

Abbey and glorious: Portrait of The Queen, alone, at the spot where she was crowned is unveiled in all its 11ft glory

By LOUISE ECCLES

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256
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In centuries past, royal artists portrayed monarchs as grand, imposing and often rather stern.

But the latest portrait of the Queen pictures her in a moment of quiet reflection as she stands on the spot in Westminster Abbey where she was crowned 60 years ago.

Artist Ralph Heimans said he sought to capture 'her humanity' in the 9ft by 11ft portrait, commissioned by the Palace to mark the Diamond Jubilee.



© Ralph Heimans/ Colin White/Max Communications L/PA Wire

A man has been arrested after a portrait of the Queen - commissioned by the Palace to mark the Diamond Jubilee - was defaced at Westminster Abbey today

Her majesty posed for an hour-long sitting in The Yellow Drawing Room, at Buckingham Palace, in March.

Mr Heimans then imagined the dramatic backdrop – the Sacrament at Westminster Abbey, also known as The Coronation Theatre.

She stands on the Cosmati pavement – a spot where every English monarch has been crowned since it was commissioned by Henry III in the 13th century.

REFLECTIVE ... BUT UPBEAT AND TRUTHFUL

THIS is not a 21st century portrait. The Queen is too old, too grand and too royal to encourage 21st century experimentation, writes art critic Godfrey Barker.

What she's got here is a minutely painted, hyper-realist portrait of excellent technique, which places her on an historic spot of deep personal meaning. It's not sloshy or painterly, but exact and almost photographic. I'd compare this to

a traditional portrait similar to the Dutch and French painters of the 19th Century. Some may say she looks downcast but I see reflection combined with optimism.

Queen Victoria looked infinitely damaged at this point of her reign; this Queen, only faintly lined on cheeks and forehead by a respectful artist, looks a spring chicken for 86. If it's not as regal as some wish, it's truthful and loyal.



© Ralph Heimans/ Colin White/Max Communications L/PA Wire

Deep in thought: A new official portrait of Her Majesty The Queen, painted by Australian-born, London-based artist Ralph Heimans shows the monarch looking deep in reflection

Mr Heimans, said: 'I hope there is a degree of humanity uncommon in traditional Royal portraits.

'I wanted her expression to be open to interpretation so that people could imagine what she was thinking at that moment, but I think there is a sense of tenderness and soulfulness, as well as nostalgia and contemplation.



© Ralph Heimans/ Colin White/Max Communications L/PA Wire

Artist Ralph Heimans poses for photographs in front of the painting 'The Coronation Theatre, Westminster Abbey: Portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, 2012' at the National Portrait Gallery in Canberra, Australia

'But there is also a suggestion of her inner strength.

'She has an extraordinary aura and a real energy and presence.'

The painting is entitled *The Coronation Theatre, Westminster Abbey: A Portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II*.

The huge work of art was unveiled by Australian Governor-General Quentin Bryce at the National Portrait Gallery in Canberra, Australia.

In spring it will then be brought back to London for display in the run up to marking 60 years since the Queen's Coronation in June.

Mr Heimans, 42, said he wanted to 'produce a work of particular significance for the Diamond Jubilee'.

The artist spent six months on the portrait, working up to 20 hours a day.

Mr Heimans said: 'The Queen was very respectful of the artistic process and gave me complete freedom.



'When she arrived in all her regalia it was a spectacular moment.

'Painting the Queen is the biggest commission an artist can have. I feel very privileged.'

The Queen posed for the artist and gave him 'complete freedom' with his artistic process

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Queen Victoria looked infinitely damaged at this point of her reign; this Queen, only faintly lined on cheeks and forehead by a respectful artist, looks a spring chicken for 86. If it's not as regal as some wish, it's truthful and loyal.

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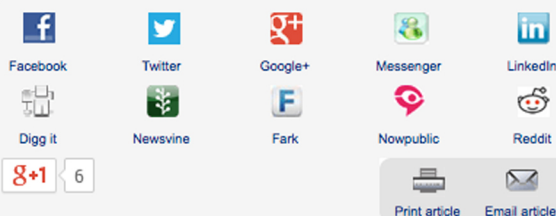


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Comments (256)

The comments below have been moderated in advance.

