Catalogue of the Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature

Oscar Wilde and Modern Culture: The Making of a Legend explores the meteoric rise, sudden fall, and posthumous rehabilitation of the Victorian aesthete. The book focuses on his 1889 trial for sodomy and the production that led to his conviction and early death. Wilde is a central figure in aesthetic writing. His controversial, open lifestyle was the reason he was charged and eventually convicted for the crime of sodomy. The book examines Wilde’s role in the aesthetic movement, his influence on modernism, and his impact on later generations of writers, artists, and activists.

This volume offers a detailed account of Wilde’s life and work, from his early years as a student at Oxford to his career as a writer and politician, and his final exile in France and the United States. It also explores the complex reception of Wilde’s legacy, from his lifetime to the present day. The book draws on a wide range of sources, including the archives of Wilde’s family, his correspondence, and contemporary accounts of his life and works.

The Life and Works of Oscar Wilde

Oscar Wilde, born Octavius winged (1854) and died on November 30, 1900, was one of the most controversial and enigmatic figures of the Victorian era. His life was marked by scandal, controversy, and tragedy, and his works continue to be celebrated and debated today.

Wilde was born into a middle-class family in Dublin, Ireland, and was educated at Trinity College Dublin and Balliol College, Oxford. He published his first poem in 1874, and his first play, "Mrs. Warren's Profession," premiered in London in 1893. The play caused a scandal and served as the basis for Wilde's famous trial for sodomy in 1895.

Wilde's other major works include "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Politics and the英语,, "The Importance of Being Earnest," and "An Ideal Husband." He was also a prolific poet, and his works have been translated into dozens of languages.

Wilde was arrested in 1895 for soliciting another man in a London park, and was convicted of sodomy and sentenced to two years at hard labor. He was released from prison in September 1897, and went into voluntary exile in France and the United States. He died in Paris in 1900, having never returned to Ireland or England.

Wilde's works continue to be studied and performed around the world, and his legacy has been the subject of much debate and discussion. His life and works continue to inspire writers, artists, and activists, and his influence can be seen in a wide range of cultural forms, from literature and theatre to film and music.