

the picture of dorian gray 1945

the picture of dorian gray 1945 is a classic film adaptation that continues to captivate audiences and film historians alike. Released in 1945, this cinematic rendition of Oscar Wilde's renowned novel is celebrated for its compelling storytelling, striking visuals, and remarkable performances. As a significant piece of cinematic history, the 1945 adaptation offers a distinctive interpretation of Wilde's exploration of vanity, morality, and the supernatural. In this article, we delve into the background, production, themes, and legacy of "The Picture of Dorian Gray" (1945), providing an in-depth analysis suited for film enthusiasts, literary scholars, and SEO seekers alike.

Overview of The Picture of Dorian Gray (1945)

Background and Literary Origins

"The Picture of Dorian Gray" is originally a novel penned by Oscar Wilde, published in 1890. It is Wilde's only novel and is renowned for its wit, aestheticism, and exploration of the corrupting influence of vanity and moral decay. Wilde's story revolves around Dorian Gray, a handsome young man whose portrait ages and shows the effects of his immoral lifestyle while he remains outwardly unchanged.

The 1945 film adaptation was directed by Albert Lewin, a filmmaker known for his interest in literary works and artistic visuals. It was produced during the golden age of Hollywood, reflecting the era's fascination with gothic and supernatural themes.

Plot Summary

The film follows the core narrative of Wilde's novel: Dorian Gray, played by Hurd Hatfield, is a wealthy and handsome young man who becomes obsessed with maintaining his youthful appearance. Under the influence of Lord Henry Wotton, portrayed by George Sanders, Dorian wishes that he could remain forever young while his portrait bears the marks of his sins.

As Dorian indulges in a life of hedonism and vice, his portrait becomes a sinister mirror of his soul, revealing the physical and moral corruption he tries to hide. The story builds toward a tragic climax as Dorian's conscience and guilt catch up with him, leading to a dramatic and haunting conclusion.

Production and Artistic Aspects

Direction and Screenplay

Albert Lewin's direction emphasizes the aesthetic and philosophical themes of Wilde's novel. The screenplay adapts the dialogue and narrative with a focus on visual symbolism and atmospheric mood. Lewin's deliberate pacing and use of lighting contribute significantly to the film's gothic tone.

Cast and Performances

- Hurd Hatfield as Dorian Gray: His portrayal captures the youthful innocence that gradually transforms into moral decay.
- George Sanders as Lord Henry Wotton: Known for his charismatic and morally ambiguous character, Sanders' performance is often praised as one of the film's highlights.
- Hedda Hopper as Sibyl Vane: The tragic actress whose love for Dorian underscores the novel's themes of superficial beauty and genuine emotion.
- Angela Lansbury as Hetty Merton: Making her film debut, her performance adds depth to the supporting cast.

Visual Style and Cinematography

The film's cinematography by Harry Stradling Sr. employs chiaroscuro lighting and elaborate set designs to evoke a gothic atmosphere. Close-ups and framing techniques highlight the contrast between Dorian's youthful appearance and the aging portrait, reinforcing the central motif of duality.

Themes and Symbolism

Beauty and Vanity

Central to the story is the obsession with physical beauty and superficial appearances. Dorian's desire to remain forever young reflects societal values that prioritize outward attractiveness over inner morality.

Moral Corruption and Consequences

The film explores how indulgence and a lack of conscience lead to spiritual decay. The portrait serves as a moral barometer, revealing the true cost of Dorian's hedonism.

Supernatural Elements

The enchanted portrait functions as a supernatural symbol of Dorian's soul. Its transformation over time represents the visible effects of his immoral deeds.

Duality and Inner Conflict

The film visually emphasizes the dichotomy between Dorian's outward charm and the inner corruption he conceals, often through contrasting lighting and framing.

Reception and Legacy

Critical Response

Upon release, "The Picture of Dorian Gray" (1945) received praise for its atmospheric tone, performances, and artistic direction. Critics appreciated its faithfulness to the novel's themes and its gothic aesthetic. However, some noted that it toned down Wilde's more controversial elements for the Hollywood audience.

Influence on Cinema

This adaptation influenced subsequent horror and gothic films by demonstrating how literary works could be effectively translated into visual storytelling. Its use of symbolism and atmosphere set a benchmark for literary adaptations.

