

## A Place To Call Our Own: Contesting and Constructing the Home in Independent Film and Media

An area of multiple panels for the 2017 Film & History Conference:  
Representing “Home”: The Real and Imagined Spaces of Belonging  
November 1-November 5, 2017  
The Hilton Milwaukee City Center  
Milwaukee, WI (USA)

DEADLINE for abstracts: Early acceptance: June 1, 2017; General acceptance: July 1, 2017

The idea of “home” has a complicated relationship to independent film and media. On the one hand, the home connotes a conventional familiarity that runs counter to the boundary-pushing spirit and go-it-alone ethos associated with the independent film and media world. On the other hand, building alternative sites of production, knowledge, and community constitutes a vital part of envisioning a media landscape beyond the mainstream.

This area asks presenters to consider how these two notions of home coexist within independent film and media. What have producers, distributors, exhibitors, and audiences done to make new spaces (both on and off-screen) that challenge norms and expand conceptions of creativity and belonging? How have these goals shifted within ever changing economic, industrial, and cultural contexts? In posing these questions, we ultimately seek to explore what it means to forge a potentially incongruous creation: a home for independence.

Possible topics include:

- Representations of home in independent film and media
- Independent production cultures and the “familial” bonds of the set
- Alternative distributors and production companies
- The independent/repertory theater as cinephilic home
- Independent film/media as refuge for alternative identities and ideologies
- Home Invasions: Encroachments and overlaps with the mainstream
- Regional media and local specificity
- Home video and its relationship with independent media
- Amateur and DIY productions

Proposals for complete panels (three related presentations) are also welcome, but they must include an abstract and contact information, including an e-mail address, for each presenter. For updates and registration information about the upcoming meeting, see the Film & History website ([www.filmandhistory.org](http://www.filmandhistory.org)).

Please e-mail your 200-word proposal to the area chair:

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