



Balzac British Style

Avarice, Austerity, and the Tight Spaces of Rex Tucker's *Eugénie Grandet* (BBC 2, 1965–1966)

Publication type: Journal article

Journal: [The Balzac Review / Revue Balzac](#)
2018, n° 1. Balzac et l'étranger

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Abstract: This article explores the adaptation of Balzac's work for British television by taking the version of *Eugénie Grandet* directed by Rex Tucker as an illustrative case study. Analysis of this series shows how the claustrophobic aesthetic of the small screen proved itself to be well-suited to Balzac's artistic interest in the notion of spatial confinement. The article also examines the BBC's decision to broadcast this series when the figure of the miser already had a peerless exemplar in Dickens' *Scrooge*.

Pages: 37 to 54

Journal: [The Balzac Review](#)

CLIL theme: 4027 -- SCIENCES HUMAINES ET SOCIALES, LETTRES -- Lettres et Sciences du langage -- Lettres -- Etudes littéraires générales et thématiques

EAN: 9782406082620

ISBN: 978-2-406-08262-0

ISSN: 2649-2571

DOI: 10.15122/isbn.978-2-406-08262-0.p.0037

Publisher: Classiques Garnier

Online publication: 07-27-2018

Periodicity: Annual

Language: English

Keyword: *Eugénie Grandet*, Rex Tucker, television, BBC, claustrophobia

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