Preservation and Cultural Significance

Today, the 1945 film is preserved as part of the National Film Registry for its cultural, historical, and aesthetic importance. It remains a reference point for adaptations of Wilde's work and gothic cinema.

Comparison with Other Adaptations

Several versions of "The Picture of Dorian Gray" have been made over the years, including silent films, television adaptations, and modern reinterpretations. The 1945 version is distinguished by:

- Its adherence to the novel's themes with a focus on gothic atmosphere
- High production values and strong performances
- Innovative use of visual symbolism

Compared to later versions, the 1945 film maintains a classic Hollywood aesthetic, blending romanticism with dark gothic elements.

Conclusion

"The Picture of Dorian Gray" (1945) remains a significant film in the canon of literary adaptations, showcasing the talents of filmmakers and actors dedicated to capturing Wilde's complex themes. Its exploration of vanity, morality, and the supernatural continues to resonate, making it a timeless piece for both cinephiles and literary enthusiasts. Whether appreciated for its artistic achievements or its thematic depth, this adaptation continues to inspire discussions about the enduring relevance of Wilde's masterpiece.

SEO Tips for the Article

- Use relevant keywords such as "The Picture of Dorian Gray 1945," "Dorian Gray film adaptation," "Oscar Wilde film," and "gothic cinema."
- Incorporate meta descriptions highlighting the film's historical and artistic significance.
- Optimize images with descriptive alt text, such as "Dorian Gray 1945 film poster" or "Hurd Hatfield as Dorian Gray."
- Include internal links to related articles about Oscar Wilde, Gothic films, or other adaptations of the novel.
- Encourage sharing on social media platforms to increase visibility.

By understanding the depth and significance of "The Picture of Dorian Gray" (1945), audiences can appreciate its contribution to both literary and cinematic history. Its enduring themes and artistic qualities ensure it remains a classic worth exploring for generations to come.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the significance of the 1945 film adaptation of 'The Picture of Dorian Gray'?

The 1945 adaptation is significant because it is a classic Hollywood version that brought Oscar Wilde's novel to a wider audience, highlighting its themes of vanity, morality, and the supernatural during the post-war era.

Who directed the 1945 film 'The Picture of Dorian Gray'?

The film was directed by Albert Lewin, known for his stylish and atmospheric adaptations of literary works.

Which actor played Dorian Gray in the 1945 movie?

Hurd Hatfield portrayed Dorian Gray in the 1945 adaptation, becoming iconic for his portrayal of the morally corrupt protagonist.

How does the 1945 film differ from the original novel by Oscar Wilde?

While staying largely faithful to Wilde's themes, the film emphasizes the Gothic and horror elements more visually, and its portrayal of Dorian's character is shaped by the cinematic style of the 1940s.

What themes are explored in the 1945 adaptation of 'The Picture of Dorian Gray'?

The film explores themes of vanity, moral corruption, the fleeting nature of youth, and the supernatural influence of the portrait as a moral mirror.

Was the 1945 version of 'The Picture of Dorian Gray' well-received critically?

Yes, it received positive reviews for its atmospheric style, performances, and faithfulness to Wilde's themes, becoming a classic in horror and literary adaptation cinema.

What role does the portrait play in the 1945 film's narrative?

The portrait serves as a supernatural reflection of Dorian's moral decay, revealing his true nature and aging in his place while he remains outwardly youthful.

Are there any notable differences in the portrayal of Dorian Gray between the 1945 film and earlier or later adaptations?

The 1945 film emphasizes the Gothic and tragic elements, with a more restrained and atmospheric tone compared to earlier silent versions and later adaptations that may focus more on horror or psychological aspects.

How has the 1945 film influenced subsequent adaptations of 'The Picture of Dorian Gray'?

It set a standard for cinematic adaptations with its moody visuals and thematic focus, inspiring later filmmakers to explore Wilde's work with similar Gothic and philosophical depth.

Is the 1945 'The Picture of Dorian Gray' available for modern audiences today?

Yes, the film is preserved and available through various classic film archives, DVD releases, and streaming platforms, making it accessible for contemporary viewers interested in Wilde's story.

