



Julia

Stella's only and much-loved child, Julia, was born in November 1920. This portrait was made when Julia was a young girl, perhaps 7 or 8 years old. Julia was raised in France and French was her first language. She had an unconventional but lively childhood, accompanying her parents to parties and restaurants and being surrounded by famous writers and artists.

- Think of three different words that describe Julia's pose. Do you think she is enjoying having her portrait painted?
- What do you think Julia might be thinking about in this painting?

Look again

- Stella has painted Julia against a plain, dark backdrop with light appearing from the right hand side. What effect do the backdrop and light have? What does the light represent?

Activity: Make a portrait of someone close to you. Which qualities would you like to emphasise? How would you do this? What materials would you use? Clue – think about their pose, their expression, the clothes they would wear, the backdrop and the colours.

painted in Paris, c. 1928, oil on canvas, 73 x 54.1 cm, private collection.