

The Legacy of the Paris Commune: 1871-2021

May 15, 2021



Online: eventbrite.com

Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 2 PM EDT - 3:30 PM EDT

Price: Free · Duration: 1 hr 30 min

In March 1871, in the aftermath of France's defeat in the Franco-Prussian War, ordinary Parisians rose up and took control of their city for themselves. The Paris Commune only lasted for a little over two months, but during that time the Communards enacted a remarkable number of far-reaching democratic measures.

The Commune was eventually drowned in blood by the old regime, but it had an enormous impact on the international socialist and working-class movement. Marx wrote *The Civil War in France* praising the Commune's achievements, which remained inspirational for generations of later socialists. On its 150th anniversary, join us for a discussion of the Commune's accomplishments and weaknesses, and the lessons it holds for the radical left today.

Speakers:

Gilbert Achcar teaches at SOAS, University of London. He is the author of many books and a contributor to many publications. He wrote the chapter on the Paris Commune in *Revolutions* (Haymarket, 2020).

Carolyn J. Eichner is a feminist historian at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, and author of the forthcoming *The Paris Commune: A Brief History* (Rutgers, 2021) and *Feminism's Empire* (Cornell, 2022). Her book, *Surmounting the Barricades: Women in the Paris Commune* (Indiana, 2004), has been translated as *Franchir les barricades: les femmes dans la Commune de Paris* (Editions de la Sorbonne, 2020).

Phil Gasper is co-editor of *New Politics* and a member of the Tempest Collective. He is the editor of an annotated edition of *The Communist Manifesto* (Haymarket, 2005) and of *Imperialism and War: Classic Writings by V.I. Lenin and Nikolai Bukharin* (Haymarket, 2017).

Sponsored by Tempest, Haymarket Books, *New Politics*, and the Havens Wright Center for Social Justice (UW-Madison).

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