Additional Resources

The Picture of Dorian Gray (1945): A Timeless Adaptation of Oscar Wilde's Masterpiece

The 1945 film adaptation of The Picture of Dorian Gray stands as a significant cinematic interpretation of Oscar Wilde's novel, capturing the dark allure, moral complexities, and aesthetic decadence that define the original work. This version, directed by Albert Lewin, remains one of the most celebrated film renditions, praised for its artistic fidelity, compelling performances, and atmospheric visuals. In this detailed review, we will explore the film's historical context, plot, themes, performances, visual artistry, and its enduring legacy.

Historical Context and Production Background

Why 1945?

The year 1945 marked the end of World War II, a period when Hollywood was exploring complex themes of morality, vanity, and the human condition. The film industry was also transitioning into more sophisticated storytelling, and *The Picture of Dorian Gray* fit well within this cultural landscape by delving into moral corruption and aestheticism.

Production Details

- Director: Albert Lewin, known for his literary adaptations and artistic sensibilities.
- Main Cast:
 - Hurd Hatfield as Dorian Gray
 - Angela Lansbury as Sibyl Vane
 - Donna Reed as Hetty Merton
 - Peter Lawford as Lord Henry Wotton
- Cinematography: Harry Stradling Sr., whose work contributed to the film's lush visual style.
- Music: Herbert Stothart, enhancing the film's atmospheric mood.
- Budget & Reception: The film was well-received critically, praised for its artistic approach and faithful adaptation.

Plot Summary and Narrative Structure

The film closely follows Wilde's novel, emphasizing the moral decay of Dorian Gray and his pursuit of eternal youth and beauty.

Introduction

- The story begins with the portrait of Dorian Gray being painted by artist Basil Hallward, who is captivated by Dorian's youthful beauty.
- Lord Henry Wotton introduces Dorian to a hedonistic worldview, emphasizing the pursuit of pleasure above all.

The Transformation

- Dorian's wish to remain forever young is granted when he learns that his portrait will age instead of him.
- As Dorian indulges in a life of excess, vanity, and moral corruption, his portrait begins to show the physical toll of his sins.

Climax and Resolution

- Dorian's conscience and guilt manifest as he becomes increasingly paranoid and desperate.
- The climax involves Dorian confronting the portrait, leading to his tragic demise as the portrait reveals his true, decayed self.

Themes and Symbolism

Morality and Aestheticism

- The film explores Wilde's critique of superficial beauty and the superficial values of Victorian society.
- Dorian's obsession with youth and appearance leads to his moral downfall.

Duality and the Self

- The portrait symbolizes the duality of human nature—the outward appearance versus the inner corruption.
- The aging portrait serves as a mirror to Dorian's soul, revealing the consequences of his choices.

The Corrupting Power of Pleasure

- The film underscores how the pursuit of pleasure without moral restraint can lead to destruction.
- Dorian's hedonism is depicted as both seductive and destructive.

Symbolism in Visuals and Narrative

- The portrait itself is a central symbol, often highlighted through lighting and composition.
- Use of shadows and chiaroscuro emphasizes the film's dark themes.
- The recurring motif of mirrors and reflections reinforces the theme of duality.

Performance and Character Portrayals

Hurd Hatfield as Dorian Gray

- Hatfield's portrayal is subtle yet compelling, embodying the innocence and eventual corruption of Dorian.
- His performance captures the transformation from naivety to moral decay with nuanced restraint.

- The film's focus on his facial expressions and subtle gestures makes Dorian's internal struggles palpable.

Angela Lansbury as Sibyl Vane

- Lansbury's performance is emotionally charged, bringing depth to the tragic figure of Sibyl.
- Her portrayal highlights the innocence and heartbreak that serve as catalysts for Dorian's moral decline.

Peter Lawford as Lord Henry Wotton

- Lawford's charismatic and witty portrayal brings a suave menace to Lord Henry.
- His philosophical dialogues serve as a catalyst for Dorian's hedonistic worldview.

Supporting Cast

- Donna Reed as Hetty Merton offers a contrasting perspective, embodying virtue and innocence.
- The supporting characters help deepen the moral complexity of the narrative.

