

THE MYSTERIES OF LORENZO LOTTO NATIONAL GALLERY

WEDNESDAY 6 FEBRUARY

Perhaps the most intelligent of Venetian artists, Lorenzo Lotto is celebrated as one of the greatest portraitists of the Italian Renaissance, uncovering the moods and motivations of a cross section of middle-class sitters, among them clerics, merchants, and humanists. Lotto depicted men, women, and children in compositions rich in symbolism and imbued with great psychological depth. Carefully-placed objects in the background hint at the social status, interests, and aspirations of his subjects and add depth of meaning to each work. Each sitter seems caught at a significant moment of introspection, of honest personal examination. Meanwhile Lotto himself, one of the most self-aware writers among Renaissance artists, provides through documents on show in the exhibition – the first of its kind in the UK – extraordinary insight into his mental and physical health and the highly individualistic style with which he portrayed his subjects.

Exhibition study days begin with a lecture in the Art Workers Guild, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, unless otherwise indicated. Coffee is served at 10.30, the lecture begins at 11, and a light lunch with wine is served at 1 pm. We then travel to the relevant gallery for the exhibition, and end after a brief discussion at about 4.15 pm.

£70 INSCAPE members, £80 non-members. Your family and friends who have not previously attended an Inscape lecture are most welcome to be our guests.