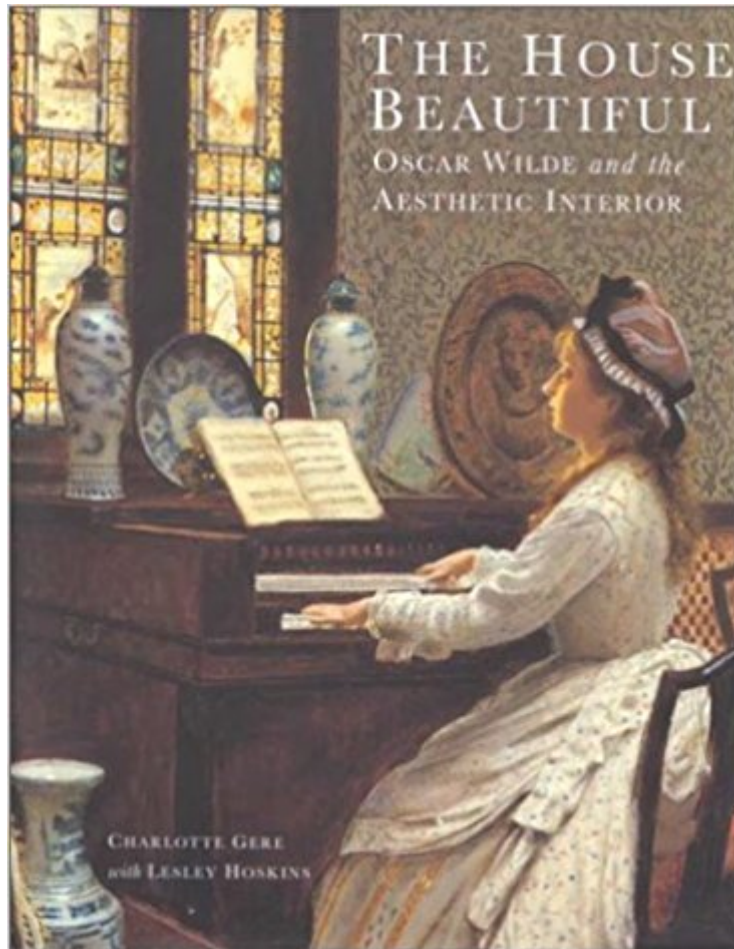




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# The House Beautiful: Oscar Wilde And The Aesthetic Interior



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## Synopsis

Celebrating Wilde's association with the Aesthetic Movement, this book offers a comprehensive account of the aesthetic interior across late-19th-century British and American society. It traces the artists, architects and designers Wilde admired, and the houses and interiors by which he was influenced.

## Book Information

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'this opulently illustrated book...gives us an erudite account of that extraordinary efflorescence of aesthetic life...' The Art Newspaper 'An interesting and enjoyable read, offering a comprehensive account of the Aesthetic interior...' Antiques and Collectables 'This is a beautifully illustrated book on a subject which has received little attention...' Brighton Argus '...an attractive and an informative book.' Journal of the William Morris Society '... a superb appraisal of Wilde and the Aesthetic interior... the book includes some fascinating material that makes this study one that will stand up after the 2000 commemorations of Wilde are pale memories...' Mary W. Blanchard, *Studies in the Decorative Arts*

Charlotte Gere is an established authority on nineteenth-century design. Her many publications include *Nineteenth-Century Decoration: The Art of the Interior*; *Victorian Jewellery Design*; *Arts and Crafts in Britain and America* (with Isabelle Anscombe); and *An Album of Nineteenth-Century Interiors: Watercolours from Two Private Collections*.

Though the theaters around the world continue to produce the plays of Oscar Wilde and even the Opera houses consider Strauss' adaptation of Wilde's "Salome" as a staple in the repertoire, and while biographies and films about this unique artist increase in number with every year, this book approaches yet another aspect of Wilde's genius. Charlotte Gere has researched the Aesthetic Movement in England at the turn of the century and attributes the style and popularity of the 'new look' in home decor to Wilde and his entourage. From paintings to furniture to wallpaper to fabric to book design - all the art nouveau trends were at times created by Wilde and at other times merely popularized by him on his numerous tours. The book is resplendent in illustrations of paintings, homes, photographs, and a lot of just fine biographical data about Oscar Wilde. A thoroughly informative and entertaining slant on The Importance of Being Oscar!

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