

Session Title: Decolonizing heritage in city space. New epistemologies, practices and affects

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Speakers:

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Session abstract: This cutting edge interdisciplinary session investigates how colonial heritage in cities in particular is currently being used, re-interpreted, and reframed as part of decolonizing endeavours across and beyond old colonial and post-colonial power-geometries. The panel explores the ways in which Eurocentric/Westernized epistemologies are played out differently in specific local settings through different heritage practices. As such the panel asks what qualifies as colonial heritage and how it is possible to speak of internal colonialisms within regions of the world, not least Europe. We focus on a wide range of decolonial initiatives, including those by activists, artists, heritage professionals, engaged citizens. The panel aims at unravelling new and emerging relationships that appear out of such initiatives and the ways they are dependent from (or not) the historical multiple colonialisms at play in different cities. The session is based on ECHOES – a project funded by EU's H2020 program – to investigate current colonial contestations within and beyond Europe. Suggested subject areas covered include:

- Theories, epistemologies, ontologies of the decolonial
- Colonialisms of nature and other non-human actors
- Colonial heritage tourism
- New narratives of decoloniality media productions (film, documentaries, tv-series, computer-games etc.)
- New civic engagements of decoloniality (e.g. digital archives)
- Heritage policies in cities
- Colonial heritage and regional development
- Decolonial aesthetics and the affective turn