Visual Style and Artistic Direction

Set Design and Costumes

- The film's sets evoke the opulence of Victorian-era London, with richly detailed interiors that reflect the characters' decadence.
- Costumes are meticulously designed, emphasizing elegance and the superficiality of beauty.

Cinematography

- Harry Stradling Sr.'s cinematography employs lush lighting and shadows, creating a Gothic atmosphere.
- Use of color palette—muted tones contrasted with vibrant highlights—enhances the film's mood.

Use of Symbolic Imagery

- The portrait is often framed prominently, sometimes shown in close-up to emphasize its importance.
- Visual metaphors, such as reflective surfaces and dim lighting, reinforce themes of duality and moral decay.

Special Effects and Makeup

- Practical effects are used to depict the aging portrait, with subtle makeup and lighting tricks.
- The transformation of the portrait's appearance over the course of the film visually narrates Dorian's moral decline.

Comparative Analysis with Other Adaptations

- The 1945 version is often lauded for its fidelity to Wilde's novel, especially in tone and thematic depth.
- Unlike earlier silent adaptations or later modern versions, this film emphasizes atmospheric mood and moral ambiguity.
- Its focus on visual symbolism and performances distinguishes it from more straightforward or commercial adaptations.

Critical Reception and Legacy

Reception at the Time

- Critics praised the film for its visual beauty and mature treatment of Wilde's themes.
- Some noted that it was a bold adaptation, considering the era's conservative Hollywood standards.

Enduring Impact

- The film is regarded as one of the definitive cinematic interpretations of Wilde's novel.
- Its artistic approach influenced subsequent literary adaptations, inspiring filmmakers to explore visual symbolism and moral complexity.
- The portrayal of Dorian Gray by Hurd Hatfield remains a classic example of understated performance capturing internal conflict.

Academic and Cultural Significance

- The film is frequently analyzed in film studies for its aesthetic choices and adaptation strategies.
- It continues to inspire discussions on morality, beauty, and the role of art in society.

Conclusion: Why the 1945 Version Matters

The 1945 adaptation of *The Picture of Dorian Gray* stands as a testament to the power of cinema to interpret and explore complex literary themes. Its meticulous craftsmanship, combined with compelling performances and atmospheric visuals, creates a haunting and thought-provoking experience. As a faithful yet artistically rich rendering of Wilde's masterpiece, it remains a crucial reference point for both film enthusiasts and literary scholars. Its exploration of vanity, morality, and the duality of human nature ensures its relevance across generations, making it a timeless classic worth revisiting.

In essence, the 1945 *The Picture of Dorian Gray* is not just a film adaptation; it is an artistic meditation on the corrupting influence of superficial beauty and the moral consequences of unchecked indulgence.

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the picture of dorian gray 1945: *The Picture of Dorian Gray (1945): Shooting Script* , 1945

the picture of dorian gray 1945: *Stern*, S. Tilden , The folder may include clippings, announcements, small exhibition catalogs, and other ephemeral items.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: *Monsters in the Closet* Harry M. Benshoff, 1997-11-15
Monster in the Closet is a history of the horrors film that explores the genre's relationship to the social and cultural history of homosexuality in America. Drawing on a wide variety of films and primary source materials including censorship files, critical reviews, promotional materials, fanzines, men's magazines, and popular news weeklies, the book examines the historical figure of the movie monster in relation to various medical, psychological, religious and social models of homosexuality. While recent work within gay and lesbian studies has explored how the genetic tropes of the horror film intersect with popular culture's understanding of queerness, this is the first book to examine how the concept of the monster queer has evolved from era to era. From the gay and lesbian sensibilities encoded into the form and content of the classical Hollywood horror film, to recent films which play upon AIDS-related fears. *Monster in the Closet* examines how the horror film started and continues, to demonize (or quite literally monsterize) queer sexuality, and what the pleasures and costs of such representations might be both for individual spectators and culture at large.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: *Horror Unmasked* Brad Weismann, 2023-09-05 From the silent-film era to the blockbusters of today, *Horror Unmasked* is a fun-filled, highly illustrated dive into the past influences and present popularity of the horror film genre. The horror film's pop-culture importance is undeniable, from its early influences to today's most significant and exciting developments in the genre. Since 1990, the production of horror films has risen exponentially worldwide, resulting in impressive ticket sales in the modern day, not to mention how the genre has expanded into books, fashion, music, and other media throughout the world. Horror has long been the most popular film genre, and more horror movies have been made than any other kind. We need them. We need to be scared, to test ourselves, laugh inappropriately, scream, and flinch. We need to get through them and come out, blinking, still in one piece. This comprehensive guide features: A thorough discussion on monster movies and B-movies (*The Thing*; *It Came from Outer Space*; *The Blob*) The destruction of the American censorship system (*Blood Feast*; *The Night of the Living Dead*; *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*) International horror, zombies, horror comedies,

