

Oscar Wilde

Oscar Wilde is the perfect aesthete. He was born in Dublin in 1856, he attended the best protestant schools of the UK.

At Oxford he lived as a witty "dandy". Then he went to America on a lecture tour.

He analysed English society and compared it to the American one in a humorous way.

He was very good at making fun of his society and criticize it at the same time.

His characters tell a lot of stupid things, but there is always something true and important in what they say.

Wilde lived his life as a work of art and reflected it in his masterpiece "The Picture of Dorian Gray" (1891), which is considered the "masterpiece" of aestheticism. It's a novel.

He also wrote short stories like "The Canterville Ghost", comedies such as "The Importance of Being Earnest" and tragedies, for example "Salome".

He became very famous between 1831 and 1834
because his works were all triumphs.
But in 1835 the public shame of his trial
for homosexuality led him to prison. He stayed
in prison for two years. Finally he went to
Paris where he died poor and alone in 1830.