International workshop

The past as a source of imagination and inspiration: strategy, function, and diversity of historical narratives

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The act of representing personal or collective past is a great source of artistic achievements, which can sometimes influence the real life of the people who live in the present. Also, as we can see in our everyday life, the narrative based on imagination and personal experiences are much more appreciated than those that are based on academic methods. From a scientific point of view, these imaginative or even chimeric narratives are considered invalid; nevertheless, they must be analyzed seriously because of their strong influence.

Furthermore, the way of recording and telling people about the past has, in itself, a great diversity if we deem the phenomenon worthy of the worldwide range. Then, what kind of strategy would each narrative take? How would each society exploit these accounts? Finally, what would be today’s model of historical chronicle given the globalization of our world?

For this occasion, we aim to discuss and compare diverse strategies about representing the personal or collective past in history, myth, literature, theater, picture, or other artistic and social achievements, from every cultural sphere of the world.