Borrowed Subjectivities: Personal articulations in the age of the internet

Professor Robert Fitterman is a widely published poet, screen writer and faculty member at New York University. In this presentation he will read from his new book-length poem, *No Wait, Yep. Definitely Still Hate Myself* (Ugly Duckling Presse, 2014), which points to a collectively mediated sense of ‘self’ by appropriating hundreds of articulations of sadness and loneliness found on internet message boards and filtering them through the ‘voice’ of a singular, imaginary writer. He will also discuss the following, related questions from the point of view of a contemporary writer:

‘Even though we have become accustomed to negotiating the shifts in meaning induced by reframed texts and objects over the past 100 years, we are less sure about what happens when we borrow the personal articulations of others. Since we now have access to a steady stream of social media that shares these personal articulations, what do their always already mediated semantic forms allow us to hear and read? Do we, for example, find that the collective articulation and the personal articulation overlap so much that our own foundational ideas of identity and self-expression are made unstable? And, finally, in what ways can borrowed articulations complicate our conventions in ethics, the law and poetics?’