Newest	Oldest	Best rated	Worst rated
Page 1 of 3			
Stunning. Great talent.			
- David Prentice, London, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 19:54			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 566			
At first glance I thought it was a picture! Very good well done! :)			
- Pearl from the Moon, Liverpool, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 19:54			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 433			
It certainly is a wonderful painting, and its painted in the right place because the artists talent is certainly a gift from god..			
- andycappel, Bath, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 19:53			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 380			
love this portrait, it says so much. The Queen is human and she has the right to show a side of her which depicts her strength - and vulnerability. Also, the background lends more ambience and "drama" to the subject.			
- anthea, Sanremo, 29/9/2012 19:50			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 403			
am not a royalist but I do appreciate a stunning painting.			
- sarah rosson, northampton, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 19:45			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 318			
Oh not ANOTHER portrait of queenie. There are enough of them around anyway and lifeless statues!!!			
- Kathab, Oxford, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 19:41			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 627			
incredible work of art			
- scottsnoodlinks, Swindon, 29/9/2012 19:36			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 333			
It's an absolutely beautiful picture it's just a shame she looks so sad.....			
- Terry, Leitrim, 29/9/2012 19:32			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 95			
There are Royal portraits and Royal portraits but this is in a league of its own, the best ever.			
- Brian, NZ, New Zealand, 29/9/2012 19:28			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 405			
Stunning portrait !			
- GVF, London, 29/9/2012 19:22			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 347			
So intricate and detailed! The artist has true talent, unlike other, more famous current 'artists' I could mention. Australia should be proud of Mr Heimans.			

So intricate and detailed! The artist has true talent, unlike other, more famous current 'artists' I could mention. Australia should be proud of Mr Heimans.

- [Taitiu, Dudley, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 19:17](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  25

Stunning, says it all ..majesty and humanity

- [June, Canvey Essex, 29/9/2012 19:13](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  17

That is spectacular art!

- [JS1, The Uncanny Valley, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 19:12](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  8

utterly stunning. one of the most poignant and spell binding portraits I've ever seen. beautifully deep.....

- [francis, braunton, 29/9/2012 19:00](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  19

really like it - well done.

- [Mat, London, Spain, 29/9/2012 18:50](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  8

Breathtaking.

- [Willowpuff, Wycombe, Bucks, 29/9/2012 18:50](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  11

Superb!

- [Chris, Wales, 29/9/2012 18:47](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  7

Stunning. Beautiful. Amazing!! He "imagined" some of this? Jeez..... Possibly my favourite royal portrait. Ever!

- [Me, Scotlandshire, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 18:43](#)

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Click to rate   Rating  14

fantastic, that is skill, that is Art thank you.

- [michael, scarborough, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 18:31](#)

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Click to rate   Rating  14

It's a beautiful painting, but I find it rather sad: as if Her Majesty is left all alone thinking "where did it all go wrong?"

- [George_Miller, Basingstoke, 29/9/2012 18:29](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  11

Beautiful... Long live the Queen :-)

- [Clare, Cheshire, 29/9/2012 18:27](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  10

think there is a look of sadness for what has happened to Great Britain in the 60 years since she was crowned.

- [Freedom-Fighter, Cheltenham, 29/9/2012 18:21](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  24

Better than the one Rolf Harris did!!

- [Andy_Wirral, Wirral, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 18:21](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  6

What an amazing painting..very impressive!

- [evieb4, Dunedin, New Zealand, 29/9/2012 18:20](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  8

Why do your contributors get so upset when someone points out the mass of our population suffering worry and depression in a severe economic downturn while a few live in rather vulgar luxury? I know the queen represents an ideal of family life and all that, but that is all it is, a representation - the reality is rather different if you take off your rose tinted spectacles?

- [Mike, Dorchester, 29/9/2012 18:19](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  50

Why am I paying for this ? why can't the royals be set up as a charity then the royalists can giftAid away to their special deserving cause. simples

- [TheFox, London, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 18:17](#)

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Click to rate   Rating  107

wonder what she is thinking.....I guess somewhere along the lines of what the hell has happened to my realm.

- [No to the EU, England, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 18:16](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  11

Fabulous piccy, captures HM to perfection.

- [Zman 123, Wokingham, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 18:15](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  4

What a stunning work of art. This has to be the most meaningful work of the Queen I have seen, it evokes so much.Brilliant,

- [Sue kyberd, Nelson NZ, 29/9/2012 18:13](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  14

it's not regal as some wish, it's truth and loyal' - No it's Majestic.

