

How do we understand abstract art? Video 1.

Video transcript - Introduction

Claudia Hammond:

"At first glance the irregular shapes and geometric patterns of abstract art could appear difficult for the human brain to interpret. Art exhibitions like this one at the Saatchi Gallery in London, provide a visual feast for the brain, but not everybody sees it in the same way. While some will feel engaged and stimulated, others will find it impenetrable and difficult to understand.

We are processing an enormous amount of information when viewing a piece of abstract art. Scientists can monitor these processes, giving them an insight into how the brain responds and this is beginning to reveal some fascinating results."