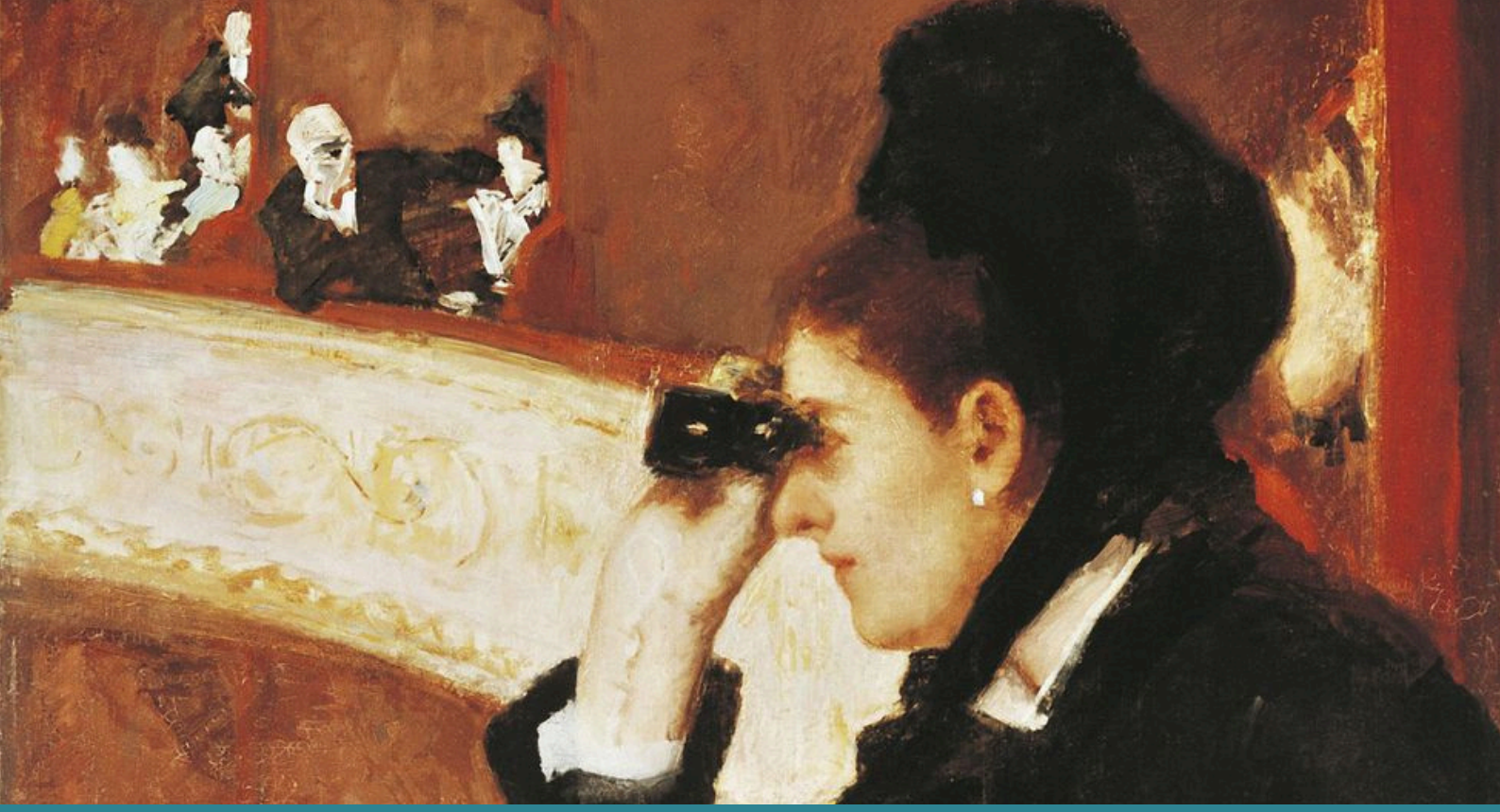

In the Loge
Mary Cassatt, 1878

Gentle jazz music plays

This is Redstart Radio, the station that brings you all the hottest art news and stories by Chard's finest art detectives.

In this episode, agents investigated a painting by the American artist Mary Cassatt. You'll hear what the agents uncovered very soon. But first, a little about the picture.

It is called In the Loge, and Mary Cassatt painted it in 1878. It features a white woman sitting in a balcony seat in a theatre, looking through small binoculars at the stage. Another man in the audience appears to be looking not at the stage, but rather at the woman. Lots of performances happen here at the town hall, which is why this episode is playing here.

Now it's time for you to hear some stories, written and performed by the agents who investigated this artwork.

Sound of a large audience murmuring before a performance.
Sound of an orchestra tuning up joins the murmuring.

These glasses are so hard to use. I can't see properly!
It's not hard to use, you just have to use it properly.

Ahem? Sorry but I think you're having hallucinations. There is no dial whatsoever.

I must go. You obviously don't have the inner eye to see the dial.

He can't be an actor! What was he doing up here if he was? Surely he should be getting ready for his act.

Sounds of drum rolls on large timpani

Oh my goodness, is that him on the stage?
Brass instruments play two bright chords like "ta dah!"

Voice is amplified through a slightly echoey microphone.
Welcome to my magic show. I'm Sir James, a magician extraordinaire!

Sounds of audience cheering and clapping.

I can do any magic thing you like. Special shout out to Violet who I just met.

He was an actor! But, how did he know my name?

Trombones, drums and piccolo plays fast circus-like music.

Another voice through the slightly echoey microphone.

Now welcoming the acrobatic team!
Finally, I've been waiting for hours!

The circus music swells, combined with sounds of a crowd saying "ooh" and "ahh"

This show is boring. I'm just going to watch this woman instead.
Why is that man staring at me? I'm trying to pay attention.

Echoey microphone voice from the stage says
Help! I'm upside-down!

This show's outrageous! I paid money for this! I'm leaving!
No, stop! I was looking at you! Don't leave!

The circus music swells once more, combined with sounds of a crowd saying "ooh" and "ahh".

Gentle jazz music plays.

You're listening to Redstart Radio. Remember, there's 10 episodes to find, all around Chard. Where will you go next?

If you enjoyed these stories inspired by paintings, why not create a new story yourself? Investigate a painting, fire up your imagination and let the story flow!