- [Shevva, UK, 29/9/2012 18:07](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  6

Now this is art. Emin, Hirst etc cannot begin to compete.

- [scarlet_ibis, London, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 18:03](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  14

Breathtaking!




- [jrm, weybridge, 29/9/2012 17:59](#)

<p>Report abuse</p> <p>Why am I paying for this ? why can't the royals be set up as a charity then the royalists can giftAid away to their special deserving cause. simples</p> <p>- TheFox, London, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 18:17</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 50</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>wonder what she is thinking.....I guess somewhere along the lines of what the hell has happened to my realm.</p> <p>- No to the EU, England, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 18:16</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 107</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>Fabulous piccy, captures HM to perfection.</p> <p>- Zman 123, Wokingham, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 18:15</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 11</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>What a stunning work of art. This has to be the most meaningful work of the Queen I have seen, it evokes so much.Brilliant,</p> <p>- Sue kyberd, Nelson NZ, 29/9/2012 18:13</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 4</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>it's not regal as some wish, it's truth and loyal' - No it's Majestic.</p> <p>- Shevva, UK, 29/9/2012 18:07</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 14</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>Now this is art. Emin, Hirst etc cannot begin to compete.</p> <p>- scarlet_ibis, London, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 18:03</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 6</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>Breathtaking!</p> <p>- jrm, weybridge, 29/9/2012 17:59</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 14</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>brilliant. Long may you reign Ma'am</p> <p>- alan haynes, Fethye. Turkey, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 17:55</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 9</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>It's like a HDR photograph! Awesome.</p> <p>- C Parcs, Penrith, 29/9/2012 17:54</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 3</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>STUNNING magical best portrait ever of our great Queen</p> <p>- Welshman, Cardiff, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 17:54</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 3</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>Now this has to be the best painting of her , quite flattering .</p> <p>- jackie, lincoln, 29/9/2012 17:53</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 5</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>fitting portrait that will stand the test of time</p> <p>- ireneg1961, Annan, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 17:50</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 9</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>Sorry to disagree with the comments below, but this picture breaks all the rules of composition - and doesn't do so to the benefit of the subject. What a pity. It's a whole lot of very intricate and detailed work, and it simply doesn't come off.</p> <p>- China_Blue, London, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 17:45</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 10</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>beautiful</p> <p>- mrsnobody, durham, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 17:42</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 76</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>Long to reign over us. God save the Queen. "I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong." - HRH Princess Elizabeth on her 21st birthday. Thank you Ma'am.</p> <p>- Shaun, Melbourne, 29/9/2012 17:42</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 4</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>magnificent. truly deserved. Long may you reign Ma'am</p> <p>- alan haynes, Fethye. Turkey, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 17:36</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 13</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>At Last!....A portrait so beautiful, and doing justice to the Queen.What a talented artist. Beautifully done.</p> <p>- Sadie, Northern hemisphere, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 17:33</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 4</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>The best ever.</p> <p>- volcano, Mediterranean Area, 29/9/2012 17:30</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 18</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>"Fab - but she could pay off the National debt with her necklace ." - Commentqueen, England, 28/9/2012 19:11 ===== What a load of cobblers! Back in 1912, possibly. Now, mission impossible.</p> <p>- Feddup, Yorkshire, 29/9/2012 17:27</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 7</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>Sublime</p> <p>- Sah, Midlands, 29/9/2012 17:26</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 7</p>
<p>Report abuse</p> <p>Thank you for being our Queen and putting up with the troubles and strife during your reign,this is a beautiful painting.but nothing without you in it.</p> <p>- cheshire girl, Northwich, 29/9/2012 17:23</p>	<p>Click to rate Rating 7</p>

Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  4
Lovely picture, the lighting, pose etc are amazing	
- coffee freak , middle England , 29/9/2012 17:21	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  9
love the Queen!	
- Honey Boo Boo , Eden Wood , 29/9/2012 17:11	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  2
When I first saw the picture I thought it was a photo. That portrait is fantastic.. That man should be given a knighthood.	
- Bugsy , Malaga , United Kingdom , 29/9/2012 17:04	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  9
future masterpiece with out doubt.	
- nigel bryn , nonkonsawan , Thailand , 29/9/2012 17:02	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  6
Fantastic portrait, best ever. Well done.	
- Moe , London , 29/9/2012 16:58	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  5
what an amazing Portrait!!!!	
- Lottie , Truro , 29/9/2012 16:47	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  5
How beautiful.	
- Babs , Gtr Manchester , 29/9/2012 16:41	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  5
truly beautiful...	
- Jl2356 , Hemel Hempstead , 29/9/2012 16:35	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  5
The best portrait i have seen ever,,,sorry ralf	
- steve , barnsley , 29/9/2012 16:28	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  5
Brilliant painter. So beautiful I'd love to come to London and see it in person. God Bless the Queen.	
- KM , Somerset USA , 29/9/2012 16:26	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  5
Like others, I think this is just wonderful. The country will be proud of this portrait in a thousand years, and more. Hats off.	
- Lipslicker , Ripon , 29/9/2012 16:15	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  8
Just magnificent. An old master in the making. At last a portrait truly fit for a Queen!	
- Pass the Dynamite , London , United Kingdom , 29/9/2012 16:14	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  6
Now, THAT'S real art. Amazingly good portraiture, and the meticulous detailing of the background is terrific. I hope the Queen is pleased with this one; it's by far the best of the more recent ones.	
- Alice , Oxfordshire , United Kingdom , 29/9/2012 16:08	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  9
has a lot of detail in it, but somehow the perspective and proportions seem not quite right. The head shot is fine, but the body looks like she has either been eating way too much or has been doing bodybuilding at the gym. I give it a C.	
- Sam in Texas , Texas , 29/9/2012 15:47	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  52
"Fab - but she could pay off the National debt with her necklace" - Commentqueen, England , 28/9/2012 19:11 ~~~~~ it isn't "her" necklace. It, and the matching earrings, were made in 1858 for Queen Victoria, and she left them to the crown on her death in 1901, which means that technically, they're ours, for our monarch to wear. And you can sell them over my dead body.	
- Cameron , Lambourn , 29/9/2012 15:47	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  14
I'm no royalist but this picture is quite excellent. I love it.	
- Welshdog , Sydney , Australia , 29/9/2012 15:38	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  8
Really good painting and nice to see it from the spot where it all began!	
- Richard , Midi Pyrénées , France , 29/9/2012 15:32	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  15
Perfectly captured - everything of her long and wonderfull life in one portrait. Great artist chose the perfect setting - what a great tribute. MarianneC, Ballarat , Australia 29/9/12	
- MarianneC , Ballarat , Australia , 29/9/2012 15:24	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  17
stunning potrait of our loved and respected Queen	
- Letter from Iberia , Spain , Spain , 29/9/2012 14:55	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  12
This artist also did one of Princess Mary of holand denmark, norway or some where near there that is worth a look. Very talented comosition as is this one.	
- smudge , Melbourne , 29/9/2012 14:51	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  6
At last a modern day portrait of the queen that does her justice - absolutely superb composition and beautifully executed. This will become a much loved image in years to come.	
- Helldonkeys , Chelmsford , 29/9/2012 14:30	
Report abuse	Click to rate   Rating  4




have just returned from the Australian Portrait Gallery, absolutely stunning! Happy x-pat

- **FRODO**, Canberra, Australia, 29/9/2012 14:15

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  8




Beautiful, and so good to see an artist produce a thought provoking portrait of a royal. Well done indeed.

- **chocolate**, Liskeard, 29/9/2012 14:01

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  6




fantastic picture

- **British_Proud**, Plymouth, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 14:01

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  7




How dignified our wonderful Queen looks. I love it!!! Truly glorious.

- **Madame Dingbat**, The Bat House, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 13:57

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Stunning! One of the most beautiful works of art I have ever seen.

- **Amanda**, New York State, United States, 29/9/2012 13:39

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about to go and see it in the Canberra Portrait Gallery if i can get in. But from what I'm hearing locally --its a sensational portrait --a truly great work of art has emerged. The guy's a genius.

- **Dan**, Canberra, 29/9/2012 13:17

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  9




An intimate portrait in a spectacular setting. Kudos.

- **Laiea**, Vancouver, Canada, 29/9/2012 13:14

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  10




On par with her portrait on current banknotes i.e. naff.

- **Urrrrr**, Manchester, 29/9/2012 13:10

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  17




Wow! That is such a marvellous work of art.. Her Majesty is an incredible monarch and looks every bit as beautiful as she was as a girl. Just a different mature beauty.

