

Oscar Wilde: "Art for Art's sake"

Oscar Wilde was a follower of the Aesthetic Movement. The slogan of this movement was: "**Art for Art's sake**"; that is to say, art has no aim except its own perfection (according to Wilde, art shouldn't be used to teach a moral lesson).

In "The Picture of Dorian Gray", the protagonist reverses the principle according to which **art should imitate life** into the opposing one, according to which **it is life that should imitate art.**

Dorian in fact remains young and beautiful, as only works of art can, while his portrait (which is a work of art) ages.