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Coordinates of Aesthetics, Art and Culture VI:
Art, Aesthetics and the Philosophy of Everyday Life

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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS
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Another Look at the City. Aesthetics, Sustainability, and the Art of Compromise

Cities are usually formed over long periods of time. The experience of time on the scale of a human individual comes together with the longer lifespan of humanmade constructions in contemporary cities. Intergenerational aesthetic values are negotiated with short-term trends and both have an influence on how cities become perceived, experienced, and used. Change in the material conditions in general seems to define the aesthetic qualities of urban environments. Continuous acts of care and maintenance are needed to keep the city as a material system functioning. Urban formations draw direct aesthetic attention as they are being designed and redesigned. With technological development, on the other hand, the very composition of urban artefacts is becoming denser with functions and purposes that define their use. Buildings and other built structures in cities have for long been carrying meanings beyond the mere function of giving shelter. This talk outlines, how philosophical urban aesthetics can acknowledge and better take into account how cities are contested areas of aesthetic debates in which the change in taste as well as values becomes reality. The aim is to show, how the idea of sustainability transitions could be introduced into urban aesthetics in a way that will increase our understanding of how aesthetics and sustainability are and could be interlinked in contemporary and future urban environments.

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