



One of the portraits features Sam Mendes (Nina Mae Fowler, National Portrait Gallery. Photographed by Douglas Atfield)

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Film [directors](#) Sam Mendes, Ken Loach and Sir Ridley Scott found themselves in front of instead of behind the camera in a new display for the National Portrait Gallery in London.

[Artist](#) Nina Mae Fowler invited directors, also including Paul Greengrass and Nick Park, to choose a film of particular significance to them

She recorded their reactions to the films, played during their sittings, on camera and in loose sketches before turning them into charcoal portraits.

The Bourne Ultimatum director Greengrass said: “Directors are more used to [studying](#) others, than being studied.”

Wallace And Gromit creator Park said: “I was absorbed and unaware of being observed and my every reaction, expression and nuance being noted.”

The portraits, which also [feature](#) directors Sally Potter, Joe Wright and Amma Asante, are on display in Luminary Drawings: Portraits of Film Directors by Nina Mae Fowler until October 1.