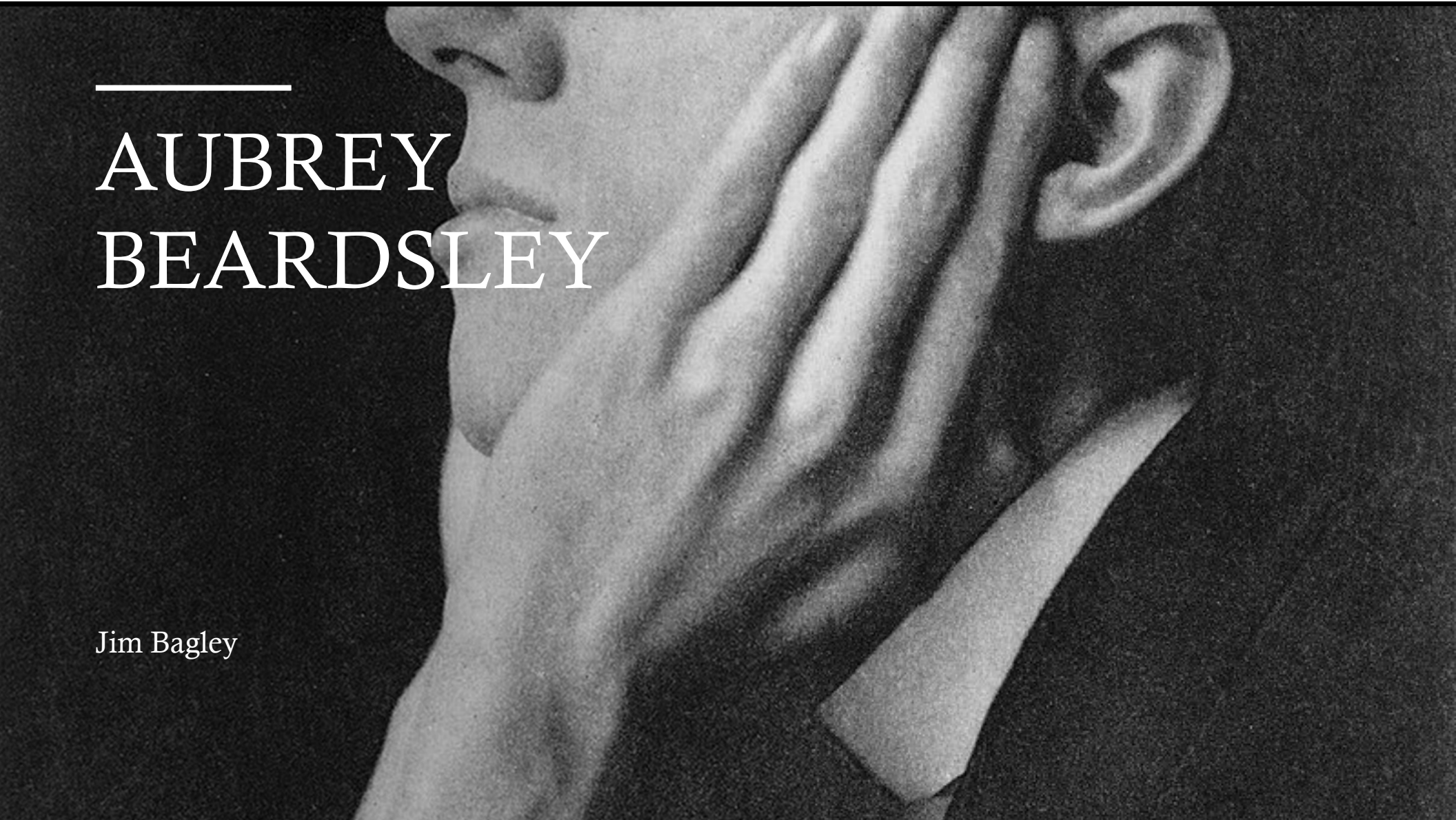

AUBREY BEARDSLEY

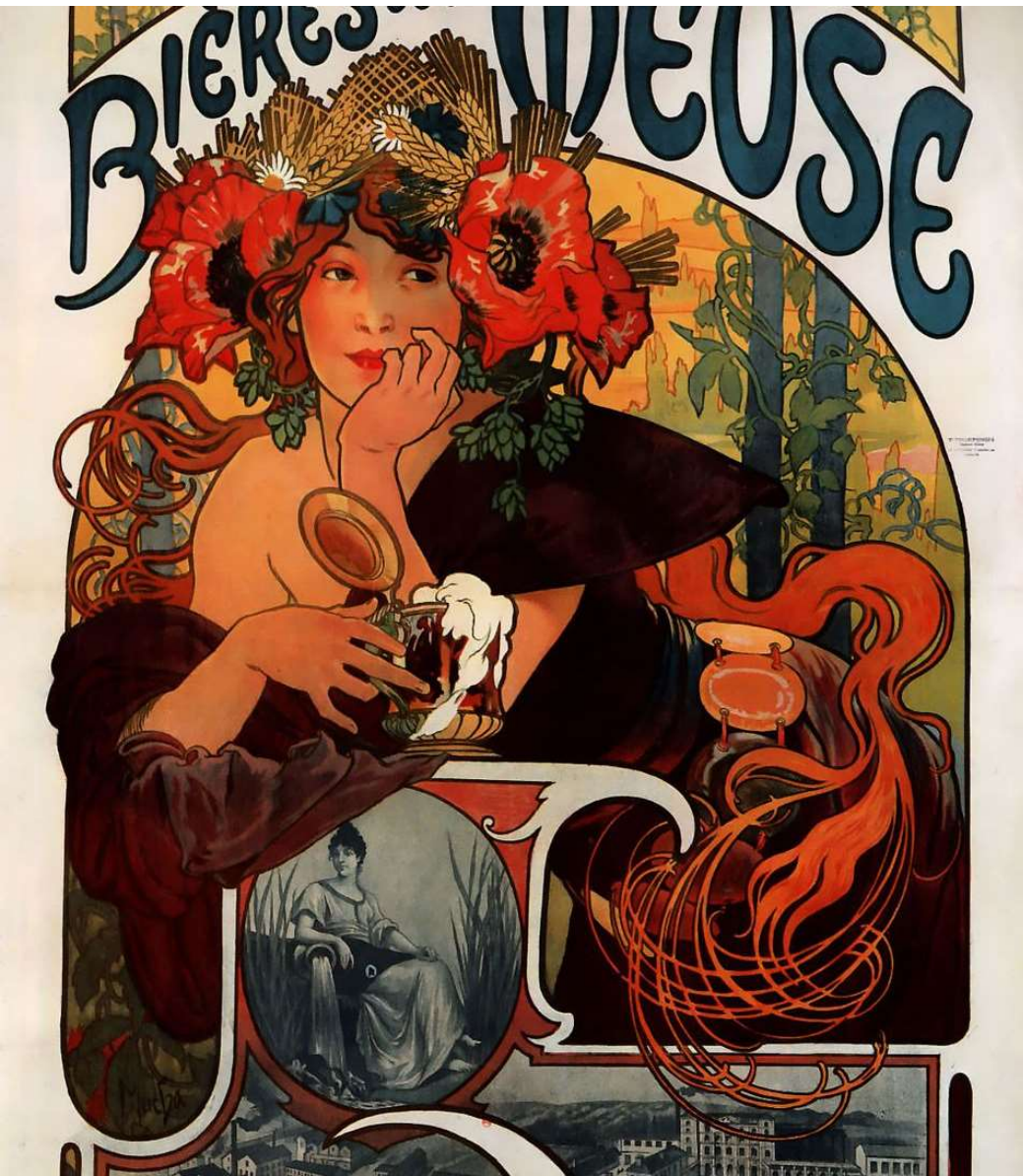
Jim Bagley





1973 POSTERS

- **When I started university in 1973 everyone had a big poster on their wall**
 - **The nice girls had this**
-



