Supplementary Materials

FIGURE S1. Gender Differences in Death Anxiety Levels.

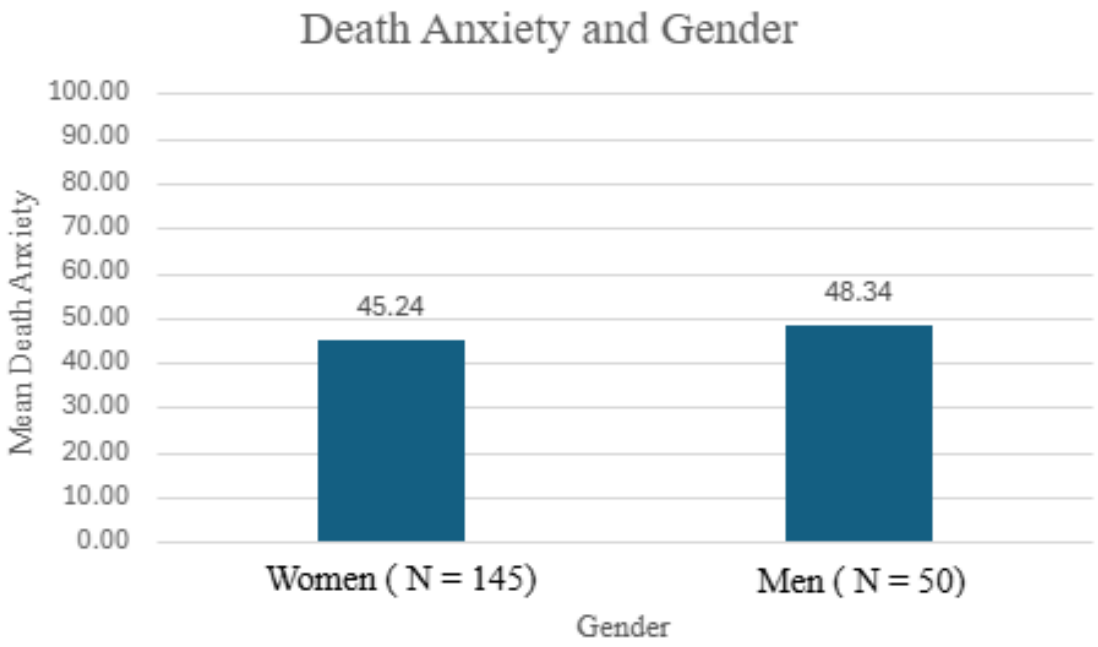


Figure S1. **Mann Whitney U Test to examine potential gender difference in death anxiety levels.** (The total sample was composed of N = 197 participants; 119 art experts and 78 lay participants; 145 women, 50 men, 2 non-binary/third gender individuals; M*age* = 34.59). The 2 non-binary/third gender individuals were not considered in the analysis as the data points were too few. Women reported a mean death anxiety of M = 45.24 (SD = 22.35) and men M = 48.34 (SD = 20.36). Between-group differences were not significant.

FIGURES S2-S5. Descriptives regarding art exposure, training and making.

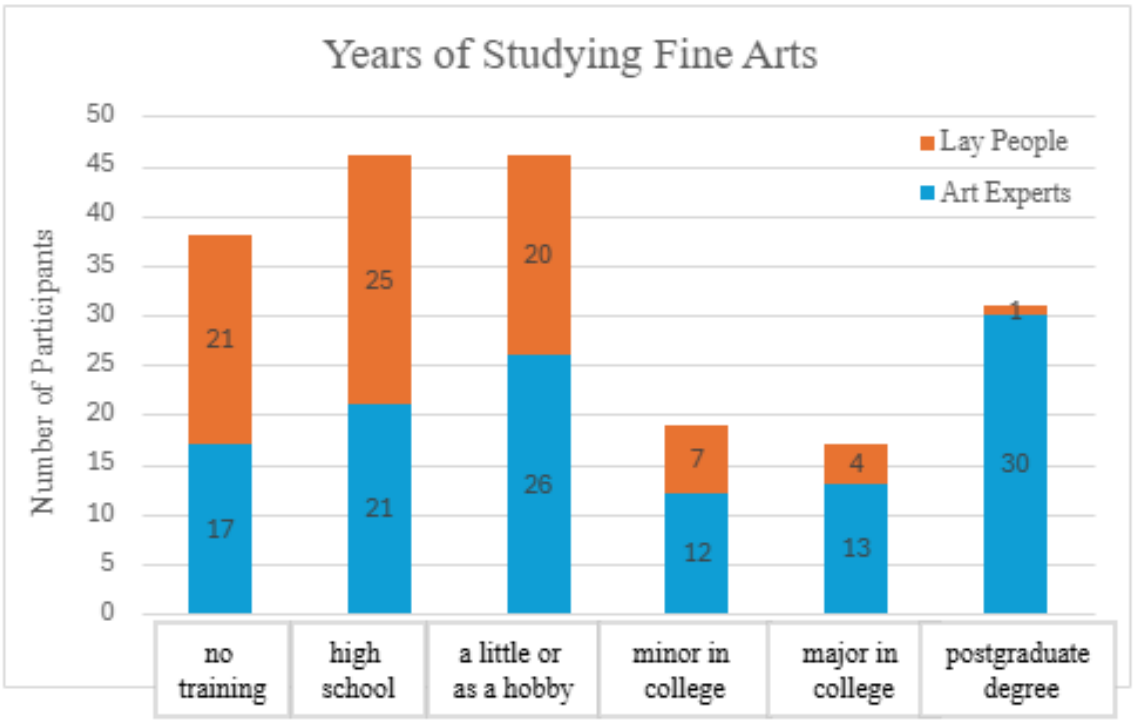


Figure S2. **Descriptive statistics regarding 'Years of Studying Fine Arts' between lay people (N=78) and art experts (N=119).** (The total sample was composed of N = 197 participants; 119 art experts and 78 lay participants; 145 women, 50 men, 2 non-binary/third gender individuals; M*age* = 34.59).

