I Declare at My Own Risk
Alina Serban, Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, London, U.K.

The conference will debut Alina Șerban’s highly acclaimed examination of conflicting identities, social discrimination, and the redemptive force of self-expression. The performance, inspired by the autobiographical story of the actress, a Romanian from the Roma minority, follows the dilemmas, challenges and revelations that accompany a girl from a poverty-stricken Roma community in Bucharest on her sinuous way to social emancipation as a performer trained in some of the best artistic schools in the world.

“A young Roma actress tells the tale of her painful journey, looking the public straight in the eyes...far from the flamboyant guitars of Gypsy kings... this solo performance becomes a troubling metaphor for all forgotten children.” - Judith Sibony, Le Monde

Introductory Remarks | Dan Dimancescu, Boston's Honorary Consul of Romania

Monday, April 10, 2017 | 9:00am-5:15pm | Room 110, Barker Center

9:00am Welcome Address
Jennifer Leaning, Director, Harvard FXB Center

9:10am Introductory Remarks | The Roma Contribution in Global Context
Margareta Matache, Director of the Roma Program and Instructor, Harvard FXB Center

9:20am Keynote Panel: Word, Image, Thought: Creating the Romani Other

Chair | Bettina Kaibach, Visiting scholar, Davis Center for Russian & Eurasian Studies, Harvard University

Discussant | Homi Bhabha, Anne F. Rothenberg Professor of the Humanities, Harvard University

Keynote Speaker | Kenneth Lee, Author, Orientalism and Gypsylorism
10:15am  **Panel One: The Romani Contribution to World Ideas, Arts, and Culture**
Chair & Discussant | **Jacqueline Bhabha**, Director of Research, Harvard FXB Center
Presenter | **Andrzej Mirga**, Chair, Roma Education Fund
Presenter | **Alexandra Oprea**, Lawyer, Columbia University
Presenter | **Herbert Heuss**, Senior Advisor, Central Council of German Sinti and Roma
Presenter | **Aidan McGarry**, Author, *Romaphobia*

11:45pm  **Lunch | Book Launch: Realizing Roma Rights**
Chair | **Jennifer Leaning**, Director, Harvard FXB Center
Presenter | **Jacqueline Bhabha**, Director of Research, Harvard FXB Center
Presenter | **Erika Schlager**, Contributor, *Realizing Roma Rights*
Presenter | **Andrzej Mirga**, Chair, Roma Education Fund

1:00pm  **Panel Two: Roma Identity in Scholarship**
Chair | **Betty Blythe**, Professor, Boston College
Presenter | **Jelena Jovanovic**, Coordinator for Alumni Network and Outreach, Roma Access Programs, Central European University
Presenter | **Cristina-Ioana Dragomir**, Assistant Professor of Political Science at SUNY Oswego; CASI 2016-2017 non-resident Visiting Scholar, University of Pennsylvania
Presenter | **Kristin Raeesi**, Activist & Performance Artist, Researcher at WWAMI School of Medical Education, University of Alaska
Presenter | **Veselina Lambrev**, Instructor and Program Advisor, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Presenter | **Petre Breazu**, PhD Candidate on Media and Communication, Orebro University in Sweden

2:15pm  **Panel Three: The Production of Roma Culture in Musical and Visual Arts**
Chair | **Kay Kaufman Shelemay**, G. Gordon Watts Professor of Music and Professor of African and African American Studies, Harvard University
Discussant | **Urs Heftrich**, Chair of Slavic Literatures, University of Heidelberg
Presenter | **Alina Serban**, Actress, Romania
Presenter | Carol Silverman, Professor of Cultural Anthropology and Folklore, University of Oregon

Presenter | Erika Lakatos, Photographer, Painter, Singer

Presenter | Radmila Mladenova, PhD Candidate, The Slavic Institute, Heidelberg University

3:30pm       Coffee Break

3:45pm       Panel Four: Self and Other: Literary Representations (and Misrepresentations) of Roma

Chair & Discussant | Martin Puchner, Professor of Drama and of English and Comparative Literature, Harvard University

Presenter | Ismael Cortés Gómez, PhD Candidate, Peace Studies, Instituto Interuniversitario de Desarrollo Social y Paz

Presenter | Ronald Lee, Author, The Living Fire

Presenter | Oksana Marafioti, Author, American Gypsy: A Memoir

Presenter | Jud Nirenberg, Author, Johann Trollmann and Romani Resistance to the Nazis

5:00pm       Closing Remarks
Jacqueline Bhabha, Director of Research, Harvard FXB Center

6:00pm       Cocktail Reception

The FXB Center for Health and Human Rights hosts the Fifth Annual Roma Conference, Culture Beyond Borders: The Roma Contribution, at Harvard University to mark International Roma Day.

The conference is co-sponsored by the Berklee College of Music and the following departments and centers at Harvard University: The Center for European Studies, The Committee on Ethnicity, Migration, Rights, The Mahindra Humanities Center, The Department of Music, The Provost’s Fund for Interfaculty Collaboration, and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.