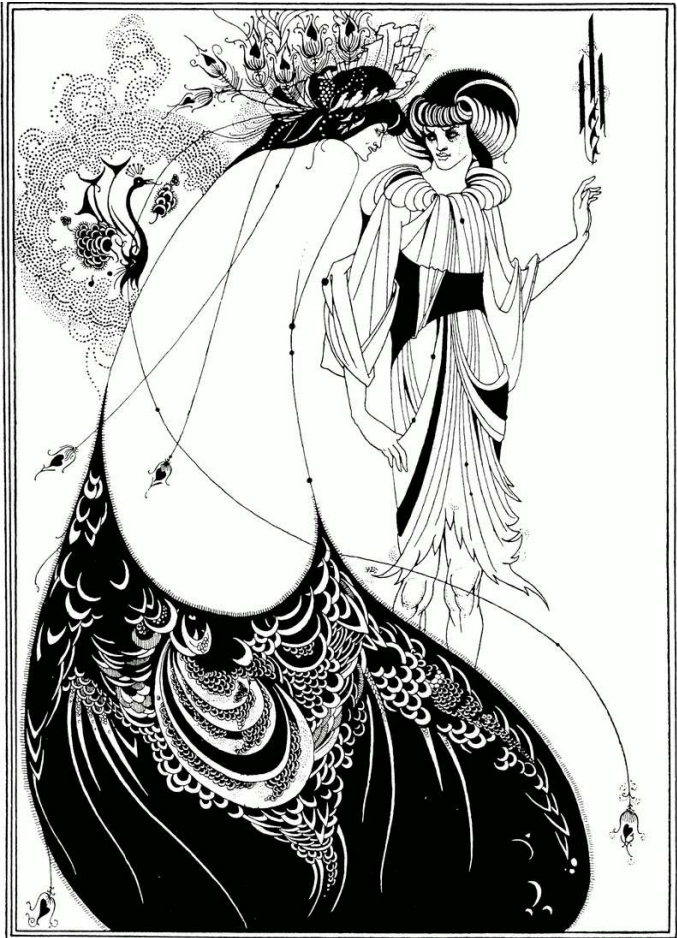
1973 POSTERS

- The beer drinkers had this
-



1973 POSTERS

- **The bad boys
had this**
-



1973 POSTERS

- The arts crowd had this
- *The Peacock Skirt*
- Aubrey Beardsley



BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

- Born England 1872
- Suffered from tuberculosis
- Noticed by Burne-Jones in 1891
- Burne Jones recommended him to Westminster School of Arts
- 300 illustrations in short life
- Died aged 26 in 1898

INFLUENCES AND SUBJECTS

- Key figure in the Aestheticism movement and contributed significantly to the Art Nouveau style
- Influenced by Japanese woodcuts,
- Used bold lines and flat areas of black.
- Depicted erotic, grotesque, and decadent subjects,
- Explored taboo themes of sexuality and gender
- Pushed the boundaries of Victorian society.