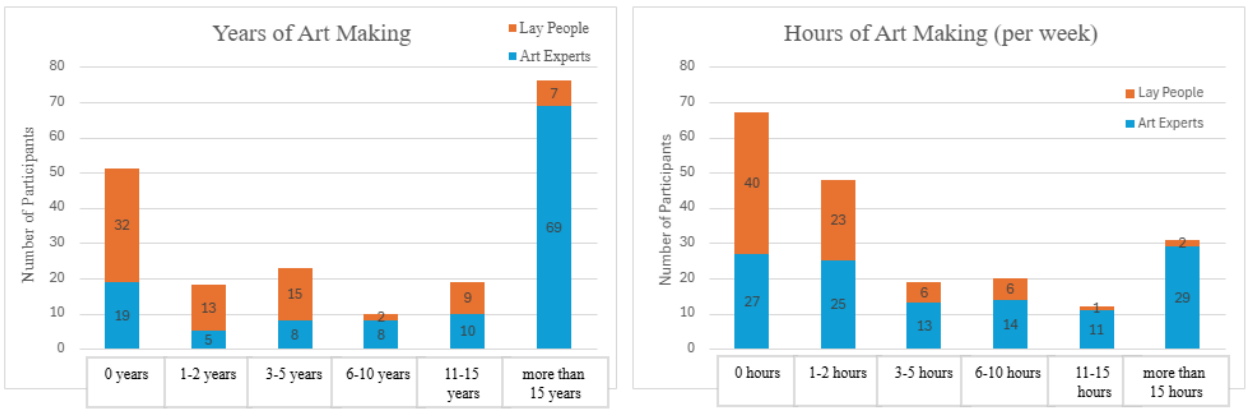


Figure S3. **Descriptive statistics regarding 'Years of Art Making' and 'Hours of Art Making (per week)' between lay people (N=78) and art experts (N=119).** (The total sample was composed of N = 197 participants; 119 art experts and 78 lay participants; 145 women, 50 men, 2 non-binary/third gender individuals; M*age* = 34.59).

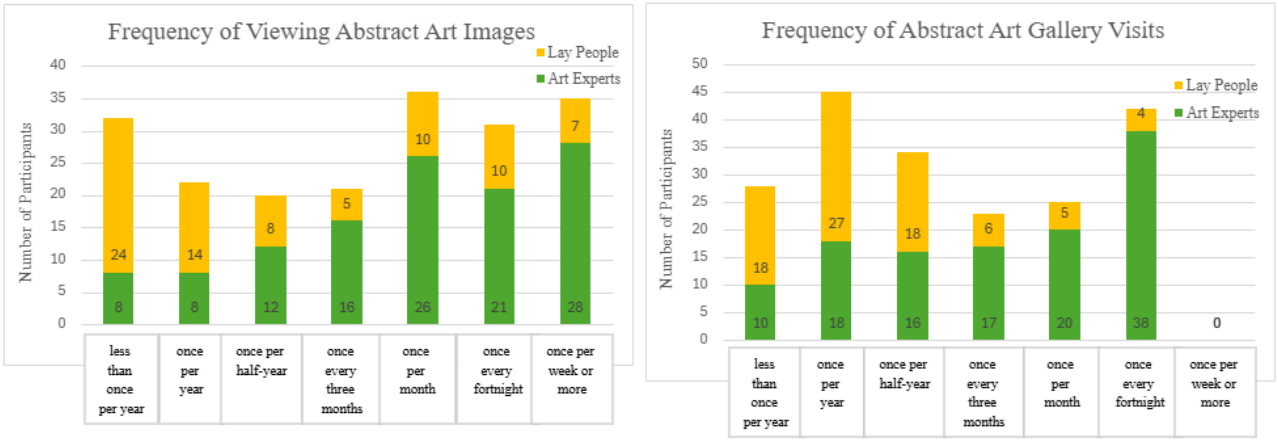


Figure S4. **Descriptive statistics regarding 'Frequency of Viewing Abstract Art Images' and 'Frequency of Abstract Art Gallery Visits' between lay people (N=78) and art experts (N=119).** (The total sample was composed of N = 197 participants; 119 art experts and 78 lay participants; 145 women, 50 men, 2 non-binary/third gender individuals; M*age* = 34.59).