- **Irene**, AUCKLAND, 29/9/2012 13:06

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  14




Brilliant!

- **dazed and confused**, canada, 29/9/2012 13:04

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  10




This portrait will go down in history for projecting all the grandeur and impact as Sir Anthony van Dyck's 1634 portrait of Charles I which hangs at Musée du Louvre. This is a truly masterful work of art. I can't wait to stand before it and grow soulfully besotted by this artist's creative genius. God save the ennobled Queen, indeed; by far the best memory, for me, of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

- **Arvin da Braga**, Haida Gwaii, Canada, 29/9/2012 12:53

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My Grandchildren's Grandchildren will see our Glorious Queen and this is this image will help portray how much I adore her. God Save Our Royal Family

- **John**, Kent, 29/9/2012 12:23

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  9




Exquisite!!

- **Jameka**, New York, 29/9/2012 12:21

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  9




Absolutely beautiful. What a lady!

- **Lady Abby**, Mississauga, 29/9/2012 12:19

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  7




That's amazing!!!

- **katie**, west midlands, 29/9/2012 12:11

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  2




Aaaaahhhh! What a smile! Just a hint.... beautifully painted - as for the diamonds! It's really hard to paint those sparklers, and just imagine the energy they must bring to the wearer! Blessings on her - lovely Queen of our country. And thank you for all your hard work!

- **Wisewoman**, London and Brazil, 29/9/2012 11:56

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  5




This man should be knighted. Well done!

- **DM**, Wisconsin, 29/9/2012 11:54

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  4




Perfection...he has captured the essence of the beautiful monarch. Job well done!!!

- **Julia**, Memphis, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 11:39

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  5




It's the first time in a very long time that someone has actually painted a picture that looks like her - i like it.

- **cozmik**, London, 29/9/2012 11:30

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What a pity he made her look fat. No way is the Queen that large. She is still small and dainty. Everything else is magical though.

- **lynnebourne**, Bourne, 29/9/2012 11:27

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  3

Well that's just beautiful. Well done Ralph, well done indeed.

- **Somewhat-startled**, London, 29/9/2012 11:17

[Report abuse](#) Click to rate   Rating  4

Very good. I may pop up to Canberra to view it...

Very good. I may pop up to Canberra to view it...

- Akiralx, Geelong, 29/9/2012 11:10

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  4

Takes ones breath away! Absolutely stunning and its wonderful to know there are people who can still paint like this !
Awesome talent, Mr Heimans.

- Indian, Sydney, 29/9/2012 11:09

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  5

Have to admit I prefer Xena the Warrior Princess

- Stirrups, London, 29/9/2012 11:06

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  53

What a wonderful painting. Our Queen rueing the country that has been sold down the river by a succession of political traitors.

- John Gee, London, 29/9/2012 11:03

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  4

Very impressed with the background - depth, perspective, pattern, texture, colour, light are all amazing. Less impressed with the face, which just looks dead, lifeless and nothing like the queen. Plus she seems to have been given an Essex spray tan!

- Bunny Gurl, Brummy Land, 29/9/2012 11:00

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  14

Stunning! Superb! Beautiful What more is there to say?!

- Keith Rowley, Perth, Australia, 29/9/2012 10:47

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  5

That is a wonderful portrait. The artist sought to portray a degree of humanity in his subject and he has exceeded all his expectations. This is probably the best portrait painted of the Queen. It is so easy to paint a young subject but to reveal with sensitivity the ageing process with such beauty and such dignity, is a triumph.

- Jackie, Sydney, 29/9/2012 10:35

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  6

She does clean up well, doesn't She? :-)

- Sol, CT USA, 29/9/2012 10:32

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  1

think it is wonderful, possibly the best portrait ever done of Her Majesty.

- Geowyn, Stoke-on-Trent, United Kingdom, 29/9/2012 10:25

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate   Rating  2

What talent! Well done, sir!!

- Danil, Los Angeles, 29/9/2012 10:13

Click to rate   Rating  1

KingKong, Brentwood, 1 year ago

Beautiful Painting...

Click to rate  4  2

Donna, Winnipeg, 1 year ago

An absolutely stunning picture. Such strength in her vulnerability. Her true essence. The artist captured the real woman behind the crown. Many accolades to him. A priceless treasure. Thank You.