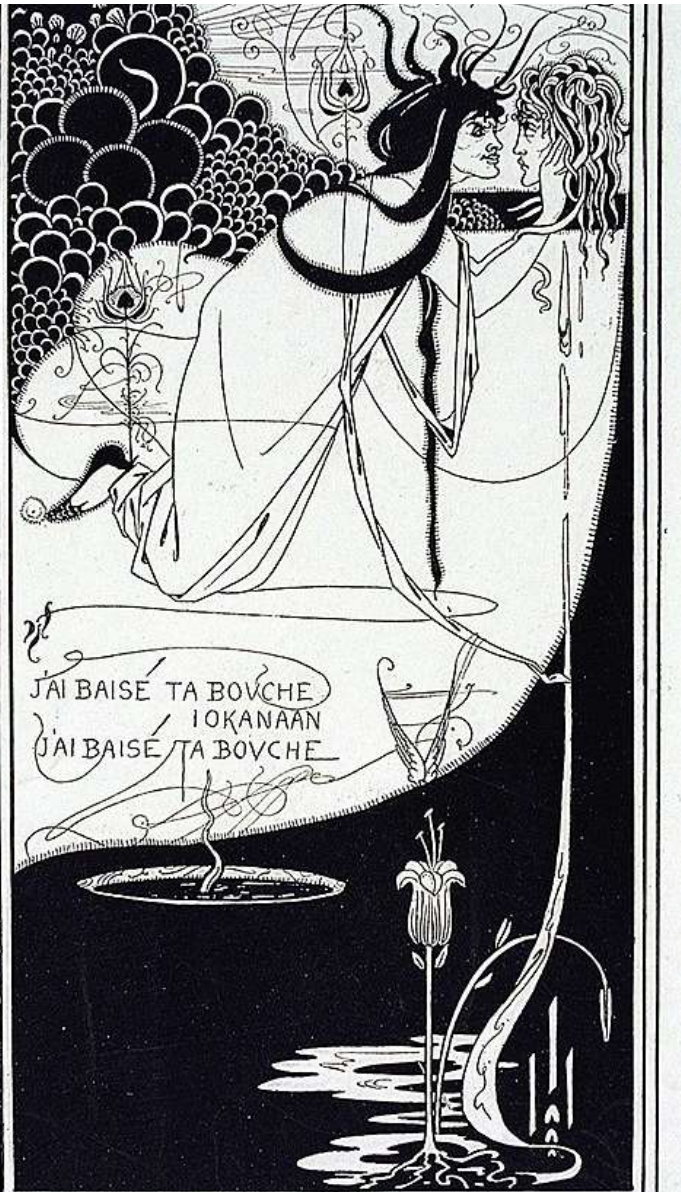
LE MORTE D'ARTHUR



BY SIR THOMAS MALORY
ILLUSTRATED BY AUBREY BEARDSLEY

EARLY WORK

- Commissioned 1892 to illustrate Le Morte D'Arthur by Thomas Malory
- Came to attention of Oscar Wilde
- Wilde notorious in Victorian times for decadent lifestyle and homosexuality



DEVELOPING STYLE

- Illustrated Oscar Wilde's 1893 Play *Salome*
 - *The Climax*
 - Salome kissing severed head of John the Baptist
 - Women in his illustrations are attributed with traditionally male vices of lust and desire to dominate
 - Contemporary reaction – “aroused more horror and indignation than any graphic work hitherto produced in England”
-



MATURE STYLE

- *The Peacock Skirt* – my personal favorite
- Play *Salome* banned for translating biblical characters to the stage
- Bold vision of female sexuality
- Salome is the predator, going in for the kill. Her quarry, the “young Syrian” of the Bible story



MATURE STYLE

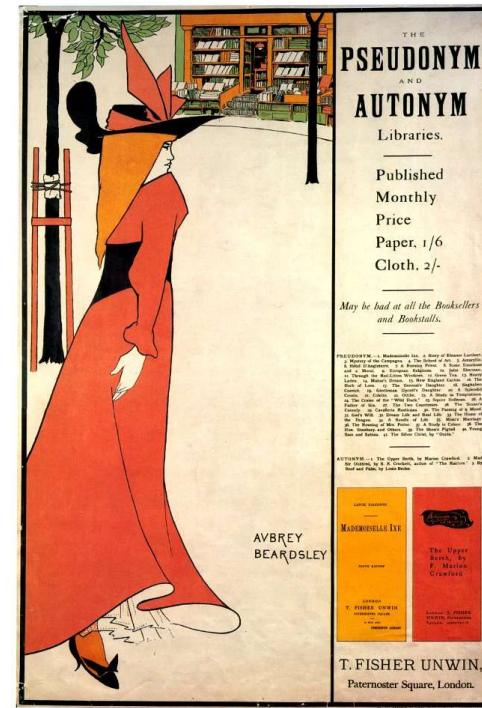
- *The Woman in the Moon*
- Young Syrian and the page of Herodias gazing at the moon
- Moon has the caricatured features of Oscar Wilde in its face looking sideways at the two figures



MATURE STYLE

- Adding color – predominantly red
- And masks





- Drew numerous color posters and other advertising materials before his death in 1898