



Oscar Wilde

Of all the tawdry and futile adventures in the arts, whose multiplied presence negatively distinguishes modern times, he is one of the greatest figures, because he is true to falsehood. His attitude is the one true one in an age when nothing is true; and it is the true one because consciously not true.

His pose is conscious, whereas all round him there ~~is~~ are but unconscious poses. He has therefore the advantage of consciousness. He is representative because he is conscious.

All modern art is immoral because all modern art is indisCIPLINED. Wilde is consciously immoral, so he has the intellectual advantage.

He interpreted by theory all that modern art is, and, if his theories sometimes waver and shift, he is representative indeed, for all modern theories are a mixture and medley seeing that the modern mind is too passive to do strong things.

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