and horror in the new millennium (Matango; Suspiria; Ghostbusters) A dissection of the critical reception of modern horror (Neon Demon; Pan's Labyrinth; Funny Games) Stunning movie posters and film stills, plus fan-made tributes to some of the most lauded horror franchises in the world (Aliens; the Evil Dead; The Hills Have Eyes; Scream) A perfect reference and informational book for horror fans and those interested in its cultural influence worldwide, *Horror Unmasked* provides a general introduction to the genre, serves as a guidebook to its film highlights, and celebrates its practitioners, trends, and stories.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: *Checklist of Terror 2022* Steve Hutchison, 2023-03-13 This book contains a checklist of 2903 dark films sorted in order of preference. The ranking is established by the sum of 8 ratings: stars, gimmick, rewatchability, story, creativity, acting, quality, and creepiness. How many have you seen?

the picture of dorian gray 1945: *The Oxford Handbook of Oscar Wilde* , 2025-09-09 The Oxford Handbook of Oscar Wilde puts Wilde the Icon into an expansive literary and dramatic context. It offers a readable guide to Wilde studies for the early twenty-first century. Its chapters reflect Wilde's status as a queer writer while filling in the gaps that this focus have left and looking forward to the next generation of critical studies on Wilde. It is designed to appeal to students and those with a general interest in Wilde, as well as professional academics. Its comprehensive discussions of his writings show how these interact with, and transfigure, both their age and his life, while providing readers with clear and extensive suggestions on approaches to reading, thinking, and writing about them. It is organized in four sections: Places, Works, Intellectual Contexts, and Reception. The first section on Places tells the story of Wilde's life and intellectual evolution through the places that defined its contours: Dublin, Oxford, London, America, France, and Italy. The second section on Wilde's Works provides new and in-depth directions to close reading Wilde's writing, with generative ideas on the development, style, structure, and significance of each of his major works. The section on Intellectual Contexts brings together chapters on the main ideas and cultures of thought that shaped Wilde's thinking, from late-nineteenth century sexuality and fashion to the ancient world and Charles Darwin's theory of evolution. The final section on Reception focuses on the central categories in which Wilde's works and life have been read and influenced cultural movements since his death. Wilde's afterlife has been vibrant and chapters in this section include discussions of how he influenced camp and pop, alongside the contentious textual history of his works.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: *Studies in Economic and Social History* Michael Oliver, 2017-11-01 This title was first published in 2002: There are few students of European economic history who will not have come across the writings of Derek H. Aldcroft. His contributions to the field of economic and social history are vast and distinguish him as one of the most prolific economic historians of the 20th century. This volume honours Derek's contribution to the literature of economic and social history and its contents reflect his wide-ranging interests, particularly on issues relating to transport history and the growth and structural change in economies. From transport in the Industrial Revolution to late 20th-century international financial architecture, the essays in this book, contributed by leading economic historians, are a tribute to a remarkable scholar.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: *Poverty Row HORRORS!* Tom Weaver, 1993-01-01 Poverty row horror films were usually inexpensively (some would say cheaply) produced with writing that ranged from bad to atrocious. Yet these movies with their all-star horror casts (Carradine, Lugosi, Karloff, et al.) and their ape men, mad monsters, devil bats and white zombies still have a loyal audience 50 years after their release. Essays contain full filmographic data on the 31 horror chillers made by the three studios from 1940 through 1946 and are arranged by year of release. Each entry includes the date of release, length, production credits, cast credits, interview quotes, and a plot synopsis with critical commentary. Filmographies for prominent horror actors and actresses, from John Abbott to George Zucco, are provided in the appendices.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: *Victorian Vogue* Dianne F. Sadoff, 2010 Ranging from cinematic images of Jane Austen's estates to Oscar Wilde's drawing rooms, Dianne F. Sadoff looks at