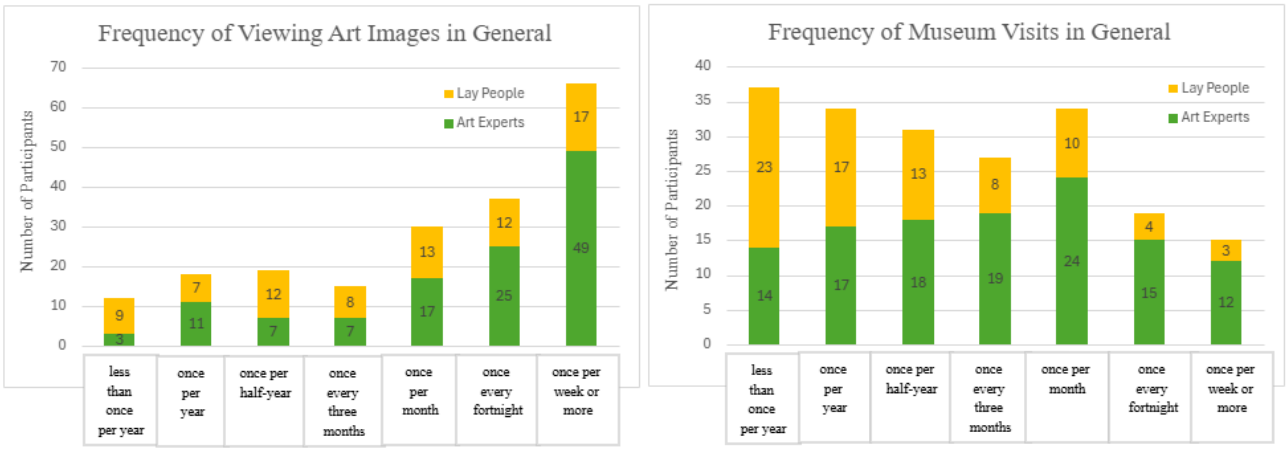


Figure S5. **Descriptive statistics regarding 'Frequency of Viewing Art Images in General' and 'Frequency of Museum Visits in General' between lay people (N=78) and art experts (N=119).** (The total sample was composed of N = 197 participants; 119 art experts and 78 lay participants; 145 women, 50 men, 2 non-binary/third gender individuals; M*age* = 34.59).

TABLE S1. Kendall's Tau Correlations Across Art-Related Factors, Personality Traits and Death Anxiety.

Kendall's tau correlations across art-related factors, personality traits and death. The total sample was composed of N = 197 participants; 119 art experts and 78 lay participants; 145 women, 50 men, 2

non-binary/third gender individuals; M*age* = 34.59. Significant correlations are highlighted * p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001.

	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	—															
	0.116	—														
	0.260***	**0.428*****	—													
	-0.006	0.019	-0.004	—												
	0.047	-0.027	0.03	0.07	—											
	0.018	0.005	-0.013	-0.044	**0.343*****	—										
	-0.01	-0.07	0.063	**0.463*****	0.059	0.014	—									
	-0.287***	0.094	-0.023	0.02	**0.117***	0.052	-0.081	—								
	-0.132	0.019	-0.03	**0.102***	0.101	0.015	-0.074	**0.221*****	—							
	0.068	0.071	0.133	0.028	-0.012	-0.045	0.062	0.027	**-0.286*****	—						
	-0.177*	**0.117***	0.061	-0.024	0.006	-0.03	-0.051	**0.314*****	**0.271*****	-0.071	—					
	-0.064	0.006	-0.02	-0.028	0.098	0.093	0.05	-0.097	**-0.108***	0.066	-0.046	—				
	-0.09	-0.032	-0.124	**0.115***	0.052	0.013	0.079	0.076	0.091	0.06	-0.01	**0.119***	—			
	0.127	0.006	-0.002	-0.104	-0.053	0.1	0.033	**-0.230*****	**-0.174*****	0.083	**-0.159****	**0.115***	**0.121***	—		
	0.043	0.049	0.019	**0.155****	0.066	-0.022	**0.147****	**-0.145****	-0.066	0.092	**-0.227*****	**0.115***	**0.137****	0.065	—	
	-0.197**	**0.138****	0.084	-0.009	**0.124***	0.044	**-0.135***	**0.442*****	**0.247*****	-0.049	**0.327*****	-0.033	0.06	**-0.21*****	**-0.122***	—

TABLE S1. **Kendall's Tau Correlations Across Art-Related Factors, Personality Traits and Death Anxiety.**

