

OXFORD

Revising Wilde

SOCIETY AND SUBVERSION IN
THE PLAYS OF OSCAR WILDE

Sos Eltis

Revising Wilde Society And Subversion In The Plays Of Oscar Wilde

Joseph Bristow



Revising Wilde Society And Subversion In The Plays Of Oscar Wilde:

Revising Wilde Sos Eltis, 1996 A radical re examination of Oscar Wilde s plays *Revising Wilde* challenges long established views of the writer as a dilettante and dandy revealing him instead as a serious philosopher and social critic who used his plays to subvert the traditional values of Victorian literature and society By tracing Wilde s painstaking revisions and redraftings of his plays Sos Eltis uncovers themes subsequently concealed in successive versions which demonstrate that Wilde was in fact an anarchist a socialist and a feminist Wilde borrowed plots and incidents from numerous contemporary French and English plays but he then subtly rewrote his plagiarized material in order to mock the very conventions he imitated By analysing previously unconsidered manuscript drafts and comparing the finished plays with their sources Eltis displays a surprising depth and complexity to Wilde s work The little known early play *Vera* or *The Nihilists* is revealed as a politically radical drama the society plays are shown to challenge Victorian sexual and social mores and *The Importance of Being Earnest* is interpreted as an anarchic farce which reflects the Utopian vision of Wilde s political essay *The Soul of Man under Socialism* Taking into account the most recent scholarship and criticism this accessible study will be of interest to Wilde specialists and enthusiasts alike

Revising Wilde Sos Eltis, 1996 A radical re examination of Oscar Wilde s plays *Revising Wilde* challenges long established views of the writer as a dilettante and dandy revealing him instead as a serious philosopher and social critic who used his plays to subvert the traditional values of Victorian literature and society By tracing Wilde s painstaking revisions and redraftings of his plays Sos Eltis uncovers themes subsequently concealed in successive versions which demonstrate that Wilde was in fact an anarchist a socialist and a feminist

The Cambridge Companion to Victorian and Edwardian Theatre Kerry Powell, 2004-02-19 This Companion is designed for readers interested in the creation production and interpretation of Victorian and Edwardian theatre in its own time and on the contemporary stage The volume opens with an introduction surveying the theatre of the time followed by an essay contextualizing the theatre within the culture as a whole Succeeding chapters examine performance production and theatre including the music the actors stagecraft and the audience plays and playwriting and issues of class and gender Chapters also deal with comedy farce melodrama and the economics of the theatre

Oscar Wilde and Modern Culture Joseph Bristow, 2009-01-12 *Oscar Wilde and Modern Culture* The Making of a Legend explores the meteoric rise sudden fall and legendary resurgence of an immensely influential writer s reputation from his hectic 1881 American lecture tour to recent Hollywood adaptations of his dramas Always renowned if not notorious for his fashionable persona Wilde courted celebrity at an early age Later he came to prominence as one of the most talented essayists and fiction writers of his time In the years leading up to his two year imprisonment Wilde stood among the foremost dramatists in London But after he was sent down for committing acts of gross indecency it seemed likely that social embarrassment would inflict irreparable damage to his legacy As this volume shows Wilde died in comparative obscurity Little could he have realized that in five years his name would come back into popular

circulation thanks to the success of Richard Strauss's opera *Salome* and Robert Ross's edition of *De Profundi*. With each succeeding decade the twentieth century continued to honor Wilde's name by keeping his plays in repertory producing dramas about his life adapting his works for film and devising countless biographical and critical studies of his writings. This volume reveals why more than a hundred years after his demise Wilde's value in the academic world, the auction house and the entertainment industry stands higher than that of any modern writer. *Oscar Wilde's Society Plays* Michael Y.

Bennett, 2016-01-12 As the first collection of essays about Oscar Wilde's comedies the contributors re-evaluate Oscar Wilde's society plays as comedies of manners to see whether this is actually an apt way to read Wilde's most emblematic plays. Focusing on both the context and the texts the collection locates Wilde both in his social and literary contexts.

