



UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386



Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft



HC
IAS

HEIDELBERG
CENTER FOR
IBERO-AMERICAN
STUDIES



CENTRE FOR ASIAN AND
TRANSCULTURAL STUDIES



INSTITUT FÜR
INTERDISZIPLINÄRE
FORSCHUNG
F·E·S·T
Forschungsstätte der
Evangelischen
Studiengemeinschaft

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 **5th of July 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

- Berg, Peter (ed.) 1978: *Reinhabiting a Separate Country: A Bioregional Anthology of Northern California*. San Francisco, Planet Drum Foundation.
- Escobar, Arturo 2018: *Designs for the Pluriverse: Radical Interdependence, Autonomy, and the Making of World*, Durham (NC), USA, Duke University Press.
- Feagan, Robert 2007: The place of food: mapping out the 'local' in local food systems. *Progress in Human Geography* 31 (1): 23-42.
- Gonzalez, Lélia 1988: A categoria político-cultural de amefricanidade. *Tempo Brasileiro* (Rio de Janeiro) 92/93.
- Itikawa, Luciana Fukimoto; Souza, Helen E. (Org.) 2026: *Territórios Ancestrais: agricultura urbana e sociobiodiversidades na cidade de São Paulo*, 1. ed. São Paulo: INSUAH, v. 1.
- Itikawa, Luciana Fukimoto; Aguiar, A. L. ; Barbosa, B. R. ; Telles, V. S. 2022: Disputas da terra, das narrativas e no campo do trabalho: Advocacy em rede de ambulantes, universidades e movimentos nos conflitos pelo Direito à Cidade. In: Pulhez Magaly Marques; Santhiago, Ricardo. (Org.) 2019: *Disputas da terra, das narrativas e no campo do trabalho: Advocacy em rede de ambulantes, universidades e movimentos nos conflitos pelo Direito à Cidade*. 1ed. São Paulo: Instituto das Cidades, Universidade Federal de São Paulo.
- Lemke, Harald 2025: *Buddha in der Küche. Fernöstliche Esskultur und globale Ethik*. Bielefeld, Transcript.
- Malcom, Ferdinand 2019: *Une écologie décoloniale*, Paris, Seuil.
- Maret, O. de, & Geyzen, A. 2015: Tastes of Homes: Exploring Food and Place in Twentieth-Century Europe. *Food and Foodways* 23 (1-2), 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07409710.2015.1011980>
- Matta, Raúl.2024. Towards Convivial Foodscapes. In: Tristan, Fournier (ed.), *Utopies nourricières , Politika*, <https://www.politika.io/en/article/towards-convivial-foodscapes>
- Matta, Raúl. 2026. Convivialidade e sistemas alimentares: rumo a uma política de criação mútua. *Revista Hospitalidade*, 23, 1284. <https://doi.org/10.29147/revhosp.v23.1284>
- Nascimento, Abdias do 1980: „Quilombismo: An Afro-Brazilian Political Alternative“. *Journal of Black Studies* 11, Nr. 2 141-78. <https://doi.org/10.1177/002193478001100201>.
- Nascimento, Beatriz 1992: „Por um território (novo) existencial e físico“. In Alex Ratts 2022: *O negro visto por ele mesmo: ensaios, entrevistas e prosa*, 1ª edição, São Paulo: Ubu Editora
- Parasecoli, Fabio 2014: Food, Identity, and Cultural Reproduction in Immigrant Communities. *Social Research* 81 (2): 415-439.
- Puig de la Bellacasa, Maria (2017). *Matters of care: Speculative ethics in more than human worlds* (Vol. 41). Minneapolis, USA, University of Minnesota Press.
- Reese, Ashanté M. 2019: *Black food geographies: race, self-reliance, and food access in Washington, D.C.*, Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.
- Santos, Antônio Bispo dos 2023: *A terra dá, a terra quer*. São Paulo: Ubu Editora.
- Spencer, Daniel T. 2009: Restoring Earth, Restored to Earth: Toward an Ethic for Reinhabiting Place. In: Laurel, Kearns/Catherine, Keller (ed.): *Ecospirit*. New York, USA, Fordham University Press: 415-432.
- Stedman, Richard C. 2002: Toward a Social Psychology of Place: Predicting Behavior from Place-Based Cognitions, Attitude, and Identity. *Environment and Behavior* 34 (5): 561-581.
- Tilley, Christopher 2006: Introduction: Identity, Place, Landscape and Heritage. *Journal of Material Culture* 11 (1-2): 7-32.