvania and the Cooper Union among others.

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Sr. Jin Taira,

En nombre del Jurado de la quinta convocatoria del Concurso Bienal de Tesis de Arquitectura de la Fundación Caja de Arquitectos, me complace comunicarle que ha sido usted **seleccionado entre los 80 trabajos presentados**, para acceder a la segunda fase del mismo.

Por ello se le solicita que en el plazo de tiempo lo más breve posible, remita el original de su tesis a la sede de la Fundación Caja de Arquitectos (calle Arcs, nº 1, 08002 Barcelona) o a cualquier oficina de la Caja de Arquitectos.

Atentamente,

Marta Sanfiz  
Fundación Caja de Arquitectos  
tel. 93 482 68 38



Fundación Japón, Madrid  
C/Almagro 5, 4º  
28010 Madrid, España

Sr. Alfonso García Cabeza  
Editor  
Satori Ediciones

Madrid, a 26 de abril de 2011

Estimado Sr. García:

Le escribo tras recibir la contestación a su solicitud para el *Support Program for Translation and Publication on Japan* del proyecto [\[re\]Tokyo](#). Le agradezco su interés y participación, y es un placer comunicarle que su solicitud ha sido seleccionada.

Como podrá comprobar en la documentación que le envío adjunta a esta carta, en caso de aceptar la subvención concedida es necesario que nos haga llegar el documento de aceptación de la subvención, así como el informe de progreso del proyecto, cumplimentados a la mayor brevedad posible.

Así mismo, quisiera resaltar algunos puntos dentro de las bases del programa que considero fundamentales. En primer lugar que para solicitar el pago de la subvención es necesario completar el proyecto. Una vez editado el libro, en los 30 días siguientes y teniendo como fecha límite el 29 de febrero de 2012, deberá enviar el formato de informe final y la solicitud de pago de la subvención. Estos formularios deberán ir acompañados por una copia del libro y por documentos justificantes de los gastos asociados al proyecto (P. e. recibo de la imprenta o pago realizado al traductor) acompañados de una traducción sencilla al japonés o al inglés.

Una vez finalizada la edición también es necesario enviar un número determinado de ejemplares de la publicación a la sede central de The Japan Foundation, el número está indicado en los materiales adjuntos.

En caso de tener alguna duda le ruego nos contacte.

Atentamente,

Hiroyuki Ueno  
Director ejecutivo

Inet ▼ KENGO KUMA

An excellent urban theory, I think it can be written only by foreigners. That is the impression I had reading the Japanese Urban Theory of Jin Taira. Long time ago Roland Barthes wrote the *Empire of Signs* (1970). He noted that there is a void called the Imperial Palace in the center of Tokyo. In European cities, on the other hand, the center is solid, and there is always a strong monument. He paid attention to that contrast. We live in Tokyo, however we never saw the Imperial Palace in such way. During the Edo period, the Imperial Palace was the residence of the Shogun. This gigantic area in the Meiji period became the residence of the Emperor. The consequences behind this 'nature' touch the core of our culture, hiding a great significance. Those we were residents of the neighborhood of the Imperial Palace we did not notice. In the neighborhood daily life, only trivial events are made visible. What deep meaning is hidden behind? Unexpectedly, it was something we did not notice. That is why Barthes' observation surprised the Japanese. Compared to the previously written about Tokyo, Barthes' theory was more stimulating.

Jin Taira's Urban Theory on Japan also taught me many things that we actually did not realize living in this place. The most interesting thing is that China's natural philosophy played a major role in the formation of Japanese cities. Japan in the 20th century tended to underestimate the influence from China. It is clear that the Japanese culture before the 19th century was under the influence of the Chinese powerful culture. It can be said that the Japanese have been struggling how to use, assimilate and transform it.

However, in Japan since the Meiji Era (1868 -), Chinese culture has been substituted for Western culture. How to use, assimilate and transform Western culture became the biggest theme of this country. In that process, Chinese culture was overly disrespected, consciously forgotten and disdained.

