

<b>M06</b>	<b>MULTIPLE IDENTITIES IN AN URBAN CONTEXT: 'COSMOPOLITANISM' VERSUS LOCAL BELONGING IN A LONG TERM PERSPECTIVE</b>
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<b>Period:</b>	All periods
<b>Date:</b>	Thursday, 30 August 2012
<b>Time:</b>	09:00-12:30
<b>Room:</b>	18

### **Description**

Many cities, especially gateway cities, are strongly shaped by international migration. Migrants in the past and present are attracted to these urban nodes. Consequently, the population in these cities has become increasingly diversified in terms of ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds. This diversity makes that the city is often labeled as a 'cosmopolitan' city. The more so as the imprints of migrants in the past and present are visible in specific neighborhoods and in the local economy, and while there is an atmosphere of openness to and tolerance of diversity (Young et al. 2006) and a willingness to engage with the other (Hannerz 1996). However, this attitude of 'cosmopolitanism' is often mixed with elements of local belonging, as an attachment to a specific locality, that could be a physical as well as emotional keystone in the identity of transnational migrants. This tension stands at the core of this session. Although Binnie et al (2006) state that 'ethnic, religious and cultural diversity, it seems are at the heart of what makes a twenty-first century city 'vibrant'', this diversity is not new at all. Cities have been shaped by different kinds of migration flows over time. This was especially the case in gateway cities, such as port and capital cities. Insights in how mixed urban populations made cities attractive in the past and how elements of 'cosmopolitanism' interfered with formal and informal aspects of local belonging can contribute to important policy issues today, such as international migration, urbanization and the formation of an urban identity.

In this session, we therefore aim to investigate the circumstances under which the influx of different cultures and ethnicities (a physical sign of a cosmopolitan city) in a city resulted in a cosmopolitan atmosphere (a particular stance) and how this interacted with feelings of local belonging.

Important sub-questions are:

- When and how does a city become cosmopolitan?
- How is this process related to international migration flows, and to the city's position in international networks?
- To what extent were cities characterized by an openness to the world, but also formed a world on their own by elements and feelings of local belonging?
- And which continuities and changes can be detected in the formation of multiple urban identities today and in the past?

We aim at a session with a mix of papers that reflect the topic in different cities and enable comparisons in a long term perspective.

## **Scientific Programme**

- 1522 SPATIALIZING THE COSMOPOLITAN COLONIAL CITY. RE-READING THE URBAN LANDSCAPE OF LUBUMBASHI (DRC)**  
*Sofie Boonen* (Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium)
- 1031 IRISH IDENTITY, SUSTAINED MEMORY, AND CULTURAL POLITICS IN CINCINNATI URBAN HISTORY**  
*Kevin Grace* (University of Cincinnati, Archives, Cincinnati, USA)
- 881 NATIONALIZING DIAMONDS**  
*David De Vries* (Tel Aviv University, Labor Studies, Tel Aviv, Israel)
- 504 IMMIGRANT'S NEIGHBORHOODS AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A METROPOLIS: SÃO PAULO, 1890-1930**  
*Ana Lanna* (USP, History of Architecture, São Paulo, Brazil)
- 447 NATION, POLITICAL PARTIES AND SOCIAL GROUPS: THE CREATION OF COLLECTIVE MEMORY IN AN ITALIAN INDUSTRIAL TOWN BETWEEN THE 1800s AND THE 1900s**  
*Davide Tabor* (University of Turin, Department of History, Turin, Italy)
- 373 COSMOPOLITANISM AND ELITE MIGRATION IN DRESDEN BEFORE WORLD WAR I**  
*Nadine Zimmerli* (University of Wisconsin-Madison, History, Williamsburg, USA)
- 355 VACATE AND SUBSTITUTE - SHIFT IN CULTURAL CONTEXT OF ISTANBUL**  
*Işıl Çokuğraş* (Yıldız Technical University, Department of Architecture, Istanbul, Turkey)