



PORTRAIT OF AN ARTIST?

- Realism and Symbolism
- Bildungsroman >> Künstlerroman
- Crisis of representation?
- Narcissistic?
- Objectivity & involvement

OXFORD WORLD'S CLASSICS

JAMES JOYCE
A PORTRAIT OF THE
ARTIST AS A YOUNG MAN





PICASSO, *LES DEMOISELLES D'AVIGNON*

CUBISM

- Challenge both subject matter and style of traditional art form
- Question the singularity of viewpoint/truth
- Present what the respectable bourgeois regards as ugly or sinful

STORY OF TRANSFORMATIONS

- Of the mundane reality and debased aspects of life into beautiful art.
- Of shy, reluctant young boy into a artist-creator-rebel.

CHAPTER I

- Five senses - straightforward
- Language - not so straightforward
- Bird symbol (punitive eagle, Dedalus)
- Martyr (St. Stephen, Parnell, Pandycbat)
- Rhythm, Flight and Fall
- Labyrinth: for Stephen, for reader
- Gender, religions, politics
- Oedipus & Castration complexes

CHAPTER 2

- Irish people's preoccupations: Music - Sport - Religion
- Romantic, heroic figures: Napoleon, Count of Monte Cristo, Byron, Shelly.
- Byronic hero: misunderstood, wronged, and casted away.
- Domestic disillusionment
- Romanticism vs Realism
- "Encounter" with "unsubstantial image" > Transfiguration
- Move to Dublin
- Breakdown of the consubstantial father / Deprivation of model of traditional father / threat of castration
- Rejection of worldly father
- Transformation of the mother / E-- C-- / prostitute

CHAPTER 3

- Seven deadly sins
- Hellish torments through five sense (Imagery is figurative, but the invoked pain is physical)
- Eternity~a little bird carries away a tiny grain of sand in its beak once every million years - unwittingly, accidentally beautiful, makes physical hell a less frightening place and opens up a world of art through figurative language much more beautiful and bearable
- Accepting the religious father

CHAPTER 4

- Seven days - seven holy virtues
- Doubt - rejecting the religious call and God the Father
- Accepting the call from the mythical father Dedalus
- The figure of the Bird-girl (cf. Eileen, mother, whore, E--C--, temptress in the villanelle. Stephen's difficulty with femininity and his proposed resolution)

CHAPTER 5

- Defunct clock - Joycean puzzle of this chapter's non-chronological timeline
- Notice that this scrambled timeline offers two alternative endings for this book
- Davin the Gaelic athlete, MacCann the champion of humanitarianism, Cranly with priest-like face. (Irish revival, European causes, Irish Catholicism)