



## Self-portrait

This self-portrait is one of Stella's best known paintings. It was painted during a difficult time in Stella's life. She had ended her relationship with Ford and was living alone with her daughter. However, it was also one of the first times in her life when she was able to concentrate on her painting.

- Think of three words to describe Stella's expression. How does she convey these feelings?
- How does Stella focus attention on her face?
- Who is Stella looking at? Explain your answer.

### *Look again*

- Do you think that Stella was a woman of independence and control? What makes you think this?
- Identify the painting techniques used in this work of art.

**Activity:** Create your own self-portrait – but with a difference. On one half of the page, draw or paint your external self (or how you look on the outside). On the other half, draw or paint your inner self, using images, symbols or words.

*Painted in Paris, c. 1928, oil on plywood, 45 x 36.8 cm, courtesy of the Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide (gift of Suzanne Brookman, the artist's niece, 1999)*