

# *Tropes of “Home”: The Gender of Globalizing Markets in Chinese Urban Culture*

Haiping Yan

## *Abstract*

Drawing on and working through a range of textual and visual materials, this essay explores the distinct configurations of the tropes of “home” (*jia*) in Chinese urban culture and explicates their intricate connotations from a fundamentally transnational perspective. Informed by recent developments in gender studies and critical theory, this essay attempts to raise some urgent questions not only integral to the on-going scholarly discussions about the tremendous transformations of contemporary Chinese culture and society but also central to the studies of modern politics of visibility and disappearance, in an era of rapidly unfolding and crisis-ridden globalization.

---

**Haiping Yan** is currently Associate Professor of Drama and Performance Studies at the University of Colorado at Boulder; and Zijiang Chair Professor of Humanities at East China Normal University in Shanghai. Since the early 1980s she has published books in both Chinese and English, and numerous essays in her areas in various international journals. She is currently working on a new book project about transcultural performance and intellectual praxis.