popular heritage films, often featuring Hollywood stars, that have been adapted from nineteenth-century novels. Victorian Vogue argues that heritage films perform different cultural functions at key historical moments in the twentieth century. According to Sadoff, they are characterized by a double historical consciousness—one that is as attentive to the concerns of the time of production as to those of the Victorian period. If James Whale's *Frankenstein* and Tod Browning's *Dracula* exploited post-Depression fear in the 1930s, the horror films of the 1950s used the genre to explore homosexual panic, 1970s movies elaborated the sexuality only hinted at in the thirties, and films of the 1990s indulged the pleasures of consumption. Taking a broad view of the relationships among film, literature, and current events, Sadoff contrasts films not merely with their nineteenth-century source novels but with crucial historical moments in the twentieth century, showing their cultural use in interpreting the present, not just the past.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: Jennifer Jones Paul Green, 2011-08-10 The distinguished film career of Academy Award-winning actress Jennifer Jones (1919-2009) is thoroughly chronicled from her faltering start as Phylis Isley (her real name) at Republic Studios in 1939, to her re-invention as a major star by producer David O. Selznick, the actress' second husband. Each of her 24 films—among them *The Song of Bernadette*, *Since You Went Away*, *Duel in the Sun*, *Portrait of Jennie*, *Madame Bovary* and *Love Is a Many Splendored Thing*—is discussed in depth. Robert Osborne, host of the Turner Classic Movies cable channel, affectionately recalls his interview with Jennifer Jones in the Foreword. The actress' biography, radio appearances and unrealized projects are also covered, along with previously undocumented details of her limited stage career, including a 1966 revival of Clifford Odets' *The Country Girl*.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: "A" Western Filmmakers Henryk Hoffmann, 2024-10-16 From *High Noon* to *Unforgiven*, the *A Western* represents the pinnacle of Western filmmaking. More intellectual, ambitious, and time-consuming than the readily produced B or serial Westerns, these films rely on hundreds of talented artists. This comprehensive reference work provides biographies and Western filmographies for nearly 1,000 men and women who have contributed to at least three *A Westerns*. These contributors are arranged by their role in film production. Cinematographers, composers, actors, actresses, and directors receive complete biographical treatment; writers whose work was used in at least two Westerns are also featured. An appendix lists well-known actors who have appeared in either one or two *A Westerns*, as specified.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: Horror Noir Paul Meehan, 2014-01-10 This critical survey examines the historical and thematic relationships between two of the cinema's most popular genres: horror and film noir. The influence of 1930s- and 1940s-era horror films on the development of noir is detailed, with analyses of more than 100 motion pictures in which noir criminality and mystery meld with supernatural and psychological horror. Included are the films based on popular horror/mystery radio shows (*The Whistler*, *Inner Sanctum*), the works of RKO producer Val Lewton (*Cat People*, *The Seventh Victim*), and Alfred Hitchcock's psychological ghost stories. Also discussed are gothic and costume horror noirs set in the 19th century (*The Picture of Dorian Gray*, *Hangover Square*); the noir elements of more recent films; and the film noir aspects of the *Hannibal Lecter* movies and other serial-killer thrillers.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: The Television Horrors of Dan Curtis Jeff Thompson, 2019-07-18 Before award-winning director Dan Curtis became known for directing epic war movies, he darkened the small screen with the horror genre's most famous soap opera, *Dark Shadows*, and numerous subsequent made-for-TV horror movies. This second edition serves as a complete filmography, featuring each of Curtis's four-dozen productions and 100 photographs. With the addition of new chapters on *Dark Shadows*, the author further explores the groundbreaking daytime television serial. Fans and scholars alike will find an exhaustive account of Curtis's work, as well as a new foreword from My Music producer Jim Pierson and an afterword from Dr. Mabuse director Ansel Faraj.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: Art Directors in Cinema Michael L. Stephens, 2015-09-02 Often forgotten among the actors, directors, producers and others associated with filmmaking, art

