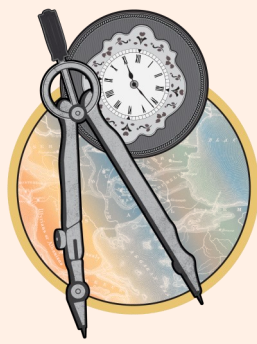


Project



REVENANT invites you to a guest lecture

Remembering to Resist : Putting the Future into Memory Studies

By Professor Ann Rigney, Utrecht University

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Rijeka, Sveučilišna avenija 4
Thursday, 25 September 2025, from 14:00 h to 15:30, classroom F - 207

Excerpt from the Republican calendar introduced 15 vendémiaire an 11 (October 6, 1793); used until 1806.
Courtesy of the Bibliothèque nationale de France.

In this talk I would like to introduce some of the key themes in my forthcoming book *Remembering Hope: The Cultural Afterlife of Protest* (OUP, 2025). Can memory become, or is it already a resource, for shaping a future that is not just *free of* injustice but a bit *closer to* the world as we would like it to be? What role does memory play in helping us to imagine a world that has *not yet* come into being? And in challenging inevitability? In my talk I will explore these questions by examining the commemorative calendar as an activist cultural form with roots in the French Revolution. I will present examples from the late eighteenth century to the present, and from wall calendars and almanacs to pocket-sized agendas, in order to show how activists how used commemoration in order to bring back into circulation paths not (yet) taken in history.



Ann Rigney is professor emerita of Comparative Literature at Utrecht University and founder of the Utrecht Forum for Memory Studies. She has published widely on theories of cultural memory and on memory cultures since the nineteenth century. Her monographs include *Imperfect Histories* (Cornell UP 2001), the *Afterlives of Walter Scott* (OUP 2012) and *Remembering Hope* (OUP 2025). The latter was one of the many outcomes of the ERC-funded project *Remembering Activism* (2019-2024), which also included the co-edited collections *The Visual Memory of Protest* (2023), *Archiving Activism in the Digital Age* (2024), *Remembering Contentious Lives* (2024) and *Memory and the Language of Contention* (2025). She is currently serving as president of the international Memory Studies Association.