

Email from an audience member

“ I’ve finally managed to watch your National Gallery film and I wanted to say how lovely it was.

I have never really liked galleries with lots of (as I saw them) dark and depressing or sombre paintings of death and torture and depictions of religion etc... so have stayed away from places like the National Gallery, probably because I found them boring (or even disturbing) as a child.

Watching your film and hearing people talk about what they saw in the different paintings and how it made them feel was really eye-opening and has made me think about art in a totally different way (and also realise that not all the paintings are dark and sombre at all!).

I think I have always rushed around galleries rather than stopping to really look at a painting and absorb it, and watching your film made me realise how much more there is to art. I hope that doesn’t sound too pretentious! I am really just quite surprised about the impact it has had on me and wanted to let you know and say thank you!

I particularly liked the lady who was so passionate about the self portrait of St Catherine and the guy at the end. (I also loved the fact that Claudia Winkleman described herself as someone who “reads out loud on the telly”).

I am definitely planning a family trip to the National Gallery now. ”