(re)TOKYO
Jin Taira

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- Japan is one the most attractive countries in the world due to its unique mixture and contrast of tradition and modernity
- Japan has successfully exported worldwide its culture and values such as Japanese cuisine, animation films (anime), comics (manga), flower arrangement (ikebana), martial arts, movies, traditional gardening, and architecture among others
- The enigmatic nature of Japan's urban realm remains relatively unknown by foreign readers and connoisseurs of Japan
- More than 30 million people live in the Tokyo metropolitan area, making it the biggest megapolis population in the world
- 3.5 times the number of overseas tourists are visiting, based on the level a decade ago
- 40 million visitors are expected in the year 2020 when Japan will host the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics
- Deep transformation processes are being planned by the government in order to provide for this unexpected demand that will radically change this global city
- *[re]TOKYO* navigates between Oriental and Western thinking, merging both worlds in order to achieve a universal understanding of our global urban realm
- In 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
- Understanding how things are [re]defined is an open door to understanding how things could change in the future

[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 [re]definition processes to explain what, who, when, where, and why all these changes took place, concluding with a collection of the essential processes that comprehensively elaborate Tokyo's changes – a tool to understand its history and speculate about its future as an exciting metropolis and cultural center of the world.

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+Fujii 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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