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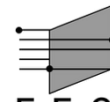


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INSTITUT FÜR
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Call for Participation

Interdisciplinary Workshop: „Home(s) by Food in Places“

CRC 1671 „Home(s): Phenomena, Practices, Representations“

26th-27th November 2026; Heidelberg University

The interdisciplinary workshop brings together researchers who are interested in understanding the various ways in which food practices contribute to the constitution of places, home(s), and worlds. Generally, home can be understood as a collective, place-bound, emotionally meaningful relationship – or more precisely, in the context of this workshop, as a relational practice with food as a key medium of belonging and care. Within this multidimensional definition of home, food can be linked to ideas of place-based identity (Escobar 1998, Stedman 2002; Tilley 2006; Feagan 2007; Paraseoli 2014), re-inhabiting (Berg 1978, Spencer 2009), more-than-human care (Puig de la Bellacasa 2017), and global ethics (Lemke 2025).

Extending this perspective, food practices can further be understood as embedded in situated ecological relations shaped by histories of extraction and resistance (Malcom 2019), in relational notions of territory (Santos 2023), as well as in decolonial, gendered, and diasporic conceptions of collective life, belonging, and world-making (Gonzalez 1988; Nascimento, A. 1980; Nascimento, B. 1992). Food practices are a key medium through which these relations are lived and materialized in everyday life, including not only rural contexts but also contexts of urban socio-biodiversity and practices of cultivation in the city (Itikawa & Souza 2026). Furthermore, food can be a medium to prefigure change in face of the political imperative of cultural and ecological transformation towards an inhabitable planet for the future. The concept of convivial foodscapes (Matta 2024, 2026), oriented by an ethics of mutual creation and of symbiosis between humans and non-humans, aims to contribute to discussions of food system transformations that integrate affective and material dimensions of belonging via food, centered on concepts of the interdependence of life.

At the workshop, we will discuss theoretical frameworks from bioregionalism, decolonial ecology and world-making, decolonial feminism, food studies, gastrosophy, multispecies anthropology, sociocultural anthropology, sociology, and philosophy, as well as results from empirical research. Special attention will be given to actors, spaces, and epistemologies of displaced, marginalized, racialized and diasporic communities, grassroots movements, and ecological activism. We are particularly interested in home-food-environment constellations that are at the center of 1) case studies that address the loss of home(s) through evictions or land-use change as well as the struggle for the recognition of territorial and land rights and of 2) case studies that develop an understanding of place-based forms of care and food justice with alternative imaginaries of the body, of health, of land, interspecies collaboration, natural environment, ontological and pluriversal engagements, and ways of life.

The workshop will take place on 26th and 27th of November 2026 at FEST Heidelberg. Its core will consist of four four-hour blocks, which all begin with a keynote by an internationally renowned expert and will be followed by a workshop. Selected (early career) researchers will receive the opportunity to present their work. Keynotes will be delivered by:

- **Terese Gagnon (Chapel Hill)**
- **Luciana Itikawa and Helen Souza (São Paulo)**
- **Harald Lemke (Hamburg)**
- **Raúl Matta (Paris)**

If you would like to participate, send an email to nikola.mirkovic@fest-heidelberg.de by **15th of June 2026**. Please, include a short statement about your motivation (up to 150 words) and if you would like to discuss your research add an abstract for a paper (200-300 words). The drafted papers can focus on either a) theoretical frameworks or b) case studies and are planned to be published in a joint, peer-reviewed publication.

The workshop is funded by the Collaborative Research Centre (CRC) 1671 “Home(s): Phenomena, Practices, Representations” at Heidelberg University (<https://www.sfb1671.uni-heidelberg.de/en>) and jointly organized by the two CRC subprojects B03 “[The Taste of Home: Food and Surroundings in Bioregionalism and Rural South East Asia](#)” (Thomas Kirchhoff, Nikola Mirkovic, Leonie Ott, Guido Sprenger) and B07 “[Kitchen and Garden: Homemaking Practices of Latin American Activists](#)” (Renata Campos Motta, Anne Ziegler).

Literature

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