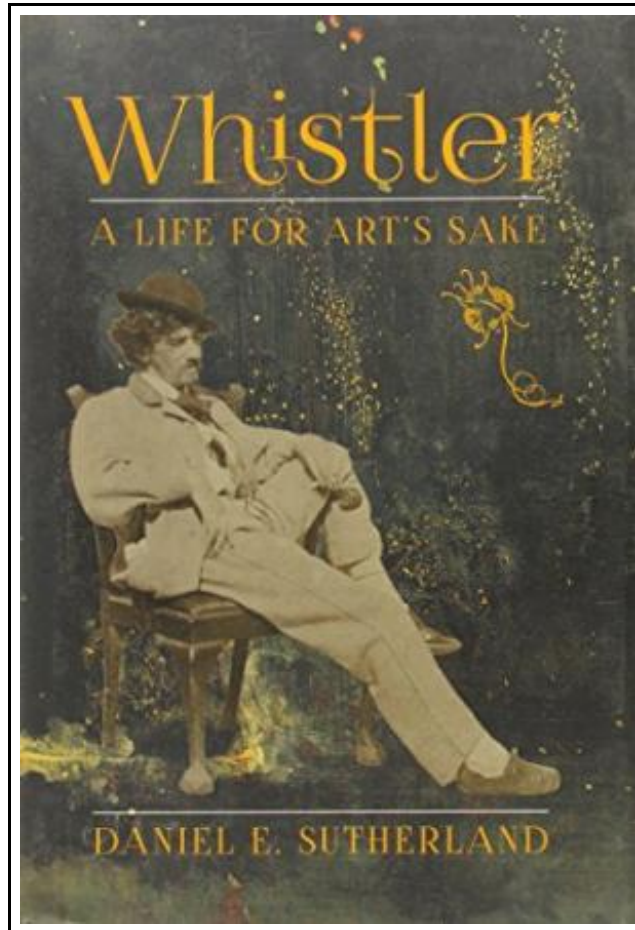


Whistler: A Life for Art's Sake



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Reviews

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(Kitty Crooks)

WHISTLER: A LIFE FOR ART'S SAKE



Yale. 1 Cloth(s), 2014. hard. Book Condition: New. This beautifully illustrated biography of James McNeill Whistler (1834-1903) makes extensive use of the artist's private correspondence to tell the story of his life and work. Daniel Sutherland dispels the popular notion of Whistler as merely a combative, eccentric, and unrelenting publicity seeker, renowned as much for his public feuds with Oscar Wilde and John Ruskin as for the iconic portrait of his mother. Whistler is revealed as an intense, introspective, and complex man, plagued by self-doubt and haunted by the pursuit of perfection in his painting and drawing. Sutherland shows why Whistler was perhaps the most influential artist of his generation, and certainly a pivotal figure in the cultural history of the 19th century. "Sutherland writes with sensitivity and deep knowledge, and he makes you eager to go and see the pictures for yourself. Whistler would not have asked for anything more." Sunday Times (London) "[The author] has delved into the artist's correspondence as well as scores of archives to forge a lucid account of what by any standards was an unruly, restless life. This biography does much to illuminate Whistler's career, showing up the public man, the tireless self-promoter, with his rough-and-tumble engagement with the art world of his day." Daily Telegraph (London) 440.



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