

Irish landmarks: Oscar Wilde Sculpture

By Nefeli Pouloupati

The Sculpture

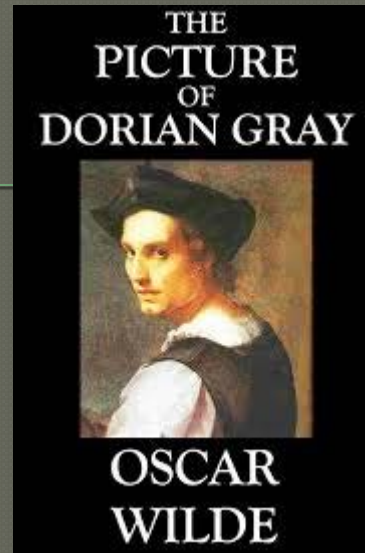
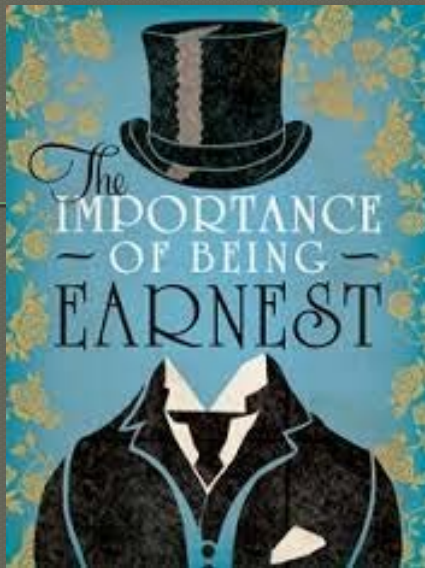
- The Oscar Wilde Sculpture is located at the corner of Merrion Square Park , in one of Dublin's five historic Georgian squares.
- Located near his birthplace, it seems to be a fitting spot to find the sculpture of this famous Irish man.

Oscar Wilde

- Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde, author, playwright and poet was born on 16 October 1854 at no. 1 Merrion Square in Dublin, Ireland and died on 30 November 1900 at the age of 46 in Paris, France.

His work

- He is globally remembered as a playwright, especially for “The Importance of being Earnest”, and as the author of “The Picture of Dorian Gray”.



"The best people possess a feeling for beauty, the courage to take risks, the discipline to tell the truth, the capacity for sacrifice. Ironically, their virtues make them vulnerable; they are often wounded, sometimes destroyed."

- Ernest Hemingway

You are a wonderful creation.
You know more than you think
you know, just as you know
less than you want to know.

- Oscar Wilde,
The Picture of Dorian Gray

The sculpture

- Oscar Wilde's is wearing a green jacket with a pink collar, long trousers and shiny black shoes.
- The green jacket is made from nephrite jade, sourced in Canada.
- The pink collar is made of a rare precious stone called thulite, brought from central Norway.

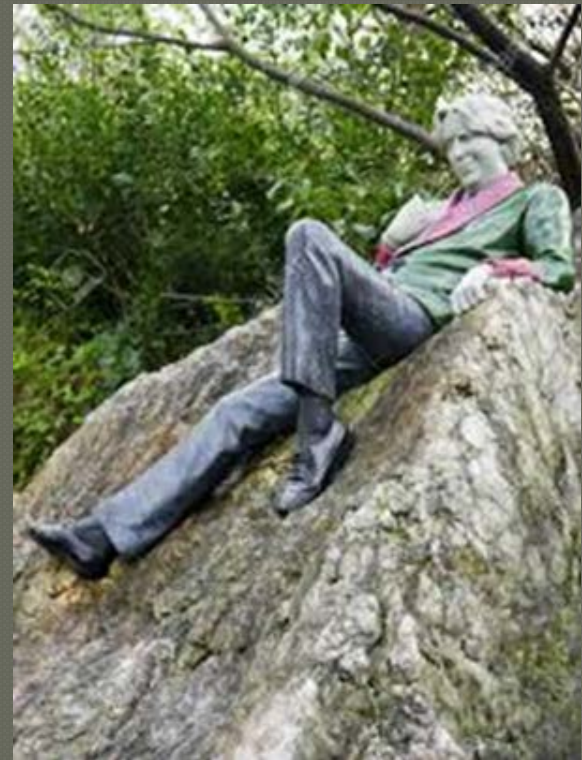
The sculpture

- His trousers are made from larvikite – a crystalline stone from Norway, and his shiny shoes are black granite.
- His head and hands are carved from Guatemalan jade.

His expression

- Oscar Wilde's Sculpture has an unusual two-sided expression on his face, depicting both joy and sadness.





The pillars

- The two stone pillars which accompany the statue are covered in quotations from Oscar Wilde's writing, which have to do with art and life.



The Bronze Sculptures

- At the top of the pillars, there are two small bronze sculptures.
- One is a pregnant woman, who depicts Oscar Wilde's wife, Constance, and represents the theme of life, as she stares accusingly across the path at her husband Oscar.
- The other sculpture is a male torso which represents Dionysus, the God of wine, youth and theatre – all of great interest to Wilde, who kept a statue of Dionysus in his office in London.



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The End