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“A smooth, effective translation of the infamous 1893 Oscar Wilde play, accompanied by a fascinating essay on the play's history, its successes and scandals.”—*Shelf Awareness*

“This is an impressive achievement . . . The effect is not unlike that of seeing a painting that has been restored. In the words of Miss Prism, it has been a great inconvenience being without it all these years.”—**Russell Jackson, Allardyce Professor of Drama, University of Birmingham**

SALOMÉ: A Tragedy in One Act

“What is it you want delivered to you in a silver dish, my dear, lovely Salomé? Tell me, whatever it may be, it will be given to you. My treasures are all yours.”

Quoted here are but a few lines of Joseph Donohue's new translation of Oscar Wilde's controversial play SALOMÉ (1893). Unique among Wilde's works having been written originally in French, the play was first translated into English in 1894 by Wilde's young lover Lord Alfred Douglas. Although Wilde was far from pleased with the outcome, Douglas's stilted, inaccurate version has somehow retained a long-standing place on the stage and in the study.

Now, in the first new translation since Douglas's in 1894, Donohue at long last offers a fresh and briskly contemporary approach to the play by drawing on the colloquial language of our time. Brilliantly complementing Donohue's unprecedented approach is a set of engravings by master illustrator Barry Moser. The resulting combination of words and images bring both readers and playgoers into close, disturbing confrontation with one of the most erotic and bloodiest sequences of testamentary lore.

Joseph Donohue is Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and coeditor of an award-winning critical edition of Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*. **Barry Moser** is Irwin and Pauline Alper Professor of Art at Smith College and the illustrator of numerous works of literature, including celebrated editions of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *The Holy Bible*.

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