Click to rate  4  2

fezza_37, Cheshire, 1 year ago

Brilliant painting, although the third pic dost do it justice, its fantastic

Click to rate  2  1

Donna, Winnipeg, 1 year ago

An absolutely stunning picture. Such strength in her vulnerability. Her true essence. The artist captured the real woman behind the crown. Many accolades to him. A priceless treasure. Thank You.

Click to rate  5  1

Joanie, Amagh, 1 year ago

Just one wordFABULOUS!!!

Click to rate  9  1

joncris, Bridport, United Kingdom, 1 year ago

Great! well done. The Queen can't be anything but pleased

Click to rate  7  1

Coloradokazz, Highlands Ranch, United Kingdom, 1 year ago

Lovely picture, lovely lady who has stood strong throughout her reign. Such a shame her Heir has produced such poor future Kings and who have their mother's weakness. When the Queen passes, it could really be the end of what was once a Great Royal Family.

Gordon Webster, Dundee, 1 year ago

At last, a real artist. Exceptional.

Click to rate



9



1

charlotte, alicante, 1 year ago

wow ,i love this !

Click to rate



1574



76

Lovey, London, United Kingdom, 1 year ago

That is an amazing picture! Great work, Mr. Heimans! I think its the most stunning I've seen of her. I'll have to go see it when it's brought back to London.

Click to rate



1373



26

phil, south yorks, 1 year ago

Absolute - your servant Ma'am

Click to rate



721



51

LL, London, United Kingdom, 1 year ago

I was all for kicking up a moan as the modern portraits have usually been overdone, but it's brilliant. Great work, Ralph, an artist who has actually produced a widely appreciated piece of art.

Click to rate



1759



38

MiniLin, Boston, United States, 1 year ago

This portrait does capture something that recent ones have not: the Queen's exquisite, luminous, skin. Talk about an English rose complexion!

Click to rate



1098



35

verticalsmurf, sydney, Australia, 1 year ago

You can see the weight and pride of an empire and a royal heritage on her shoulders, as well as the love of a Mum and a Grandmother, and an inkling of mischief. Plus the toughness, intelligence and resilience. All borne with great pride and age. I think he captured her perfectly.

Click to rate



1547



36

Elizabeth, Bethesda, United States, 1 year ago

Absolutely breathtaking.

Click to rate



1172



27

molly, under hadrians wall, United Kingdom, 1 year ago

Wow, what a beautiful piece of art....well done that man!

Click to rate



1018



21

KerensaB, Key West, United States, 1 year ago

I like it.

Click to rate



824



23

iceicebaby, Exeter, 1 year ago

Thats absolutely stunning....

Click to rate



982



25

br, devon, 1 year ago

WOW! Absolutely stunning. This must be the best ever portrait of our beloved Queen. Amazing detail and a superb work of art. Well done Ralph.

Click to rate



161



7

'HARDY'S GIRL', Putney, London, 1 year ago

It's beautiful! I love it!!!! What a great artist!

Click to rate



137



9

GK, London, 1 year ago

Awesome!

Click to rate



139



7

GK, London, 1 year ago			
Awesome!			
	Click to rate	 139	 7
Louise, Liverpool, 1 year ago			
OH WOW Truly amazing			
	Click to rate	 120	 8
Sue, London, United Kingdom, 1 year ago			
That's the best portrait I've seen of the Queen for a long time.			
	Click to rate	 139	 6
Jojo, Mansfield, United Kingdom, 1 year ago			
The close up of the Queen is stunning and so lifelike---he should feel very prous of his work			
	Click to rate	 122	 6
Commentqueen, England, 1 year ago			
Fab - but she could pay off the National debt with her necklace .			
	Click to rate	 93	 541
D1ana, Oshawa, 1 year ago			
What a lovely painting			
	Click to rate	 119	 6
The Nit Picker, Blighty, 1 year ago			
Wow! What an amazing tribute what amazing talent.			
	Click to rate	 120	 6
jem, Europe, 1 year ago			
Magnificent! Totally captured our Queen			
	Click to rate	 121	 6
AJLind, Palm Beach, 1 year ago			
Absolutely the most beautiful royal portrait and painting ever done. It is breathtaking and the Queen is absolutely beautiful. It makes me want to cry...and I would like to book a trip to London to see it next year in person. Congratulations and Thank You, Ralph Heimans, for your heartfelt talent and work.			
	Click to rate	 126	 4
alex, manchester, 1 year ago			
Fantastic piece of art.			
	Click to rate	 118	 4
A Moore, Cork, 1 year ago			
A masterpiece. This will treasured forever by the nation			
	Click to rate	 588	 24
Naomi, fordshire, United Kingdom, 1 year ago			
Stunning.			
	Click to rate	 303	 18
Scunnered74, Baltimore, 1 year ago			
Beautiful!			
	Click to rate	 279	 16
tommi konttinen, kangasniemi, Finland, 1 year ago			
SUPERB! Congrats to the artist.			
	Click to rate	 373	 17
Me, Here and beyond, 1 year ago			
Absolutely fantastic one of the best			

