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Oscar Wilde's Plagiarism: The Triumph of Art Over Ego (Paperback)

By Florina Tufescu

Irish Academic Press Ltd, Ireland, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 244 x 154 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Oscar Wilde's practices of plagiarism across genres are seen as part of a neo-classical tradition. His allegory of plagiarism in *An Ideal Husband* is compared to those created by fellow playwrights, including Ibsen and G.B. Shaw. Wilde's polemical imitation of Shakespeare's cut-and-paste method in *The Portrait of Mr. W.H.* inspired Joyce to experiment with the erasure of quotation marks in *Ulysses*. The blatant collage of Wilde's poetry anticipates T. S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*, just as it recalls Manet's paintings, which provocatively assert artistic status by drawing attention to their flatness. The mosaic-like structure of *The Picture of Dorian Gray* is akin to that of other anti-individualist masterpieces, notably Goethe's *Faust* and D.M. Thomas's *The White Hotel*. Why did a genius like Oscar Wilde rely on plagiarism from the beginning to the end of his career? Why did Edgar Allan Poe, Charles Baudelaire, and Walter Pater do this as well? And how should teachers, critics, and editors deal with the evidence of plagiarism at the heart of the canon? The extent of...



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