**Un/Making Homes in Anglophone Cultures**

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‘Home’ is arguably one of the most cherished concepts and values in contemporary times. In the age of globalization with its increased flow of “people, images, ideas, technology, money and commodities” (Appadurai), home continues to hold the promise of being a safe haven against forces of change. At the same time, notions of home are shifting as individual lifeworlds transform. The ongoing fierce debate on cultural ideals of home is fuelled by the intimate connection between home and identity politics. A case in point is the political currency home gained in the wake of the ‘war on terror’ and the political discourses that draw on the analogy between defending one’s family home and defending the nation. The easy slippage between home and homeland gives rise to the loaded question ‘who is invited into the home, who is a welcome guest and who is perceived as an intruder’?

The past years have witnessed a surge of critical interest in home, as is reflected in the establishment of the Centre for Studies of Home (University of London) and the Marie Curie Initial Training Network on “Diasporic Constructions of Home and Belonging” (Münster University). This panel seeks to contribute to these ongoing research activities by exploring different conceptualizations of ‘home’ in Anglophone cultures, with a particular focus on contemporary literature, film or corpora. Presentations on the concept prior to the 1970s are also welcome, but should explicitly consider connections to present states of affairs. The term ‘un/making’ in the title of our panel draws attention to how home is produced through everyday practices and medial constructions. The panel is open to contributions from literary and cultural studies as well as linguistics.

Papers may be on a variety of topics including, but not limited to:

* language and home
* spatial and material practices of home (e.g. architecture, the significance of things, etc.)
* geographies of home (e.g. sub/urban homes, country homes, transnational homes)
* home and political worlds
* uncanny homes
* home and the environment (ecocritical perspectives on home)
* …

Please send proposals **by 31. August 2014** to

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