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ARQ**

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Li Xiangning and Manuel Blanco
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Deputy curatorship:

Gao Changjun and Héctor Navarro
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Coordination:

Wei Xiaoyu and Isidro García
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Designers:

Héctor Navarro and Manuel Blanco
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Rooms: 0 and -1
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CHINA
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**REGENERATIONS
IN THE MIRROR**

es
SPAIN

**ES_ LA CASA DE LA
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REGENERATIONS IN THE MIRROR

CHINA AND SPAIN IN THE MIRROR

The exhibition *Regenerations: China and Spain in the Mirror* proposes a dialogue between two countries that, despite their very different realities, face the same urgency: regenerating cities and architectures inherited from the past to meet the challenges of sustainability.

Today, architecture can no longer rely on building from scratch or demolishing and starting over: it must reuse, reinterpret, and transform what already exists. Urban and architectural regeneration has become an essential strategy for optimizing resources, reducing environmental impact, and offering new responses to social needs. In both Spain and China, teams of all generations are exploring this path—from the rehabilitation of historic buildings and the reuse of recent structures to “urban acupuncture,” micro-interventions that reactivate neighborhoods and landscapes.

This joint research has been developed in parallel by two teams—one from Tongji University in Shanghai and the other from the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid—for the

Casa de la Arquitectura, our key meeting place between architecture and society.

The exhibition design itself symbolizes this dialogue. In the entrance hall, we sit together to share our respective works and our experiences. Architects explain their projects within a shared landscape where works from both countries intermingle with visitors, reflected in a large mirror that multiplies the synergy of our relationships. In the lower hall, visitors walk through a panorama of contemporary architecture from the two countries. This mirrored landscape unfolds while they move through a symbolic boat, with two parallel rows of projects—Spanish and Chinese—rowing together toward a common future.

Thus, the exhibition becomes a journey through more than seventy selected interventions, showing how architecture can regenerate degraded spaces, activate communities, and reinterpret built heritage. A mirror between China and Spain that reflects both differences and affinities, reminding us that—in the same boat of sustainability—cooperation and mutual learning are the true regenerative force.