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### **Nostalgic Cities and the Present**

The aim of this panel is to reflect on the difficulties involved in constructing and reading the present of certain cities which have seen better pasts, and are struggling to adapt to a less gilded present. These difficulties are often as a consequence of nostalgia, for a past that is represented as splendid in different sorts of ways, through cultural products or historical and social facts.

In this session, we seek to integrate case studies which explore the cultural and artistic strategies employed by different social actors in the nostalgic city. Such strategies may be undertaken by actors seeking to integrate themselves into the urban present, against the heavy burden of the past; or as a means of representing the glorious past of the city.