

MEMORY AND MATERIALITY

3 to 9 November 2016

The Greenwich Gallery

NAI-WEN HSU

E = mc²

2015

MA Photography and Urban Cultures,
Goldsmiths University of London, 2015

We take lights for granted; we use them; we rely on lights. Our consciousness is a very small percentage of our interactions with lights. Light, however, is the bridge over the material world to our visual perception, and thus ways to participate and engage the creating process of memory. While memory is often opposed to materiality, the remembered is not simply the object of memory - it does not always stand apart from the memory of it or the embodied remembering subject but helps to produce both memory and subject. It also points out how light reveals two ends, an existing material world and a human being's perception. This project explores the idea of light and materiality as intertwined producers of memory; retrospectively, memory is an 'effect' produced through light and with materiality, rather than something merely produced by a human-centred consciousness. This project was produced in London in 2015, at a time I was leaving the city after 1.5 years local life. It was embedded with my saying goodbye, a private interaction with London city itself, the sky, street and architecture, movements and blurred 'seen' through lights of all kinds.

Born in Taiwan, 1991, **Nai Wen** and her practice are influenced by the experience of growing up on an isolated island nation where identity is still unsettled and people live under packed manipulations of everydayness. By navigating external urban space, she asks questions through photography, upon all kinds of encounters, for beckoning to the world of possibility and for the significance in trivial. She uses the camera as a tool to face the longing and fear within an individual, and further to migrate them into a philosophical realm. In recent years her works have been exhibited both in Taipei and London.