Median	SD	IQR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
4	2.11	4	—														
5	1.77	2	-0.087	—													
4	1.85	3	0.067	**0.235*** **	—												
5	1.83	3	**0.315*** **	0.082	**0.389*** **	—											
14	7.47	13	**0.349*** **	**0.135***	**0.116***	**0.211*** **	—										
49	16.9	28	**0.372*** **	**0.197*** **	**0.205*** **	**0.317*** **	**0.484*** **	—									
65	22.52	36	**0.394*** **	**0.193*** **	**0.185*** **	**0.301*** **	**0.648*** **	**0.850*** **	—								
2	1.69	2	**0.276*** **	0.104	**0.179****	**0.228*** **	**0.397*** **	**0.330*** **	**0.382*** **	—							
3	2.11	5	**0.338*** **	0.081	**0.118***	**0.263*** **	**0.340*** **	**0.373*** **	**0.388*** **	**0.403*** **	—						
1	1.83	3	**0.372*** **	0.065	-0.058	0.087	**0.305*** **	**0.292*** **	**0.327*** **	**0.269*** **	**0.496*** **	—					
5	2.1	4	**0.424*** **	0.004	**0.254*** **	**0.415*** **	**0.397*** **	**0.546*** **	**0.540*** **	**0.330*** **	**0.404*** **	**0.247*** **	—				
6	1.95	3	**0.289*** **	**0.166****	**0.282*** **	**0.335*** **	**0.445*** **	**0.636*** **	**0.623*** **	**0.337*** **	**0.420*** **	**0.304*** **	**0.577*** **	—			
3	1.76	3	**0.523*** **	0.019	0.032	**0.297*** **	**0.418*** **	**0.532*** **	**0.542*** **	**0.313*** **	**0.434*** **	**0.344*** **	**0.563*** **	**0.440*** **	—		
3	1.89	3	**0.383*** **	**0.126***	0.064	**0.253*** **	**0.550*** **	**0.629*** **	**0.669*** **	**0.339*** **	**0.397*** **	**0.340*** **	**0.501*** **	**0.540*** **	**0.610*** **	—	
3	1.88	2	**0.512*** **	-0.103	0.014	**0.186*** **	**0.264*** **	**0.276*** **	**0.291*** **	**0.179****	**0.262*** **	**0.329*** **	**0.300*** **	**0.232*** **	**0.493*** **	**0.296*** **	—
2	2.06	3	**0.382*** **	-0.108	0.056	**0.192****	**0.230*** **	**0.283*** **	**0.281*** **	**0.163***	**0.224****	**0.282*** **	**0.274*** **	**0.257*** **	**0.411*** **	**0.338*** **	**0.557*** **
3	1.79	3	-0.041	**0.247*** **	**0.109***	0.078	**0.112***	**0.150****	**0.152****	-0.001	-0.032	-0.031	0.06	0.106	0.045	0.075	**0.166****
2	1.95	3	-0.004	0.125	**0.194****	0.068	**0.157***	**0.220****	**0.207****	0.031	-0.088	-0.115	0.114	**0.153***	0.097	**0.166***	0.04
28.5	14.62	24.25	0.007	-0.046	-0.1	-0.004	0.032	-0.039	-0.022	**-0.108***	-0.069	-0.096	-0.06	**-0.128***	0.007	-0.059	0.054
2	2.18	4	-0.06	-0.049	**-0.247*** **	**-0.127***	-0.102	0.001	-0.028	-0.073	-0.09	-0.015	-0.022	-0.101	0.044	-0.017	0.027
4	2.11	4	0.036	0.068	**-0.138***	0.059	0.041	**0.117***	0.096	0.078	0.065	0.092	0.082	0.1	0.108	**0.108***	0.083
4	1.04	2	0.035	-0.068	0.031	0.043	**0.120***	0.059	0.08	0.071	0.017	-0.038	0.078	0.027	0.005	0.009	-0.002
29	9.86	17	**-0.295*** **	**0.155****	-0.042	**-0.193*** **	**-0.229*** **	**-0.139****	**-0.184*** **	**-0.225*** **	**-0.170****	**-0.184*** **	**-0.228*** **	**-0.177*** **	**-0.219*** **	**-0.233*** **	**-0.246*** **
49	13.98	21	**-0.178*** **	0.096	-0.094	**-0.184*** **	**-0.149****	**-0.182*** **	**-0.186*** **	-0.088	**-0.136***	**-0.124***	**-0.190*** **	**-0.144****	**-0.145****	**-0.157****	**-0.130***
4	1.77	2	0.098	0.046	0.022	0.092	0.051	**0.146****	**0.124***	0.027	0.03	0.016	0.04	0.002	0.073	0.085	0.076
3	1.89	3	**-0.266*** **	0.037	0.055	-0.022	**-0.193*** **	**-0.143****	**-0.172*** **	-0.051	-0.102	**-0.264*** **	**-0.127***	-0.103	**-0.232*** **	**-0.246*** **	**-0.2*** **
6	1.59	3	0.017	0.0015	**-0.159****	0.016	0.059	0.039	0.05	0.021	0.059	0.114*	0.001	0.024	0.014	0.042	-0.029
6	1.42	2	0.067	0.05	**-0.14***	-0.093	0.066	0.022	0.032	0.048	0.056	0.042	-0.044	-0.033	0.029	0.036	-0.026
6	1.76	3	**0.293*** **	0.023	0.065	**0.147****	**0.362*** **	**0.332*** **	**0.368*** **	**0.325*** **	**0.378*** **	**0.324*** **	**0.351*** **	**0.302*** **	**0.296*** **	**0.357*** **	**0.249*** **
22	6.93	10	**0.194*** **	0.028	-0.03	**0.142****	**0.104***	**0.194*** **	**0.177*** **	0.012	0.033	**0.123***	**0.154****	**0.123***	**0.187*** **	**0.206*** **	**0.151****
46	21.8	35	**-0.394*** **	**0.248*** **	-0.031	**-0.184*** **	**-0.176*** **	**-0.132****	**-0.158****	**-0.179*** **	**-0.183*** **	**-0.211*** **	**-0.198*** **	**-0.149****	**-0.204*** **	**-0.185*** **	**-0.241*** **

Note. Kendall's tau correlations across art-related factors, personality traits and death. (The total sample was composed of N = 197 participants; 119 art experts and 78 lay participants; 145 women, 50 men, 2 non-binary/third gender individuals; M*age* = 34.59). Significant correlations are highlighted: * p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001

Variable	Mean
1. Abstract Art Liking	4.26
2. Representational Art Liking	4.74
3. Negative Art Liking	3.85
4. 'Meaningless' Art Liking	4.36
5. Art Knowledge (VAIAK)	13.85
6. Art Interest (VAIAK)	47.87
7. VAIAK TOTAL	61.72
8. Years of Studying Fine Arts	2.12
9. Years of Art Making	2.79
10. Hours of Art Making (per week)	1.77
11. Frequency of Viewing Abstract Art Images	4.22
12. Frequency of Viewing Art Images in General	5.07
13. Frequency of Abstract Art Gallery Visits	3.5
14. Frequency of Museum Visits in General	3.53
15. Abstract Art at Home	3.21
16. Abstract Art in Workplace	2.92
17. Representational Art at Home	3.54
18. Representational Art in Workplace	2.93
19. Age	34.59
20. Religion	3.03
21. Spirituality	3.89
22. Education	4.16
23. Need for Meaning	29.13
24. Need for Closure	50.03
25. Extraversion	4.04
26. Neuroticism	3.47
27. Agreeableness	5.27
28. Conscientiousness	5.6
29. Openness	5.37
30. Satisfaction with Life	21.59
31. Death Anxiety	45.9

TABLE S2. Point Biserial Correlations for questions that involved binary yes/no answers.

