

How to look at a work of art

March 24, 2017 | Linda Kennedy







"Is there a right length of time to look at – or engage with – an artwork?" asks Linda Kennedy in this video from Art Basel Hong Kong. "What's worth a glance? What deserves a gaze?"

The annual Slow Art Day encourages people to choose a few pieces of art and stare longer. "In an art fair like this, people are just racing around, trying to take photos, see as much as they can take in," says art critic Payal Uttam. "Slow art is really the polar opposite – it's about taking time."

Kennedy spends a few minutes with Belgian artist Luc Tuymans, navigating the contours of one of his paintings. She also talks to the performance artist Enoch Cheng, who believes the Slow Art movement "gives us the space again to look again, to even do nothing – that is a very precious space, it's almost like a luxury now."

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BBC SCRIPT

Linda Kennedy (Reporter)

It is all about how long you should stare at the work of art and what more you could get out of it, if you do, and what is the perfect length of time to engage with the art work? I want to get up to speed with with what others art world advise on eyeball etiquette.

Kimsooja

"When you encounter a piece, you always have a certain kind of a duration and also the moment, both of you and the work meets together in the center."