

**TOMOKO KINOSHITA**

*Plant Pots*

2016

MA Photography and Urban Cultures,  
Goldsmiths University of London, 2011.

The project was initially undertaken to process a personal memory through a random walk in neighbourhoods in Tokyo, specifically East Tokyo. This is where I was born, where my grandparents lived, where I studied, where I work, a place that has been a huge part of my everyday life, but where I have never lived. In East Tokyo there can be seen a number of permanently temporary gardens that people create in front of and along the side of their tiny houses in small streets or alleys. It is not actually a garden, but a collection of plant pots. The private belongings of the plant pots are apparently placed in the public space at random, however they are systematic and functioning simultaneously. Some are humbly placed just inside the private land, although many can be seen extended to the public street as if the street belongs to the house. They possibly help prevent car parking or rubbish disposal. The limited use of private/public space, the temporary joy of the beautiful natural plant in the ugly pots, good memory and uncertain future. The project will be continued with further research on plant pots on the street.

**Tomoko Kinoshita** studied BA German Literature at Meiji University in Japan and she started using an 8mm film camera while studying. She moved to London in 2006 and completed ABC Diploma in Image Making (Photography) at London College of Communication. In 2010, she moved back to London to study MA Photography and Urban Cultures at Goldsmiths, University of London. After graduation, she contributed to English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS) as a photographer for a few years. Currently based in Japan, she continues to use photography to visualize hidden, forgotten, lost stories of everyday life within, behind, and beyond urban context.

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