Allotmentlad, Manchester, 1 year ago

It is a great painting but the Queen is about a foot too tall

Click to rate

↑ 105

↓ 260

Patch, Norfolk, United Kingdom, 1 year ago

What an amazing piece of work. So much better than most of the "modern art" attempts we have seen in recent years. Well done Ralph, Her Majesty looks beautiful, a little sombre but radiant nonetheless.

Click to rate

↑ 206

↓ 7

SAS17, Nottinghamshire, United Kingdom, 1 year ago

Amazing! Congratulations and well done Ralph for all your hardwork.

Click to rate

↑ 122

↓ 8

MichaelWright, Helsinki, 1 year ago

Great, What a wonderful portrait... Want to see it in the "Live"..

Click to rate

↑ 118

↓ 6

Jamie, Omaha, United States, 1 year ago

Just a reminder that we are all human - even in our greatest moments.

Click to rate

↑ 118

↓ 6

Willow, Elwynn, 1 year ago

Beautiful!

Click to rate

↑ 114

↓ 3

expaticus susannas, sandpointus, United Kingdom, 1 year ago

Beautiful!!!

Click to rate

↑ 117

↓ 7

Icb, USA, 1 year ago

Beautiful portrait. Such a lovely lady.

Click to rate

↑ 119

↓ 5

bebhinn1, Phoenix, 1 year ago

Absolutely gorgeous.

Click to rate

↑ 131

↓ 4

Suzanne in Ohio, Columbus, United States, 1 year ago

Wow - what a fabulous likeness and beautiful backdrop. Very talented artist.

Click to rate

↑ 161

↓ 4

Captain Reynault, Georgia USA, 1 year ago

I was touched by this portrait. The trappings of power and royalty abound, but the focus is on the strain and cost of the inherent and always-present responsibility of leadership on Her Majesty's face. Well Done.

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tommi konttinen, kangasniemi, Finland, 1 year ago

SUPERB! Congrats to the artist.

[Click to rate](#)

 373

 17

Me, Here and beyond, 1 year ago

Absolutely fantastic one of the best

[Click to rate](#)

 263

 11

Alison, Gloucs, 1 year ago

I adore this portrait of HM The Queen, its shows her grace strength and dignity, whilst allowing an insight into her dutiful humility in the most unique and innovative way. The artist is to be congratulated and I will have to have another look at its truly, wonderful

[Click to rate](#)

 246

 11

carter, frankfurt am main, 1 year ago

God bless her! I didn't know that she was that tall.

[Click to rate](#)

 106

 44

Captain Reynault, Georgia USA, 1 year ago

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[Click to rate](#)

 144

 5

Kristen, Salem MA USA, 1 year ago

I think it's wonderful!

[Click to rate](#)

 134

 4

Pauline, Washington, United States, 1 year ago

Stunningly Brilliant!

[Click to rate](#)

 133

 4

patischell, Ft Pierce FL, 1 year ago

What a lovely portrait. Her face grows even more beautiful with age. Patricia Schell

[Click to rate](#)

 141

 6

<p>Renee, Washington, 1 year ago</p> <p>I'd love to have a copy of that painting!</p>	Click to rate	 140	 5
<p>Grits, USA, 1 year ago</p> <p>I WANT IT!!! Does the Royal Collection do prints???</p>	Click to rate	 142	 5
<p>That is me, in the center, 1 year ago</p> <p>It is beautiful!</p>	Click to rate	 143	 6
<p>Marie A., Bromley, United Kingdom, 1 year ago</p> <p>Wow! That is absolutely stunning. I'm sure Her Majesty is very pleased with this.</p>	Click to rate	 145	 4