Variable	Illness	Death	Traumatic Event	Art Therapy
1. Illness	—			
2. Death	0.084	—		
3. Traumatic Event	**0.145***	**0.155***	—	
4. Art Therapy	-0.073	0.104	0.079	—
5. Age	-0.072	0.085	-0.099	-0.039
6. Religion	0.116	0.005	0.079	-0.04
7. Spirituality	0.024	-0.023	0.038	**0.164***
8. Education	0.001	0.087	-0.073	0.101
9. Life Satisfaction	-0.034	**-0.16***	-0.139	-0.041
10. Need for Meaning	0.091	0.112	**0.167***	0.015
11. Need for Closure	0.077	-0.085	0.016	-0.021
12. Extraversion	-0.098	0.023	0.069	0.021
13. Neuroticism	0.039	**0.154***	**0.165***	**0.144***
14. Agreeableness	0.041	-0.073	0.046	-0.021
15. Conscientiousness	0.072	-0.059	-0.059	0.005
16. Openness	-0.022	-0.055	-0.03	-0.002
17. Death Anxiety	0.116	0.133	**0.146***	-0.001
18. Abstract Art Liking	-0.034	-0.047	**-0.160***	-0.016
19. Representational Art Liking	-0.052	-0.014	-0.002	0.019
20. Negatively-themed Art Liking	-0.066	0.071	0.137	**0.190****
21. 'Meaningless' Art Liking	-0.024	-0.001	-0.007	0.112
22. Frequency of Viewing Abstract Art Images	-0.016	0.082	-0.058	0.126
23. Frequency of Abstract Art Gallery Visits	-0.046	0.002	**-0.212****	-0.082
24. Abstract Art at Home	-0.029	0.023	**-0.153***	0.008

25. Representational Art at Home	-0.053	0.029	0.038	0.125
26. Abstract Art in Workplace	0.072	0.109	-0.045	0.038
27. Representational Art in Workplace	0.15	0.077	0.091	0.106
28. Years of Studying Fine Arts	-0.09	-0.099	-0.042	0.114
29. Years of Art Making	-0.02	0.109	-0.041	0.131
30. Hours of Art Making (per week)	-0.042	0.042	-0.103	-0.03
31. Art Knowledge (VAIAK)	0.02	-0.048	**-0.202****	0.019
32. Art Interest (VAIAK)	-0.065	0.034	-0.084	0.062
33. VAIAK TOTAL	-0.042	0.01	-0.13	0.053
34. Frequency of Museum Visits in General	-0.027	-0.072	**-0.176***	0.009
35. Frequency of Viewing Art Images in General	0.015	0.1	-0.06	0.123

Note. Point biserial correlations for questions that involved binary yes/no answers across art-related factors, personality traits and death anxiety. (The total sample was composed of N = 197 participants; 119 art experts and 78 lay participants; 145 women, 50 men, 2 non-binary/third gender individuals; M*age* = 34.59). Significant correlations are highlighted: * p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001.

TABLE S3. Pearson's Correlations across all factors.

Pearson's r correlations across art-related factors, personality traits and death anxiety. The total sample was composed of N = 197 participants; 119 art experts and 78 lay participants; 145 women, 50 men, 2 non-binary/third gender individuals; M*age* = 34.59. Significant correlations are highlighted * p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001.

	26	27	28	29	30	31
26	—					
27	-0.061	—				
28	-0.031	0.081	—			
29	**-0.178***	**0.153***	0.127	—		
30	**-0.302*****	0.102	**0.245*****	0.102	—	
31	**0.406*****	-0.039	0.056	**-0.289*****	**-0.17***	—

8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
—																	
0.478* **	—																
0.313* **	**0.552*** **	—															
0.392* **	**0.489*** **	**0.305*** **	—														
0.407* **	**0.520*** **	**0.379*** **	**0.684*** **	—													
0.393* **	**0.508*** **	**0.429*** **	**0.683*** **	**0.537*** **	—												
0.413* **	**0.499*** **	**0.419*** **	**0.619*** **	**0.633*** **	**0.720*** **	—											
0.258* **	**0.355*** **	**0.465*** **	**0.401*** **	**0.320*** **	**0.603*** **	**0.403*** **	—										
0.289 **	**0.317*** **	**0.430*** **	**0.421*** **	**0.345*** **	**0.572*** **	**0.539*** **	**0.688*** **	—									
0.003	-0.024	-0.073	0.085	**0.153***	0.037	0.072	**0.149***	0.049	—								
0.048	-0.053	-0.153	**0.190***	**0.227***	0.124	**0.262** **	-0.037	**0.252** **	**0.476*** **	—							
-0.152*	-0.139	**-0.160***	-0.111	**-0.219** **	0.006	-0.117	0.066	0.007	0.035	0.013	—						
-0.138	-0.124	-0.14	-0.024	-0.13	0.062	-0.034	0.045	0.045	-0.058	-0.02	0.131	—					
0.081	0.074	0.11	0.11	0.123	**0.146***	0.138	0.098	0.011	0.006	-0.03	-0.067	**0.366*** **	—				
0.096	0.015	-0.056	0.099	0.032	0.004	0.009	0.011	0.053	-0.076	0.062	**0.438*** **	0.066	0.024	—			
-0.31* **	**-0.206** **	**-0.269*** **	**-0.322*** **	**-0.252*** **	**-0.307*** **	**-0.331*** **	**-0.365*** **	**-0.489*** **	**0.143***	-0.128	0.051	**0.149***	0.074	-0.117	—		
-0.117	**-0.171***	**-0.162***	**-0.262*** **	**-0.170***	**-0.194** **	**-0.222** **	**-0.184** **	**-0.234***	0.043	-0.043	**0.194** **	**0.162***	0.021	-0.129	**0.313*** **	—	
0.019	0.046	0.023	0.057	0.007	0.093	0.121	0.073	0.102	0.079	0.139	0.042	-0.035	-0.062	0.072	0.031	**-0.400*** **	—
-0.067	-0.102	**-0.326*** **	-0.121	-0.11	**-0.286*** **	**-0.298*** **	**-0.289*** **	**-0.276** **	**0.151***	0.046	-0.047	0.007	-0.044	-0.082	**0.383*** **	**0.344*** **	-0.103
0.02	0.075	**0.174***	-8.709×10⁻	0.05	0.027	0.054	0.011	-0.023	0.025	-0.009	-0.094	**0.150***	0.132	0.07	-0.089	**-0.144***	0.086
0.067	0.081	0.03	-0.038	-0.027	0.083	0.055	-0.005	-0.093	-0.039	-0.111	**0.172***	0.082	-5.346×10⁻⁴	0.094	0.097	**0.146***	0.048
0.369* **	**0.447*** **	**0.378*** **	**0.434*** **	**0.365*** **	**0.377*** **	**0.434*** **	**0.336*** **	**0.225***	0.018	0.007	**-0.179***	-0.084	0.119	0.049	**-0.293*** **	**-0.218** **	0.119
0.045	0.068	**0.182***	**0.218** **	**0.196** **	**0.275*** **	**0.289*** **	**0.218** **	0.098	0.045	-0.013	**0.228** **	0.111	-0.008	**0.196** **	**-0.185** **	-0.087	0.125
-0.266* **	**-0.251*** **	**-0.318*** **	**-0.272*** **	**-0.187** **	**-0.293*** **	**-0.270*** **	**-0.383*** **	**-0.353*** **	**0.191** **	0.083	0.026	**0.169***	0.074	**-0.182***	**0.599*** **	**0.345*** **	-0.062