Subversion of Victorian Gender Roles in Oscar Wilde's Selected Plays Başak Çün, 2023-12-15 This book elucidates how the late Victorian author playwright and artist Oscar Wilde both mirrors and subverts the artificial gender roles of Victorian society in *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *An Ideal Husband* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* eventually introducing morally tangled definitions of womanhood and manhood. Apart from the common literature concerning Wilde's homosexual identity it examines the invalidation of morality through a specific reading of the two established genders and hence brings in a particular dimension. Wilde destroys all moral balances while creating a new perception where no strict borders exist to separate the proper gender traits from the improper. The book is a reference source for undergraduate and graduate students, academics and anyone interested in Wildean studies and the moral codes of Victorian society. **Palgrave Advances in**

Oscar Wilde Studies Frederick S. Roden, 2004-09-30 *Palgrave Advances in Oscar Wilde Studies* is a comprehensive guide to recent critical approaches. Topics covered include Gay Studies, Feminist Criticism, Material Culture, Religion, Philosophy, Performance Studies, Aestheticism, Biography, Textual Studies and Postcolonial Theory. The book is designed to acquaint readers of all levels with the history of scholarship in a range of fields and suggest ways that Wilde's work offer new areas for research. The collection also provides a Chronology and detailed bibliography. **An Ideal Husband** Oscar

Wilde, 2013-12-12 One of the nineteenth century's most successful and most frequently revived plays *An Ideal Husband* has divided critics more than any other of Wilde's plays. Treating political intrigue, financial fraud, blackmail, scandal and spin and the role of women in public life it is a play which engaged with issues of vital importance to its late Victorian audience which continue to resonate today. Sos Eltis, a specialist in Victorian drama and its relation to women's issues, provides a stimulating new perspective on *An Ideal Husband* through an introduction that looks at its relation with contemporary social purity campaigns, women's rights and political scandals. The introduction also gives a substantial performance history with particular reference to the play's film versions and the influential Peter Hall theatre production. **Wilde's Wives** Annette

M. Magid, 2014-08-11 *Wilde's Wives: Studies of the Influences on Oscar Wilde and His Enduring Influences in the Twenty First Century* is a collection of essays which celebrates the diversity of Oscar Wilde's genius. This unique collection of scholarship

explores not only his influence on a broad spectrum of subjects including aesthetics children's literature women's issues consumer economics queer theory politics theater film poetry Victorianism and other aspects of culture such as pedagogical approaches to Wilde's literature but it also examines the influence of his family and friends on him Wilde's Wiles Studies of the Influences on Oscar Wilde and His Enduring Influences in the Twenty First Century includes a wide range of approaches and concentrations written by international experts and has a broad spectrum of subjects which will appeal to a diversity of scholars seeking original and alternative approaches to understanding Oscar Wilde The multiplicity of interest in the topic of Oscar Wilde expands across genres disciplines cultures and time this being the second century of Wilde scholarship since his untimely death in November 1900 preceding the fin de siècle The unique multi discipline approach of Wilde's Wiles is organized in three sections Aesthetic Approaches Friends and Family and Performance and Pedagogy and bridges philosophical sociological psychological economic and literary disciplines **The Evolution of Wilde's Wit J. Gantar**, 2016-04-30 Oscar Wilde's wit is foundational to his works from his plays and novels to his self defense at his trials This book is a comprehensive account of Oscar Wilde's wit that focuses on discovering reasons for his critical success and ongoing legacy

Unveiling the Power of Verbal Artistry: An Emotional Sojourn through **Revising Wilde Society And Subversion In The Plays Of Oscar Wilde**

In some sort of inundated with displays and the cacophony of quick communication, the profound energy and emotional resonance of verbal artistry often fade into obscurity, eclipsed by the constant onslaught of sound and distractions. Yet, situated within the lyrical pages of **Revising Wilde Society And Subversion In The Plays Of Oscar Wilde**, a interesting work of fictional splendor that impulses with raw emotions, lies an remarkable journey waiting to be embarked upon. Published by way of a virtuoso wordsmith, that interesting opus books viewers on a psychological odyssey, gently exposing the latent potential and profound influence embedded within the elaborate web of language. Within the heart-wrenching expanse with this evocative examination, we shall embark upon an introspective exploration of the book is main styles, dissect its fascinating writing model, and immerse ourselves in the indelible effect it leaves upon the depths of readers souls.

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