

ARTISTIC IMAGE IN THE WORKS OF ALEXANDER BLOK

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Abstract: This article examines the role of artistic image in the works of Alexander Blok. Particular attention is paid to the analysis of the images of the Beautiful Lady, Russia, and the twelve Red Guards in the poem "The Twelve." It is shown that Blok's artistic image transcends the particular and concrete, acquiring a symbolic character and reflecting the philosophical and national ideas of the era. It is concluded that the poet's artistic images are polysemantic and universal, which contributes to their continued relevance today.

Keywords: Alexander Blok, artistic image, symbolism, Beautiful Lady, Russia, revolution, poem "The Twelve," symbol, 20th-century literature. Introduction

The concept of artistic imagery occupies a central place in literary criticism. Through it, a writer or poet expresses their vision of the world, creating a system of symbols and images capable of influencing not only the mind but also the emotions of the reader. Alexander Blok, one of the leading exponents of Russian Symbolism, particularly vividly revealed the potential of artistic imagery, making it the primary tool of his creativity. In his poetry, imagery becomes not simply an artistic device but a living embodiment of philosophical, historical, and personal experiences.

Alexander Blok (1880–1921), one of the leading exponents of Russian Symbolism, particularly vividly revealed the potential of artistic imagery. In his poetry, images acquire symbolic meaning, uniting the real and the mystical, the personal and the national.

The Image of the Beautiful Lady

The leading image in Blok's early work is the Beautiful Lady. This image unites the earthly and the heavenly, the real and the mystical, transforming the beloved into a symbol of eternal beauty and a spiritual ideal. In the cycle "Poems about the Beautiful Lady," woman is depicted as an intermediary between man and higher powers. The artistic image here takes on symbolic and religious overtones, reflecting the poet's aspiration to unattainable perfection. This artistic image unites the earthly and the heavenly, becoming the embodiment of the poet's religious and mystical quest. Here, the real woman fades into the background, giving way to an ideal that expresses the desire for harmony and a higher world.

The Image of Russia

Gradually, the image of Russia occupies an increasingly prominent place in Blok's poetry. In the

cycle "On the Kulikovo Field," it appears as an eternal, suffering, and at the same time strong country, preserving the memory of a heroic past. For Blok, Russia is not only a geographical or historical reality, but also a living soul, endowed with destiny and character. In the poem "Scythians," the image of Russia takes on a grandiose symbolic dimension: it emerges as a mediator between East and West, a country capable of leading humanity. This image is imbued with mythological and prophetic qualities.

The Image of the City

The image of St. Petersburg occupies a special place in Blok's poetry. The city in his poems appears contradictory: on the one hand, it is a mysterious, mystical space filled with enigmatic symbols ("Night, street, lamppost, pharmacy..."); on the other, it is an anxious and gloomy world, reflecting alienation and spiritual crisis. The image of the city symbolizes the chaos of modernity and the tragic loneliness of man, but simultaneously becomes the stage on which fateful historical events unfold.

Imagery in the Poem "The Twelve"

The poem "The Twelve" occupies a special place in Blok's work, revealing the contradictory essence of the revolutionary era through its artistic imagery. The twelve Red Guards symbolize the destructive force of history, bringing both chaos and renewal. The climax is the image of Christ leading his detachment through a snowstorm. This symbolic imagery imbues the events with metaphysical meaning, connecting historical reality with eternal spiritual categories. The final image of Christ leading his detachment through a blizzard emerges. This artistic imagery connects reality with eternity, imbuing the events with religious and philosophical meaning.

Conclusion

Artistic imagery in Alexander Blok's work fulfills a multifaceted function: it reflects the poet's personal experiences, embodies the symbolism of the era, and unites the particular and the universal, the national and the universal. Through the images of the Beautiful Lady, Russia, twelve revolutionaries, and Christ, Blok created an entire world in which real events are intertwined with mythology and philosophy. His poetry demonstrated that artistic imagery can become not only a form of aesthetic expression but also a key to understanding the spiritual processes of the times.

The polysemy and depth of his artistic images make Blok's poetry not only a reflection of his time but also a universal artistic phenomenon, relevant to different generations of readers.

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