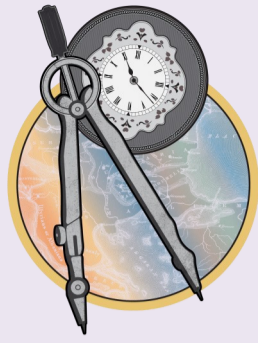


Project



REVENANT invites you to a guest lecture

Sound, Light, Stone. On *Son-et-lumière* Shows as Postimperial Phantasmagorias

By Dr. Barbara Babić,
ERC Project Transopera, Leipzig University

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Rijeka, Sveučilišna avenija 4
Tuesday, 2 June 2026, from 14:15 to 16:00, classroom F-204



The lecture explores a popular yet still understudied genre that spread worldwide from the late 1950s onwards: the *son-et-lumière* ('sound and light') shows staged at historically significant outdoor sites, combining light projections synchronized with recorded narration and music. As tales of bygone empires and dynasties, largely conceived for touristic purposes, these productions offer insight into ways of staging imperial pasts, as well as artistic experimentation and technological innovation in the postwar era. In particular, Dr. Babić examines the *son-et-lumière* productions presented at the Castello di Miramare in Trieste from the summer of 1959 to the present day as examples of postimperial phantasmagorias that echo the town's image at the crossroads of nineteenth-century Habsburg and Italian histories.



Barbara Babić is a cultural historian of music specializing in nineteenth-century music theatre, popular genres, urban and visual cultures. After having worked in Vienna and Paris, she is currently post-doc fellow at Leipzig University within the ERC project "Opera and the Politics of Empire in Habsburg Europe, 1815–1914", with an ongoing book project on opera across seas and rivers in Habsburg Southeastern Europe.