Western Europe was overestimated, and on the other end of the spectrum, purely innocent archetypes falsifications were executed in Japan. There were Japanese fictions of Western Europe. Actually there was no such a pure innocent Japan. It was the first time Japan exercised uniquely and continuously an Asian influence placing China, and the Korean Peninsula at its mercy.

Since the Meiji period, all urban planners and architects in Japan have believed in the barren scheme of Western Europe (civilization) versus Japan (pattern). Urban design and architecture

int ▼ DAVID G. SHANE

## A TOKYO PROLOGUE

Jin Javier Taira Alonso's [re]Tokyo makes an important contribution to the scholarship on Tokyo.

It is an ambitious work that seeks to find the hidden cultural codes deeply embedded, like an urban DNA, inside the development of the city. Tokyo has often served as a gateway city into Asia despite its periods of long isolation. Japan, as an island off a vast continent, was vulnerable from the sea and felt the impact of modern industrialization early, becoming in its turn a colonial power sponsoring Tokyo as a rapidly expanding imperial metropolis and, in defeat, its emergence as global financial center. Tokyo pioneered the post-war megalopolis model, replacing the highway with the high-speed train in the 1960s, creating a linear growth corridor to the great port city of Osaka, historically the source of its food and supplies. The city corridor far outstripped its American East Coast predecessor leading to its current status as one of the world's largest megacities. The city attracts an intense Orientalist interest from abroad but contains an equally powerful Occidentalism within, copying and mutating models from outside sources, creating a unique, eclectic, hybrid city code. Jin Javier Taira Alonso tries to unravel this hybrid code in a unique analytical and conceptual apparatus crafted from a deep appreciation of the city, Japan's singular cultural traditions and its simultaneous hybridity.

At the core of [re]Tokyo lies a belief that the basic city code or DNA of Tokyo can be linked to the ancient Chinese divination process, known in the West as the *I Ching*, originally based on reading patterns in the back of a turtle's shell, when cracked by a hot poker. Chinese writing and ideographic script is believed to have evolved from this divination process based on the interaction of contending forces of yin and yang, while Jin Taira, like many other scholars, also sees parallels to the binary systems of modern cybernetic systems. Tokyo's history, with its massive earthquakes, periodic fires, frequent plagues, famines, civil wars and destruction by foreign attack, certainly provides multiple cases of restoration, continuity and resilience after collapse. Jin Taira provides this history as background but prefers to foreground recurrent patterns, like fractals that are never the same twice. Each plan after each disaster, say the 1923 earthquake or the 1945 fire bombing, having its own particular preoccupations within a framework of continuity.

Like the Confucian or Taoist scholars of old, Jin Taira seeks solace in the detachment of the *I Ching*'s coding, its multiple hexagrams that symbolically and metaphorically chart the changes

Int'l ▼ AKIRA FUJII

It is very gratifying that [re]TOKYO of PhD **Jin Javier Taira Alonso**, whom I supervised during his doctoral degree, is published through the Support Overseas Publication Program of Suntory Foundation.

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This book is the culmination of the doctor's research at the Graduate School of Engineering of The University of Tokyo. His Master and Doctoral thesis of The University of Tokyo were original written in English. On this occasion it is extremely meaningful that this research book on current situation of Japanese Urban Cities is presented to English-speakers for the first time.

The history of Edo, the predecessor of Tokyo, begins with Ōta Dōkan construction of Edo Castle in the mid-15th century. After that, Tokugawa Ieyasu begun the shogunate in this place, and since then, for more than 250 years it prospered as the administrative center of Japan. After the Meiji Restoration, Edo was renamed as Tokyo, but the function as a center of politics, economics, culture etc in Japan has been maintained even after that until today.

After a long history, Tokyo's urban space has undergone various transformations. In this book, its historical stratification is described by using the concept of [re]DEFINITION, mainly to analyze the transformation processes from the urban planning and architectural perspective. Urban and architecture spaces changes with the times. The cities, being transformed under the will of politicians and planners as driving forces, are reduced to the pair relationship between verbs and attributes. Those have been collected, classified and cataloged. The present book use that catalog to analyze the spatial transition from Edo to Tokyo.

