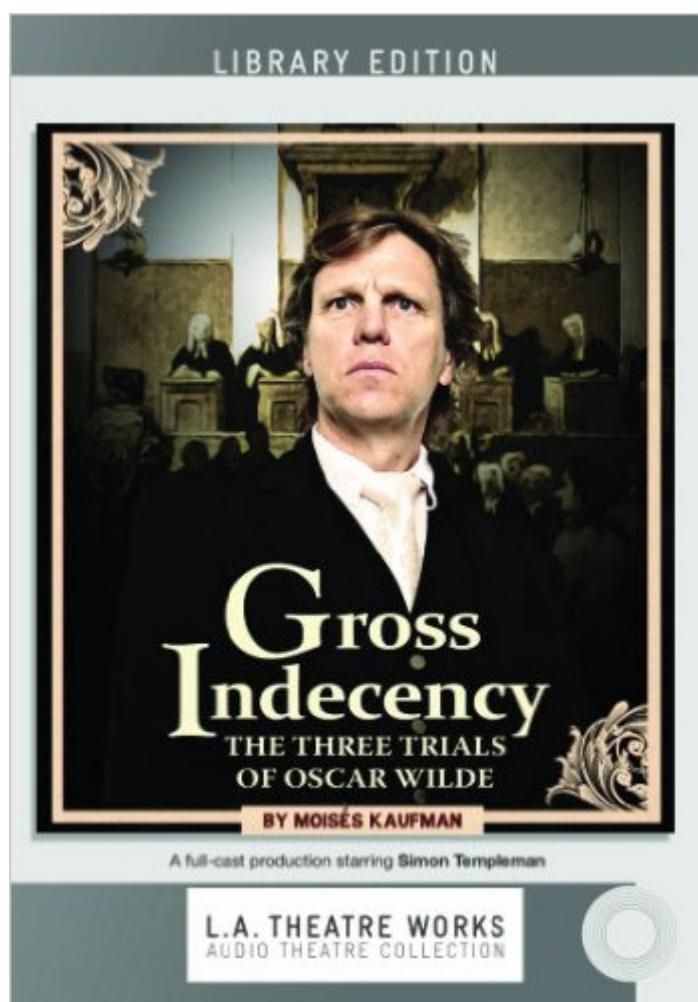


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# Gross Indecency: The Three Trials Of Oscar Wilde (Library Edition Audio CDs) (L.A. Theatre Works Audio Theatre Collections)



## Synopsis

In three short months, Oscar Wilde, the most celebrated playwright and wit of Victorian England, was toppled from the apex of British society into humiliation and ruin. Drawing from trial documents, newspaper accounts, and writings of the key players, Moises Kaufman ignites an incendiary mix of sex and censorship, with a cast of characters ranging from George Bernard Shaw to Queen Victoria herself. A L.A. Theatre Works full-cast performance featuring: JB Blanc, Dakin Matthews, Ian Ogilvy, Peter Paige, Julian Sands, Simon Templeman, John Vickery, Douglas Weston, Matthew Wolf

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Wow! I recently reread *Gross Indecency* and was struck by its seemingly effortless structure and profundity. Kaufman did a masterful job of using the Wildean archives to construct a compelling and still-timely portrait of an artist under fire. Wilde is such a tragic figure, and his story says so much not only about Victorian mores but about our own. Sadly, things haven't changed much: the self-described moral arbiters of today--the Palins, Bachmans, and Angles of the world--are just as daft and pathetic as they were then. In some strange way, I find that comforting. Just a beautiful and sublime work.

Moises Kaufman makes Oscar Wilde come to life and defend himself in the trials for *Gross Indecency* he was subjected to in Victorian England. Along with Oscar, many contemporaries

-including Shaw, Harris and Douglas- present their point of view, and the play takes form from the interweaving of quotes from biographies, newspaper's headlines, letters, giving you the unique opportunity of hearing all and drawing conclusions of your own. Rich in information, beautifully written, this play is worth of Wilde and one of those books you simply cannot put down. Quoting Wilde, "Modern morality consists in accepting the standards of one's age. I consider that for any man of culture to accept the standards of his age is the grossest immorality."

I read this as the request of a friend that saw the play and thought it was great. Perhaps it would have been better to see it performed, but I thought the overall tone was childish and the author completely missed the point of the story he was conveying (just my opinion).

Excellent play. Real insights into the attitudes of the times. They really beat Oscar down - and he beat himself down.

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