TABLE S3. Pearson's Correlations Across Art-Related Factors, Personality Traits and Death Anxiety.

Variable	Mean	Median	SD	IQR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Abstract Art Liking	4.26	4	2.11	4	—						
2. Representational Art Liking	4.74	5	1.77	2	-0.093	—					
3. Negative Art Liking	3.85	4	1.85	3	0.065	**0.296*** **	—				
4. 'Meaningless' Art Liking	4.36	5	1.83	3	**0.424*** **	**0.163***	**0.489*** **	—			
5. Art Knowledge (VAIAK)	13.85	14	7.47	13	**0.455*** **	**0.178*** *	**0.155***	**0.309*** **	—		
6. Art Interest (VAIAK)	47.87	49	16.9	28	**0.505*** **	**0.288*** **	**0.285*** **	**0.471*** **	**0.659*** **	—	
7. VAIAK TOTAL	61.72	65	22.52	36	**0.530*** **	**0.275*** **	**0.265*** **	**0.456*** **	**0.825*** **	**0.968*** **	—
8. Years of Studying Fine Arts	2.12	2	1.69	2	**0.350*** **	0.118	**0.208*** *	**0.296*** **	**0.506*** **	**0.419*** **	**0.482*** **
9. Years of Art Making	2.79	3	2.11	5	**0.416*** **	0.1	**0.156***	**0.342*** **	**0.435*** **	**0.501*** **	**0.520*** **
10. Hours of Art Making (per week)	1.77	1	1.83	3	**0.481*** **	0.044	-0.083	0.115	**0.394*** **	**0.371*** **	**0.409*** **
11. Frequency of Viewing Abstract Art Images	4.22	5	2.1	4	**0.539*** **	0.035	**0.329*** **	**0.559*** **	**0.532*** **	**0.710*** **	**0.709*** **
12. Frequency of Viewing Art Images in General	5.07	6	1.95	3	**0.374*** **	**0.232*** *	**0.339*** **	**0.559*** **	**0.570*** **	**0.778*** **	**0.773*** **
13. Frequency of Abstract Art Gallery Visits	3.5	3	1.76	3	**0.640*** **	0.028	0.014	**0.559*** **	**0.547*** **	**0.672*** **	**0.686*** **
14. Frequency of Museum Visits in General	3.53	3	1.89	3	**0.486*** **	**0.145***	0.79	**0.559*** **	**0.699*** **	**0.773*** **	**0.811*** **
15. Abstract Art at Home	3.21	3	1.88	2	**0.623*** **	-0.135	-0.042	**0.559*** **	**0.385*** **	**0.389*** **	**0.419*** **
16. Abstract Art in Workplace	2.92	2	2.06	3	**0.512*** **	-0.132	0.04	**0.559*** **	**0.413*** **	**0.408*** **	**0.436*** **
17. Representational Art at Home	3.54	3	1.79	3	-0.053	**0.317*** **	0.125	**0.559*** **	**0.150***	**0.207*** *	**0.205*** *
18. Representational Art in Workplace	2.93	2	1.95	3	0.004	0.146	**0.259*** *	**0.559*** **	**0.278*** *	**0.304*** **	**0.315*** **
19. Age	34.59	28.5	14.62	24.25	-0.017	-0.034	**-0.204*** *	**0.559*** **	-0.008	-0.07	-0.055
20. Religion	3.03	2	2.18	4	-0.056	-0.062	**-0.334*** **	**0.559*** **	**-0.148***	-0.018	-0.063
21. Spirituality	3.89	4	2.11	4	0.056	0.103	**-0.183*** *	**0.559*** **	0.057	**0.158***	0.137
22. Education	4.16	4	1.04	2	0.041	-0.072	0.042	**0.559*** **	**0.156***	0.099	0.126
23. Need for Meaning	29.13	29	9.86	17	**-0.394*** **	**0.198*** *	-0.045	**0.559*** **	**-0.35*** **	**-0.22*** *	**-0.281*** **
24. Need for Closure	50.03	49	13.98	21	**-0.243*** **	0.126	-0.119	**0.559*** **	**-0.22*** *	**-0.245*** **	**-0.257*** **
25. Extraversion	4.04	4	1.77	2	0.128	0.062	0.013	**0.559*** **	0.08	**0.208*** *	**0.183***
26. Neuroticism	3.47	3	1.89	3	**-0.318*** **	0.031	0.095	**0.559*** **	**-0.254*** **	**-0.165***	**-0.208*** *
27. Agreeableness	5.27	6	1.59	3	0.009	0.025	**-0.189*** *	**0.559*** **	0.079	0.053	0.066
28. Conscientiousness	5.6	6	1.42	2	0.101	0.041	**-0.192*** *	**0.559*** **	0.086	0.04	0.059
29. Openness	5.37	6	1.76	3	**0.371*** **	0.023	0.094	**0.559*** **	**0.473*** **	**0.437*** **	**0.485*** **
30. Satisfaction with Life	21.59	22	6.93	10	**0.290*** **	0.087	-0.054	**0.559*** **	**0.172***	**0.297*** **	**0.279*** **
31. Death Anxiety	45.9	46	21.8	35	**-0.523*** **	**0.336*** **	-0.045	**0.559*** **	**-0.262*** **	**-0.193*** *	**-0.231*** *