Based in the summary of the doctoral thesis [re]TOKYO, the study main part deals with [re]DEFINITION and its application [re]TOKYO. The former is composed by [re]INTRO, [re]THEORY, and [re]CATALOG; and the latter one by [re]TOKYO DATA and [re] TOKYO CATALOG.

In the first half, [re]INTRO, we assume that the concept of [re]DEFINITION appears in every spatio-temporal space and explains the source of change in terms of definition, time, desire, efficiency, existence, adaptation.

In [re]THEORY is consider what causes change, what change is, and the redefinition of change itself. Things that exist can be recognized as those that existed before they changed, the viewpoints on where, who, what, and how they changed are emphasized.



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**(Re) Tokyo**

**Author** [Taira, Jin, author.](#)

**Title** [\[Re\] Tokyo / Jin Taira. \[introduction by Keigo Kuma\].](#)

**Edition** First edition.

**Published** [Novato, California] : Oro Editions, 2018.

**Copyright** ©2018

**Description** 365 pages : illustrations (some color) ; maps (some color) ; 24 cm

**Subjects** City planning - Japan > Tokyo.  
Sociology, Urban > Japan > Tokyo.  
Tokyo (Japan) > History.


**Also Listed Under** Kuma, Keigo. 1954- writer of introduction.

**Summary** "[Re] TOKYO explores a wide, understanding vision of the transformative processes of one of the most influential and unknown metropolitan areas in the world, from large scale efforts such as Tokyo's land engineering transformations, to smaller examples such as its capital vending machine system. Four hundred pages, compiling 400 years of history, are covered in this uniquely Japanese complexity of social consumption, including more than 1400 illustrations, diagrams, photographs, and maps in order to visually support selected themes. [Re] TOKYO develops the idea of [re]invention processes to explain what, who, when, where, and why all these changes took place—a tool to understand its history and speculate about its future as an existing metropolis and cultural center of the world."—Provided by publisher.

**Notes** Text in English with some Japanese.  
With introduction by Keigo Kuma.  
"[Re]Tokyo seeks to discover and uncover one of the most enigmatic cities in the world. This study navigates on a great maelstrom of change, unravelling through 33 chapters the keys to Tokyo's birth, growth, current state, and future lines to which it is bound"—page 4 of cover.

**Language** English, Japanese.

**ISBN** 9781940743868  
1949743664


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## [re]Tokyo

Author: [Jin Taira](#), [Kengo Kuma](#)

Publisher: [Novato, California] : Ore Editions, 2018

Edition/Format: [Hard book](#) : English : First edition [View all editions and formats](#)

Summary: [re] TOKYO explores a wide, understanding vision of the transformative processes of one of the most influential and unknown metropolitan areas in the world, from large scale efforts such as Tokyo's land engineering transformations, to smaller examples such as its capital vending machine system. Four hundred pages, compiling 400 years of history, are covered in this uniquely Japanese overview of social [evolution](#).

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### Details

Document Type: Book

All Authors / Contributors: [Jin Taira](#), [Kengo Kuma](#)
 Find more information about:  

ISBN: 9781940743660 1940743664

OCLC Number: 1120955194

Language Note: Text en anglès i alguns també en japonès.

Description: 355 pàgines : il·lustracions (algunes a color), mapes (alguns a color) : 24 cm

Other Titles: [re]Tokyo

Re Tokyo

Responsibility: Jin Taira ; introduction by Kengo Kuma.

### Abstract

[re]TOKYO explores a wide, understanding vision of the transformative processes of one of the most influential and unknown metropolitan areas in the world, from large scale efforts such as Tokyo's land engineering transformations, to smaller examples such as its capital vending machine system.

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Recently published architectural books and related works, selected by Barbara Opar, architecture librarian, Syracuse University Library.

NOTE: Links to purchasing information generally taken from amazon.com. Amazon will donate .5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the Society of Architectural Historians whenever you shop on AmazonSmile using [this link](#).

### Reader's Advisory

A new organization is forming for digital art history. Visit [digitalarthistorysociety.org](http://digitalarthistorysociety.org).

