Oscar Wilde as seen in the National Portrait Gallery in London. Understandably widely admired, this iconic representation of him gives us an idea of how he would have been seen by audiences in his era.

Julian H. Sleeper House
~ 1884 ~
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Dr. Seth C. Hawkins
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JHSH on the Road

PRESENTS

An Evening with Oscar Wilde

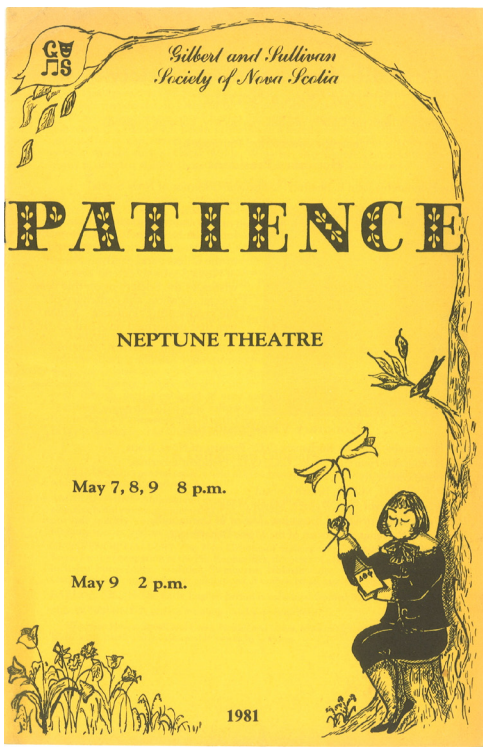
Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Honoring the Halifax stop on Wilde's North America Tour

Halifax Public Library

Lindsay Children's Room
Spring Garden Street,
Central Halifax

6:00 p.m. Doors Open
6:30 p.m. Program Begins
8:00 p.m. Audience Commentary



A program from the Neptune Theatre (of Halifax) presentation of Gilbert and Sullivan's opera, Patience*. At lower right is Bunthorne, a blatant and not terribly accurate caricature of Oscar Wilde, who is generally acknowledged as having easily and deftly turned this portrayal to his advantage. While Gilbert and Sullivan's work has an undeniable charm. They were seriously overmatched in taking on Wilde.*

Featured Speaker: Dr. Frederick D. King (Ph.D., University of Western Ontario, with a dissertation on Oscar Wilde), is currently Assistant Professor of Business Communication at Dalhousie University in the Rowe School of Business. His research includes work on late-nineteeth century aestheticism and decadence, book history and textual studies, queer theory and the art of professional communication.

He will focus on Wilde as a public speaker, particulary on the well-known North American speaking tour which, early in his career, was instrumental in developing Wilde's public persona and style. Dr. King will prove the importance of public speaking in vitally developing personal opportunities for modern students.

Featured Performers: Cathy Sole is an English actor and writer. Since moving to Halifax in September 2018, she has been fortunate enough to be cast in the Dalhousie Theatre Society's productions of *Doctor Faustus*, in the titular role, and *Chicago*, as Matron 'Mama' Morton. Back in England, Cathy has had a wide variety of performance credits, from Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*, to Pistol in Shakespeare's *Henry V.* Currently, Cathy is a second year Fountain School of Performing Arts student, and the secretary for the Dalhousie Theatre Society. Cathy is from a tiny village in the east of England, self funded her way to Nova Scotia, and considers herself very fortunate to be enthusiastically a part of Halifax's theatrical community.

Derek Birkbeck is an actor and director from Toronto, Ontario. Derek moved to Halifax for university and is currently in his second year of studying acting at the Fountain School of Performing Arts. Derek is very pleased to be a part of the local community and to have acted in shows such as *The Rocky Horror Show* as Brad and *The Foreigner* as Ellard with the Dalhousie Theatre Society. Derek is also very enthusiastic to be able to share his insight as a director in productions such as *Doctor Faustus, Botticelli in the Fire,* and *Chicago* with the Dalhousie Theatre Society.

Dalhousie Theatre Society
DTS

JULIAN H. SLEEPER HOUSE
MUSEUM ✦ 1884 ✦ ST. PAUL MN.✦

Also Presenting: Dr. Seth C. Hawkins, resident director of the Julian H. Sleeper House, the heritage house museum sponsoring this event, will try to put to work his thirty-one years in coaching competitive speaking, by vocally performing short excerpts from Wilde's literary criticism and poetry, with brief analytical commentary interspersed. The idea is not to impersonate Wilde (a foolhardy and prideful task), but to give the merest approximation of what the fortunate audience experienced that night in Halifax

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For those in Canada with questions in advance, email Dr. King: fking@dal.ca

USA residents seeking travel planning, phone Dr. Hawkins at 651-225-1505

Dr. Hawkins says: "Stay at the Waverley: Oscar Wilde did, and I do." You could book Oscar's own room if you act quickly. All rooms beautifully furnished with antiques from Wilde's era.