Note. Pearson's r correlations across art-related factors, personality traits and death. (The total sample was composed of N = 197 participants; 119 art experts and 78 lay participants; 145 women, 50 men, 2 non-binary/third gender individuals; M*age* = 34.59). Significant correlations are highlighted: * p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001.

TABLE S4. Bidirectional Stepwise Regression among art-related and general interpersonal factors to determine potential predictors of DA.

Model		Unstandardized	Standard Error	Standardized	t	p
M_4	(Intercept)	4.803	7.579		0.634	0.528
	Need for Meaning	0.928	0.154	0.434	6.007	< .001
	Abstract Art Liking	-2.849	0.681	-0.284	-4.182	< .001
	Need for Closure	0.324	0.105	0.206	3.078	0.003
	Representational Art Liking	1.781	0.739	0.157	2.409	0.018

Note. Results based on a Bidirectional Stepwise Regression. (The total sample was composed of N = 197 participants; 119 art experts and 78 lay participants; 145 women, 50 men, 2 non-binary/third gender individuals; M*age* = 34.59). The final model (M_4) had an R = 0.76 and $R^2 = 0.57$. The adjusted R^2 was 0.55, the RMSE value was 14.66. Notably, this resulted in a very similar set of included factors in the forced entry regression that was previously carried out (Table 3). Overall, the following covariates were considered but not included: Age, Gender, Religion, Spirituality, Education, Life Satisfaction, Illness, Death, Traumatic Events, Art Therapy, Need for Control, Extraversion, Neuroticism, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness, Openness, Negatively-themed Art Liking, 'Meaningless Art Liking, Abstract Art at Home, Abstract Art at Work, Representational Art at Home, Representational Art at Work, Years of Studying Fine Arts, Years of Art Making, Hours of Art Making (per week), Art Knowledge (VAIAK), Art Interest (VAIAK), Frequency of Viewing Abstract Art Images, Frequency of Viewing Art Images in General, Frequency of Abstract Art Gallery Visits, Frequency of Museum Visits in General. The bidirectional stepwise procedure added and removed based on p-value thresholds of .05 for entry and .10 for removal. * Significant predictors were revealed to be the following: Need for meaning (positive predictor) (B = 0.93, SE = 0.15, β = 0.43, t = 6.01, p < .001); Need for closure (positive predictor) (B = 0.32, SE = 0.11, β = 0.21, t = 3.08, p = .003), and again, representational art liking (positive predictor (B = 1.78, SE = 0.74, β = 0.16, t = 2.41, p = .018) and abstract art interest (negative relation) (B = -2.85, SE = 0.68, β = -0.28, t = -4.18, p < .001).

TABLE S5.

Multiple Linear Regression of Relative Art Liking and other Art-Related and Personality/Demographic Predictors of DA.

Factors	Unstandardized	Standard Error	Standardized	*t*	*p*
Final Model (Forced Entry, adj. $R^2 = 0.55$)					
Relative Art Liking	-2.834	0.67	-0.377	-4.227	**<.001***
Need for Meaning	0.866	0.198	0.405	4.378	**< .001***
Excluded					
Education	-2.158	1.623	-0.101	-1.33	0.187
Meaningless' Art Liking	-1.546	1.079	-0.135	-1.432	0.156
Neuroticism	1.810	1.038	0.156	1.744	0.085
Frequency of Museum Visits in General	-0.281	1.802	-0.025	-0.156	0.877
Years of Studying Fine Art	-1.433	1.198	-0.111	-1.196	0.235
Frequency of Viewing Abstract Art Images	1.613	1.282	0.157	1.258	0.211
Religion	0.922	0.725	0.094	1.272	0.207
Frequency of Viewing Art Images in General	0.557	1.235	-0.05	-0.451	0.653
Frequency of Abstract Art Gallery Visits	0.637	1.837	0.052	0.347	0.73
Traumatic Event	-0.666	3.115	-0.015	-0.214	0.831
Abstract Art in Workplace	-0.169	1.391	-0.016	-0.122	0.903
Years of Art Making	0.7	1.041	0.068	0.673	0.503

Hours of Art Making (per week)	0.053	1.428	0.004	0.037	0.97
Abstract Art at Home	0.782	1.574	0.068	0.497	0.62
Art Knowledge (VAIAK)	0.184	0.328	0.066	0.562	0.576
Need for Closure	0.181	0.122	0.115	1.408	0.142
Openness	-0.448	1.135	-0.036	-0.394	0.694
Art Interest (VAIAK)	-0.015	0.198	-0.012	-0.077	0.939
Life Satisfaction	0.034	0.25	0.011	0.137	0.892
Representational Art at Home	-0.978	1.203	-0.08	-0.813	0.418

Note. Multiple regression (forced entry) was carried out to determine possible predictors of DA (dependent variable). Relative art liking was introduced as a possible predictor (compared to abstract art liking and representational art liking being entered independently as in Table 3. The model included all variables that had shown significance independently, i.e. art-related and general interpersonal factors, in independent comparisons (Kendall Tau). The model accounted for a significant proportion of variable in DA levels, R = .80 and R^2 = .65. The adjusted R^2 was 0.55 indicating a robust model fit. The RMSE value was 14.7. Multicolinearity was assessed via VIF and factors were below thresholds. While data was originally not normally distributed, the residuals were normally distributed (assessed via Shapiro Wilk, W = 0.98, p = .155). Results based on N = 197 participants (*N* = 119 art experts, *N* = 78 lay participants).