For an update on technology trends, see: Coleman, Lauren deLisa. "[Here's What's On The Horizon Within A Few Special Tech Trends This Year.](#)" *Forbes*, Feb. 5, 2019.

### Suggested *current periodical* readings:

Architectural Record. "Building Type Study 1,003; Renovation, Restoration, Adaptive Reuse," *Architectural Record*, (February 2019), 55–94.

Bell, Susanna. "From Stocking Factory to Art Academy," *Ark*, vol. 115, no. 6 (2018), 57–61.

Bratton, Benjamin H. "Further Trace Effects of the Post-Anthropocene," *Architectural Design*, vol. 89, no. 1, (January 2019), 14–21.

George, Lynell. "A Storied Los Angeles Club for African American Women Looks to the Future," *Preservation*, vol. 71, no. 1, (Winter 2019), 28–35.

Kirk, Mimi. "Will the Advent of Artificial Intelligence Affect Small Firms," *Architect*, vol. 108, no. 2, (February 2019), 54–56.

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volume. \$23.36

Taira, Jin. [\[re\]Tokyo](#). Novato, CA: Oro Editions, 2018. ISBN: 9781940743660. 395 pages. \$55.00

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(Re) Tokyo / **Jin Taira**, [Introduction by Kengo Kuma].

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Author: [Taira, Jin](#) [author]

Other titles: Translation: Tōkyō no saitei  
Tōkyō no saitei  
Re Tokio  
Re Tokyo  
Re Tōwa.  
Re Tokyo.

Edition: First edition.

Published: [Novato, California] : Oro Editions 2019

Physical description: 395 pages : illustrations (some color), maps (some color) ; 24 cm

ISBN: 9781940743660  
1940743664

Notes: "[Re]Tokyo seeks to discover and uncover one of the most enigmatic cities in the world. This study navigates on a great mad storm of change, unravelling through 32 chapters the keys to Tokyo's birth, growth, current state, and mutation lines to which it is bound" --page 4 of cover.

Includes bibliographical references.

Text in English with some Japanese.

Text in English with some Japanese.

Subject: [Sociology--Japan](#),  
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[Japan--Tokyo](#),  
[Tokyo \(Japan\)--History](#).

Other names: [Kuma, Kengo](#), 1954- [writer of introduction]

Genre: [Biography](#)  
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Language: [English](#)  
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Title: 東京の「再」定義 / Jin Taira  
東京の再定義

Other titles: Translation: 東京の「再」定義 / Jin Taira  
東京の再定義

### Summary

"[Re] TOKYO explores a wide, understanding vision of the transformative processes of one of the most influential and unknown metropolitan areas in the world, from large scale efforts such as Tokyo's land engineering transformations, to smaller examples such as its capital vending machine system. Four hundred pages, compiling 400 years of history, are covered in this uniquely Japanese complexity of social conurbation, including more than 1400 illustrations, diagrams, photographs, and maps in order to visually support selected themes. [Re] TOKYO develops the idea of redefinition processes to explain what, who, when, where, and why all these changes took place—a tool to understand its history and speculate about its future as an exciting metropolis and cultural center of the world.—Provided by publisher.



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IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
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April 20, 2016

**JIN TAIRA**

Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria  
Departamento de Arte, Ciudad y Territorio  
Edificio de Arquitectura. Planta 3  
Campus Universitario de Tafira s/n 35017  
Las Palmas de Gran Canaria/ SPAIN

Dear Jin:

Thank you for your recent visit to Columbia GSAPP. This letter is to acknowledge your educational activities at Columbia University from 11th until the 15th of April 2016. In particular, your involvement in the below activities of the M.S. Architecture and Urban Design Program.

