

3 American presidents' official portraits

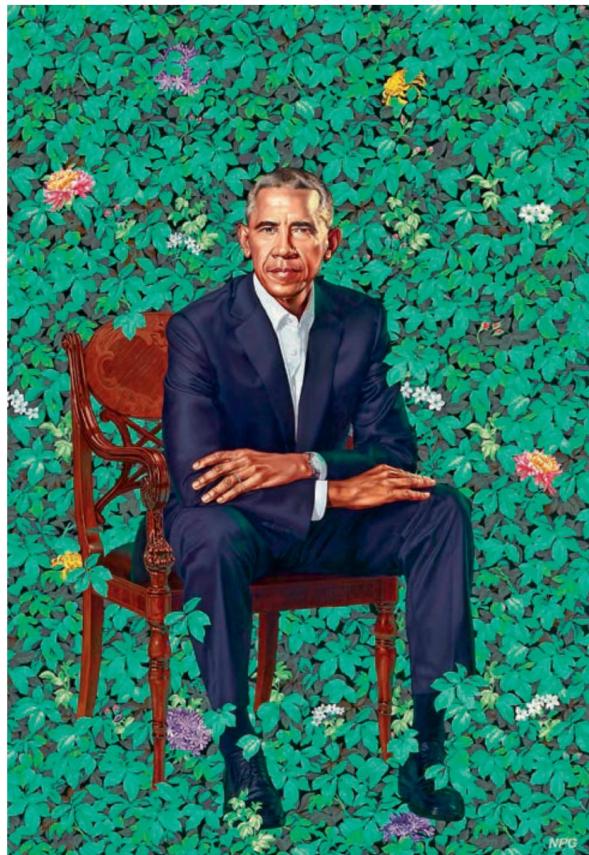
A. Observe these portraits of iconic American presidents. What image does each one convey?

B. Compare these portraits. How do the artists express each president's power?

C. **Have your say.** Which portrait do you prefer? Justify your answer.



*George Washington (Lansdowne portrait),
Gilbert Stuart, 1796*



President Barack Obama, Kehinde Wiley, 2018

HELP!

Nouns

- rainbow
- sword /sɔ:d/

Adjectives

- charismatic /kærɪz'mætɪk/
- colourful
- floral (background)
- self-assured
- solemn /'sələm/

4 Behind the curtains

Turn to [Worksheet n°24](#) to learn the story behind these portraits (historical context, symbolic elements, reactions...). What makes each portrait unique?

YOUR
TURN!

5 Choose the cover for the catalogue

As the curator of the National Portrait Gallery in London, you were asked to choose the portrait that best illustrates the catalogue of the exhibition "Portraits of Power". Explain your choice to the board of directors.