Participant Information sheet

Study Title: Investigation of Abstract Art Interest

Dear participant,

We would like to invite you to participate in the study mentioned above.

Your participation in this study is voluntary. You can refuse to participate at any time, without having to give a reason, or also withdraw your agreement to participate once the study has already started. There will be no negative consequences for you if you refuse to participate or if you withdraw from this study early.

This study is necessary to gain new, reliable academic research results. However, your written consent to participate in the study is an indispensable prerequisite for us to conduct this study. Please take time to read the following information carefully and do not hesitate to ask questions.

Please only sign the declaration of consent

- if you have fully understood the type and procedure of the study,
- if you are willing to give your consent to participate, and
- if you are aware of your rights as a participant in this study.

1. What is the purpose of this study?

The objective of this experiment is to help us understand the factors that influence our art preferences.

2. What is the procedure of the study?

The study will be completed through the use of questionnaires. We aim to recruit between 200-250 volunteers. In order to take part in the study, you must fit the following inclusion criteria: aged between 18 and 65, fluent in English, no visual impairments that cannot be corrected through the use of contacts or glasses.
Prior to the start of the study, you will be asked to read through the information sheet and the consent form, as well as to sign the consent form. Please note that you can ask any questions regarding the study procedure. Please also understand that participation in this experiment is voluntary and that you are free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason.
During the study, you will sit in a comfortable chair in a silent room. The study will last approximately 20 minutes.

3. What are the benefits of participating in the study?

It is unlikely that you gain any (e.g. health-related) benefits from participating in this study. However, you will gain insight into scientific practice. The results of this study will also provide important insight into the effects of art experience and expertise. Findings might also be used for the development of art-based interventions, while they can also be relevant to art critics, museum curators, and art funding organizations.

4. What are the possible risks of taking part this study? Could I experience any discomfort or other side effects?

Participation in this study is not associated with any foreseeable risks or problematic side effects (e.g. pain, discomfort or violations of personal integrity).
Inclusion criteria for this study are the following: aged between 18 and 65, fluent in English, no visual impairments that cannot be corrected through the use of contacts or glasses and a signed informed consent form. Unfortunately, if you do not fit all the above criteria you will have to be excluded from the study.

5. Will participating in the study have any other effects on my lifestyle? What are the obligations resulting from participating?

Participating in this study will not have any other effects on your lifestyle. No obligations will result from participation.

6. What should I do if I experience symptoms, unwanted side effects and/or injuries?

It is unlikely that you will experience any symptoms, unwanted side effects, or injuries from participating in this study. However, if you experience any symptoms, complaints, unwanted side effects or injuries during the course of the study please report them to the study coordinator.

If you do experience any of the above, please contact one of the following people:

Study coordinator	Name: [redacted for peer review]. E-mail: [redacted for peer review]. Phone: [redacted for peer review].
Other relevant Persons:	Name: [redacted for peer review]. E-mail: [redacted for peer review]. Phone: [redacted for peer review].

7. In what cases is it necessary that participants withdraw from the study early?

As mentioned above, you can withdraw your consent to participate in the study at any time, without having to give a reason. You can also withdraw from the study for personal reasons, without this being to your disadvantage.

Additionally, the study coordinator may decide to terminate your participation if any of the following reasons apply.

a) You do not meet the requirements of the study.

b) The study coordinator has the impression that further participation in the study is not in your best interest.

8. How will the data collected in this study be used?

Data will be collectively analyzed upon completion of this entire phase of the study (i.e. participant recruitment and testing) and will only be passed on for statistical purposes. Please note that your name will never be mentioned in the study, without exception. Even in possible publications of the data collected in the course of this study, no participant' s name will be mentioned, and it will not be possible to draw any conclusions about the participants.

All digital files will be password protected, on non-WAN connected computer server or hard disk, and separated from identifying information which will only be stored in paper copy in a locked storage facility. Access logs will be kept for all stored data. Raw data will be made available only to named researchers in this study or to other members working under the supervision of the named researchers, and only following careful instruction regarding data management procedures.

To maintain anonymity, all data will be encoded with an ID number and all data sheets will be fully anonymous. The linking of the ID numbers to personal data will only be known by individuals performing the study, who have agreed in writing to a confidential treatment of all data, and by the experimenter. Only the experimenter will have access to the list linking ID to a specific person. The data sheets without this list are therefore anonymous. Keeping a list is

necessary for allowing participants future access to their own data or deleting of their data after participation.

No audio or video recording will be made during the study.

If you would like to learn more about the possibility of deleting your data, then please contact one of the following researchers:

Study coordinator	Name: [redacted for peer review]. E-mail: [redacted for peer review]. Phone: [redacted for peer review].
Other relevant Persons:	Name: [redacted for peer review]. E-mail: [redacted for peer review]. Phone: [redacted for peer review].

9. Will there be any costs for the participants? Will they receive reimbursement or remuneration?

You will not incur any costs from participating in this study. You will receive no reimbursement or remuneration for participating.

10. Possibility to discuss further questions

The study coordinator will be happy to answer any further questions you might have about the study. Additionally, any questions about your rights as a participant in this study will of course be answered. Finally, feel free to reach out if you are interested in receiving information about the results of this study.

Name(s) of the contact person(s):

Study coordinator/ Principal investigator	Name: [redacted for peer review]. E-mail: [redacted for peer review]. Phone: [redacted for peer review].
Other relevant persons:	Name: [redacted for peer review]. E-mail: [redacted for peer review]. Phone: [redacted for peer review].