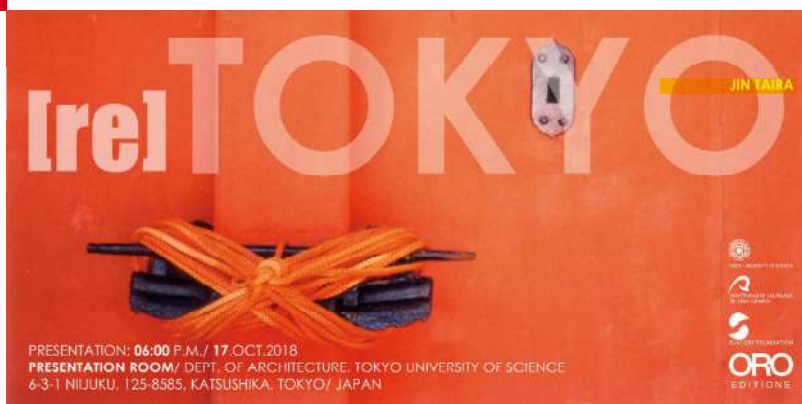
Lecture "[re]TOKYO/ OPEN GRADIENT" held the 13th of April in the course "Public Space and Recombinant Urbanism," Spring 2016.  
Spring Design Studio in Madurai and Rio, invited desk crts.

With best wishes for your continued success.



**Kate Orff**, Director

Master of Science in Architecture and Urban Design  
Columbia University  
ko2111@columbia.edu





**[re] TOKIO**

JIN TAIRA  
UNIVERSIDAD DE LAS PALMAS DE GRAN CANARIA

CONFERENCIA: **JIN TAIRA**, PROFESOR-TITULAR DE UNIVERSIDAD  
**UNIVERSIDAD DE LAS PALMAS DE GRAN CANARIA, ESPAÑA**  
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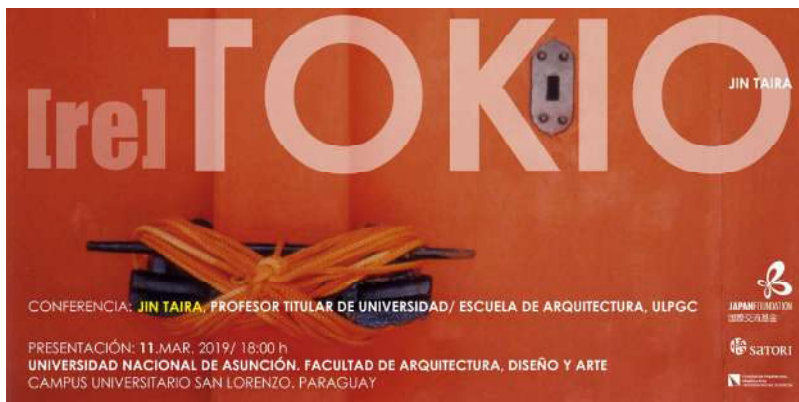
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February 3rd, 2020

Jin Taira

Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria  
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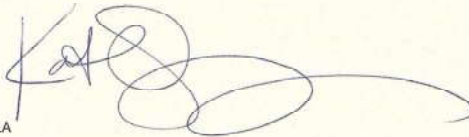
Dear Jin:

This letter is to acknowledge and express our great satisfaction for the time you have spent at Columbia University as a Visiting Scholar from January 20 - 28th, 2020. In particular, your involvement in the activities below helped to advance the dialogue on urbanism with GSAPP:

- Collaboration in the Studio and the Presentation: [re]TOKYO. An Open Decoding System of Urban Phenomena.
- Participation in the class: Public Space and Recombinant Urbanism- coordinated by David G. Shane, on January 27th.

We wish you all the best, and hope to stay in touch.

Sincerely,



Kate Orff, RLA  
Professor  
Director, Urban Design Program

Columbia University  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE PLANNING AND PRESERVATION

January 30, 2021

To Whom it May Concern,

Re: Letter of Recognition

For **Jin Taira**

Associate Professor Jin Taira of the Department of Art, City and Territory of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain) contributed with the lecture "[re] TKO2K2. Decoding Urban Phenomena from Megalopolis to Low City", for the "Public Space and Recombinant Urbanism" course that coordinates Prof. David G. Shane on January 21st of 2021.



Kate Orff, RLA  
Associate Professor  
Director, Urban Design Program

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JIN TAIRA  
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