

## Making a Home (Sussex, 6–8 May 15)

University of Sussex, May 6–08, 2015

Registration deadline: Apr 18, 2015

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/myevent?eid=16220479892](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/myevent?eid=16220479892)

Michele Robinson, Aalto University

### Making a Home: Interdisciplinary Studies of the Domestic Interior

This three-day interdisciplinary conference will feature academic papers that explore the question of what makes a home and how homes make us. Papers will consider homes both past and present and from a variety of perspectives such as material culture studies, art history, gender studies, anthropology, postcolonial studies, critical race studies, and geography. Attendees can register via Eventbrite (<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/myevent?eid=16220479892>).

#### Conference Programme:

6 May: Spotlight: Sussex Research on the Domestic Interior

1:00 Registration

1:15 Welcome speech

Dr. Meaghan Clarke, Senior Lecturer in Art History and Director of Doctoral Studies, University of Sussex

1:30-3:00 Making and Un-Making Home (Chair: Cathrin Yarnell, Sussex)

- Chelsea Olsen, Department of English, "Homemaking as Art-Making: The Creative Repurposing of Domesticity in Carrie Stettheimer's Dollhouse and Salon"
- Jessica Hammett, Department of History, "Turning the Post into a Home in Civil Defence during the Second World War"
- Alexa Neale, Department of History, "Un-Making a Home: Domestic Murder in Postwar London"

3:00-3:30 Coffee and Tea Break

3:30-5:30 Home and Identity (2-Part Panel with a short break) (Chair: Alexa Neale, Sussex)

- Dr. Katie Walsh, Department of Geography, "Domestic Practices of British Migrant Returnees in Later Life"
- Emily Priscott, Department of History, "How can you call this a home?: Social and Cultural Constructions of Single Living, 1960-1990"
- Anne Stutchbury, Department of Art History, "'At Home' with the Beales' of Standen: An Examination of Treasured Possessions and Family Identity"
- Paula Riddy, Department of Art History, "Hope and Glory: Representations of Thomas Hope's Country Seat, the Deepdene"

7 May 2015: National and International Perspectives on the Domestic Interior Part I

10:00 Registration

10:15 Welcome Speech

Dr. Maurice Howard, Professor of History of Art, University of Sussex

10:30 – 12:00 Defining Home: Interventions in Architecture and Design (Chair: Paula Riddy, Sussex)

- Professor Thomas Barrie, North Carolina State University, "Homelessness, Homecoming and the Task of Architecture"
- Dr. Olivier Vallerand, Université Laval, "What Makes a Home? Elmgreen & Dragset's Imaginary Domesticities"
- Colin Fanning, Philadelphia Museum of Art, "Furnishing Fun: LEGO and the Domestic Interior"

12:00-1:00 Lunch (Provided)

1:00 – 2:30 The Home as Contact Zone (Chair: Elizabeth Heath, Sussex)

- Dr. Emma Martin, National Museums Liverpool, "The Hybrid Home: Displaying transculturality in the domestic spaces of Calcutta, Gangtok and Lhasa"
- Andrea Muendelein, Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London, "The Metropolitan Hotel as a Space of Encounter"
- Dr. Alice Planell, Kingston University, "On the Threshold: Domestic Spaces in the work of Samta Benyahia and Zineb Sedira"

2:30-3:00 Coffee and Tea Break

3:00 – 4:30 Gender Articulations (Chair: Hannah Jordan, Sussex)

- Whitney Stewart, Rice University, "Activist Domesticity: The New Negro Woman and the Liberating Power of Home"
- Dr. Karen Lipsedge, Kingston University, "Domestic Man": Men, Domestic Space and the Eighteenth-Century Novel"
- Dr. Patricia McCarthy, Independent scholar, "A Room of Their Own: Private Space for Women in 18th-Century Houses"

8 May 2015: National and International Perspectives on the Domestic Interior Part II

09:30-10:30 Keynote lecture

Dr. Flora Dennis, Senior Lecturer in Art History, University of Sussex

10:30-11:00 Coffee and Tea Break

11:00-12:30 Narratives of Home (Chair: Chelsea Olsen, University of Sussex)

- Patrick Preston, University of East Anglia, "Coming Out of the Concrete: Queer Domesticity in Jonathan Harvey's Beautiful Thing"
- Elin Jones, Queen Mary University of London, "Lower Deck Domesticity on board a Naval Warship, 1756-1815"
- Kuang Vivian Sheng, University of York, "Yin Xiuzhen's Portable Cities – The Fabrication of 'Home' in the World"

12:30-1:00 Lunch (Provided)

1:00-2:30 Childhood and Family (Chair: Anne Stutchbury, University of Sussex)

- Dr. Anja Ebert, Germanisches Nationalmuseum Nuremberg, "Depictions of The Family Saying Grace: Images of Ideal Family Life?"
- Alastair McClure, University of Cambridge, "Constructing a Home through Violence: Patriarchal deals in Colonial India 1856-1910"
- Briley Rasmussen, University of Leicester, "Your Living Room Is A Battleground: MoMA, Good Design and the Construct of Creative Vitality in Children"

2:30 Closing Remarks

Please register via Eventbrite (<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/meyevent?eid=16220479892>) or contact Michele Robinson & Emma Doubt (makingahome2015@gmail.com) with any queries.

Reference:

CONF: Making a Home (Sussex, 6-8 May 15). In: ArtHist.net, Mar 29, 2015 (accessed Feb 24, 2026),  
<<https://arthist.net/archive/9881>>.