

humble arts foundation

ka-man tse

artist statement

My photographs are about a desire to see, to touch without touching. I am a photographer because I am a hoarder. I am a cowardly collector of faces, sights seen without cameras, murmurs in the hallway, children's logic, things unsaid, lists and maths found on the pavement, the low-fidelity breaking of a heart. So I gaze without manners, turn my head, and squeeze my eyes lest the image fall out.

My work explores common themes of home, childhood, memory, desire, loss, and place. Growing up, I had wanted to see my birthplace, the Hong Kong in my parents' photographs, the city that pulls me by some gravitational conspiracies. I began to photograph in Hong Kong in 2004, starting at the point of departure, the decommissioned Kai Tak Airport, then moved outwards into other spaces of wonder. These photographs work to recreate a theatre for memory, to relocate vignettes of a lost and new city, so that I can see, as if a child.

biography

Ka-Man Tse was born in Hong Kong in 1981. She is the creative director of NYC based *dirtypop* magazine. Her work has been published in *Hyphen* magazine, *Time Out New York*, and by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. She has exhibited at the Fifth Avenue Committee in Brooklyn, at Jen Bekman Gallery in New York City, and at the Newspace Center for Photography in Portland, OR. She is currently an MFA Candidate in photography at the Yale School of Art. She divides her time between New Haven and Brooklyn, and shoots in NYC and Hong Kong with a 4x5 View Camera.