



University of the  
West of England

## Health: The Design, Planning and Politics of How and Where We Live

- **Paper / Proposal Title:**

An Aesthetic – new domestic landscapes to support future care

- **Format:**

Written paper / Presentation (in-person)

- **Author(s) Name:**

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- **University or Company Affiliation:**

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- **Abstract (300 words):**

The New Domestic Landscape', an exhibition at MOMA (Museum of Modern Art) New York in 1972 curated by Emilio Ambasz, was a seminal moment in Design history. A series of prototype environments and installations by leading Italian designers reflected upon the changing domestic living patterns within contemporary society. The domestic landscape is once again the site of potential radical change impacted by the inevitable shift of healthcare from hospital to home. The home and the hospital bring together very different cultural practices and environments and the inexorable geographical shift in care has potential impact on our symbolic meaning of home and our physical and emotional relationship with it. The future domestic landscape suggests a paradoxical environment of confused aesthetic and function.

This presentation/paper will describe a body of research that draws on the value of 'thinking with things' as a method to build understanding of the factors end-users identify as being important in the design of the home that might integrate healthcare.

A collection of furniture HOSPITAbLe created by the author, reflects upon and challenges an ambiguous future domestic landscape that presents hybrid functionality and confused visual language. These critical artefacts are presented as recognisable archetypes which suspend the viewer in an uncomfortable place between reality and fiction. Through exhibition and a series of facilitated workshops the objects have provided a theatre for conversation and through a phenomenological approach (Greenhalgh 2013) take peoples ordinary experiences as a starting point.

Social control has been the significant feature of hospitals throughout history (Granshaw 1989, Cavallo 1991) in contrast to 'home' which evokes feelings of familiarity, comfort, security, nurturance and peace..... To 'go home' then is to go to a place that is different from other places (Mack 1991). The research points to a future domestic landscape that supports care rather than cure.

• **Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

Paul Chamberlain is a graduate of the Royal College of Art, Professor of Design, head of the Art & Design Research Centre and co-director of an interdisciplinary research group Lab4Living [www.lab4living.org.uk/](http://www.lab4living.org.uk/) at Sheffield Hallam University, UK. Paul's interest lies in designing and developing tools and methods to encourage and engender social innovation and applies this with a focus on healthcare, disability and ageing. His work explores the multi-sensory aspects of design and the role of artefacts that help define pertinent societal questions as much as present solutions. He has led major interdisciplinary projects and delivered keynote lectures at leading international venues on innovation strategies and sustainable approaches to design and manufacture that have played a significant role in supporting regional industrial reconstruction. He has exhibited widely, achieved two millennium product awards from the Design Council UK and his work is included in the permanent collection of the Victoria and Albert Museum London and the Museum of Modern Art, Prague. His Stigmas collection won a major prize in the 'Imagining chairs' category of the 'Art on Chairs' international design competition 2013 (sponsored by the Paredes Furniture Design Pole & Institute for Design, Media and Culture Research, Portugal).