

CHAIR – SANDY NG

Assistant Professor
School of Design
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

ORGANIZER

Gender Studies Programme,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

SPONSOR

Lee Hysan Foundation

WOMEN AND THE MODERN DOMICILE IN TURKEY IN THE MID-20TH CENTURY

**PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES ON
GENDER STUDIES 2011**
性別研究公開講座系列**ABSTRACT**

During the 1950s and 1960s, powerful images of women as fashionable homemakers proliferated throughout the Cold War regions, where capitalism was promoted for combating the perils of communism. Framing the convoluted concepts of modern and Western, these images contributed to the formation of shared values, norms and beliefs around contemporary women and the modern home. They simultaneously influenced ways in which a woman recognized herself as a member of a socio-cultural group in the urban context. In this historical framework, I show how women were national assets representing the country and playing a critical role in spreading and normalizing modernization and Westernization. Conceptualizing domestic space as a domain where gender roles are formed and performed, I argue that while mediating powerful discourses on the structures of patriarchy, the construction of women's identity empowered them as significant actors in shaping the modern domicile.

27 April 2011
Wednesday
7:30pm – 9:30pm

REGISTRATION

www.cuhk.edu.hk/gender/publiclecture.htm

SPEAKER

MELTEM Ö. GÜREL

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE AND
ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN
BILKENT UNIVERSITY, TURKEY

BIOGRAPHY

Meltem Ö. Gürel is Head of the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at Bilkent University, Ankara, where she has been teaching since 1994. Previous to her full-time academic engagement, Gürel practised architecture and interior design in Illinois and New York. She taught as an adjunct professor at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, from where she received her Ph.D. in Architecture, Master of Architecture, B.Sc. in Architectural Studies and B.Sc. in Interior Design. Gürel has published in *Journal of Architectural Education*, *The Journal of Architecture*, *Gender, Place and Culture*, *Journal of Design History*, *The International Journal of Art & Design Education* and elsewhere. Her research interests include cross-cultural histories of modernism with an emphasis on society, gender and culture as they have influenced the built environment – especially in Turkey in the mid-twentieth century – as well as the domestic domain, interior space and interior design / architecture education.

INQUIRIES

e genderstudiesPLS@cuhk.edu.hk
t 2696 1026
f 2603 7223

VENUE

Room 202
Duke of Windsor Social Service Building
15 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong
Wan Chai MTR Exit A2