



Filozofski fakultet  
Sveučilišta u Rijeci  
Odsjek za filozofiju  
Katedra za estetiku

estetika

## Aesthetic Education through Narrative Art and Its Value for the Humanities

UNIRI stimulativne potpore  
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Katedra za estetiku pri Odsjeku za filozofiju Filozofskog fakulteta u Rijeci i Hrvatsko društvo za analitičku filozofiju pozivaju Vas na predavanje

# Oscar Wilde on What Makes People Tick

koje će održati

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### Sažetak:

The relationship between free will and necessity was a major concern for nineteenth-century British culture. Much Victorian fiction can be regarded as exploring the question of ‘what makes people tick’ – that is, what determinations (social, psychic, biological etc.) act on individuals, how they interact with the outside world, and whether they leave anything to the traditional concept of free will. The overall tendency, I will show, was ‘non-compatibilist’, in the sense that most thinkers at the time held that where causation begins, free will ends. The growth of the natural and social sciences, thus, seemed to progressively restrict the space for personal freedom; at the same time, many held that a belief in free will was essential to living a virtuous life, or even to sketching any sort of political programme. Wilde was interested in the problem from a young age, and I will show much of his work explores this philosophical problem. I plan to sketch out the general problem of free will, give examples of the specific forms it took in Victorian Britain, and lay out how Wilde approached various sides of the problem in his poems, stories, private writings, and his novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.



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