directors are responsible for making movies visually appealing to audiences. As such they sometimes make the difference between a hit and a bomb. This biographical dictionary includes not only the world's great and almost-great artists, but the unjustly neglected film designers of the past and present. Among the more than 300 art directors and designers are pioneers from silent films, designers from Hollywood and Europe's Golden Ages, Asian figures, post-Golden Age personalities, leaders of the European and American New Waves, and many contemporary designers. Each entry consists of biographical information, an analysis of the director's career and important films, and an extensive filmography including mentions of Academy Award nominations and winners.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: Wilde in the Dream Factory Kate Hext, 2024 Wilde in the Dream Factory studies the influence of Oscar Wilde's work on American cinema and culture, with close readings of Wilde's works alongside screwball comedies and film noir of the 1930s and 40s.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: Don't Go Upstairs! Cleaver Patterson, 2020-01-17 Throughout cinematic history, the buildings characters inhabit--whether stately rural mansions or inner-city apartment blocks--have taken on extra dimensions, often featuring as well developed characters themselves. Nowhere is this truer than in the horror film, where familiar spaces--from chaotic kitchens to forgotten attics to overgrown greenhouses--become settings for diabolical acts or supernatural visitations. Showing readers through a selection of prime movie real estate, this book explores how homes come to life in horror with an analysis of more than sixty films, including interviews and insights from filmmakers and scholars, along with many rare stills. From the gruesome murder in the hallway of *The House by the Cemetery* (1981) to the malevolent haunting in the nursery of *Eel Marsh House* in *The Woman in Black* (2012), no door is left unopened.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: Hollywood Cauldron Gregory William Mank, 2010-06-21 Thirteen of Hollywood's horror classics in detail: *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (1931), *The Old Dark House* (1932), *The Mask of Fu Manchu* (1932), *Mark of the Vampire* (1935), *Mad Love* (1935), *The Black Room* (1935), *The Walking Dead* (1936), *Cat People* (1942), *Bluebeard* (1944), *The Lodger* (1944), *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1945), *Hangover Square* (1945) and *Bedlam* (1946). From original interviews and research, the styles of the various studios (from giant M-G-M to Poverty Row's PRC), along with the performers, directors, and backstage events, are examined.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Film Sequels, Series and Remakes Kim R. Holston, Tom Winchester, 2018-02-12 Science fiction, fantasy and horror movies have spawned more sequels and remakes than any other film genre. Following Volume I, which covered 400 films made 1931-1995, Volume II analyzes 334 releases from 1996 through 2016. The traditional cinematic monsters are represented--*Dracula*, *Frankenstein*, the *Wolf Man*, a new *Mummy*. A new wave of popular series inspired by comics and video games, as well as *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, could never have been credibly produced without the advances in special effects technology. Audiences follow the exploits of superheroes like *Captain America*, *Iron Man*, *Spider-Man* and *Thor*, and such heroines as the vampire *Selene*, zombie killer *Alice*, dystopian rebels *Katniss Everdeen* and *Imperator Furiosa*, and Soviet spy turned American agent *Black Widow*. The continuing depredations of *Jason Voorhees*, *Freddy Krueger* and *Michael Myers* are described. Pre-1996 movies that have since been remade are included. Entries features cast and credits, detailed synopsis, critics' reviews, and original analysis.

the picture of dorian gray 1945: The Ghost of One's Self Paul Meehan, 2017-09-19 For millennia people have held folk beliefs about the existence of the doppelganger--double walker in German--a look-alike second self that is often the antithesis of one's identity and is usually considered an omen of misfortune or death. The theme of the double has inspired works by E.T.A. Hoffmann, Poe, de Maupassant, Dostoevsky and others, and has been the basis for many classic mystery, horror and science fiction movies. This critical survey examines the double in more than 100 films by such acclaimed directors as Alfred Hitchcock, Mario Bava, Roger Corman, David Cronenberg, George Romero, Fritz Lang, James Cameron, Robert Siodmak, Don Siegel, John Frankenheimer, Terry Gilliam, Brian De Palma and Roman Polanski.

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