

Title: Lyrae Personae: Blok's *Балаганчик* and the Lyrical Touch

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This talk will present a close reading of Aleksandr Blok's *Балаганчик* that considers how this so-called "lyrical drama" (or "dramatized lyric") comes to bear upon poetic subjecthood in tandem with Blok's experiments in verse. Of particular interest is the status of the lyric, whether it is "performative" in a way that is not theatrical or dramatic, and how *Балаганчик* may help us complicate our understanding of what lyric "does" while disambiguating our own terms as well as Blok's.