In upland Laos, houses increasingly manifest aspirations and are sites of self- and world-making projects. As "one of the greatest powers of integration for the thoughts, memories and dreams of mankind" (Bachelard 1994 [1958]: 6), the house provides insights into circulating future imaginaries. The affective labour of building "good houses" is part of the project of making aspirations "literally concrete" eventually with unforeseen implications. As hope does not come without worries and aspired-to-futures are inadvertently not there yet, the pieces of gossip and ridicule that surround house building projects will be suggested to be productive entry points for the exploration of local world-making projects under the conditions of volatility and uncertainty.

Alle Interessierten sind herzlich eingeladen!

Institut für Ethnologie, Bergius-Villa, Albert-Ueberle-Straße 3-5
www.eth.uni-heidelberg.de