

Andre Malraux

Quotes

Men, Art, World, Artist, Firsts, Destiny, Feelings, Civilization, Order, Important, Age, Struggle, Ideas, Culture, May, Success, Powerful, Inspirational, Dream, Fighting

What is Man? A miserable little pile of secrets.

~Andre Malraux

To command is to serve, nothing more and nothing less.

~Andre Malraux

Culture is the sum of all the forms of art, of love, and of thought, which, in the course of centuries, have enabled man to be less enslaved

~Andre Malraux

There is always a need for intoxication: China has opium, Islam has hashish, the West has woman.

~Andre Malraux

Often the difference between a successful person and a failure is not one has better abilities or ideas, but the courage that one has to bet on one's ideas, to take a calculated risk - and to act.

~Andre Malraux

Man is not what he thinks he is, he is what he hides.

~Andre Malraux

A political leader is necessarily an imposter since he believes in solving life's problems without asking its question.

~Andre Malraux

The twenty-first century will be spiritual or it will not be.

~Andre Malraux

I don't argue with my enemies; I explain to their children.

~Andre Malraux

There's no such thing as a grown up person.

~Andre Malraux

In the realm of human destiny, the depth of man's questionings is more important than his answers.

~Andre Malraux

The first duty of a leader is to make himself be loved without courting love. To be loved without 'playing up' to anyone - even to himself.

~Andre Malraux

To love a painting is to feel that this presence is ... not an object but a voice.

~Andre Malraux

Nothing is harder than to get people to think about what they are going to do.

~Andre Malraux

An art book is a museum without walls.

~Andre Malraux

And when man faces destiny, destiny ends and man comes into his own.

~Andre Malraux

He who has dreamed for long resembles his dream.

~Andre Malraux

An artist discovers his genius the day he dares not to please.

~Andre Malraux

If we cannot shape our destiny there is no such thing as witchcraft.

~Andre Malraux

To understand what the outside of an aquarium looks like, it's better not to be a fish.

~Andre Malraux

The terrible thing about death is that it transforms life into destiny.

~Andre Malraux

In so far as he is a creator, the artist does not belong to a social group already moulded by a culture, but to a culture which he is by way of building up.

~Andre Malraux

The most important thing in life is to see to it that you are never beaten.

~Andre Malraux

The mind supplies the idea of a nation, but what gives this idea its sentimental force is a community of dreams.

~Andre Malraux

If you can't make art, make your life a work of art.

~Andre Malraux

The world of art is not a world of immortality but of metamorphosis.

~Andre Malraux

Christ...an anarchist who succeeded. That's all.

~Andre Malraux

One cannot create an art that speaks to men when one has nothing to say.

~Andre Malraux

Communism destroys democracy. Democracy can also destroy Communism.

~Andre Malraux

Opium teaches only one thing, which is that aside from physical suffering, there is nothing real.

~Andre Malraux

There are not fifty ways of fighting, there's only one, and that's to win. Neither revolution nor war consists in doing what one pleases.

~Andre Malraux

Always, however brutal an age may actually have been, its style transmits its music only.

~Andre Malraux

All art is a revolt against man's fate.

~Andre Malraux

The artist is not the transcriber of the world, he is its rival.

~Andre Malraux

There are not fifty ways of fighting, there is only one: to be the conqueror.

~Andre Malraux

Be careful -- with quotations, you can damn anything.

~Andre Malraux

One can fool life for a long time, but in the end it always makes us what we were intended to be.

~Andre Malraux

The true painter strives to paint what can only be seen through his world.

~Andre Malraux

The crucial discovery was made that, in order to become painting, the

universe seen by the artist had to become a private one created by himself.

~Andre Malraux

The attempt to force human beings to despise themselves is what I call hell.

~Andre Malraux

The truth of a man is first and foremost what he hides.

~Andre Malraux

You can only make art that talks to the masses when you have nothing to say to them.

~Andre Malraux

In ceasing to subordinate creative power to any supreme value, modern art has brought home to us the presence of that creative power throughout the whole history of art.

~Andre Malraux

Every creation is, at its root, the struggle between potential form and imitated form.

~Andre Malraux

Man knows that the world is not made on a human scale; and he wishes that it were.

~Andre Malraux

Youth is a religion from which one always ends up being converted.

~Andre Malraux

Genius is not perfected, it is deepened. It does not so much interpret the world as fertilize itself with it.

~Andre Malraux

The basic problem is that our civilization, which is a civilization of machines, can teach man everything except how to be a man.

~Andre Malraux

The next century's task will be to rediscover its gods.

~Andre Malraux

The only domain where the divine is visible is that of art, whatever name we choose to call it.

~Andre Malraux

If man is not ready to risk his life, where is his dignity?

~Andre Malraux

Between eighteen and twenty, life is like an exchange where one buys stocks, not with money, but with actions. Most men buy nothing.

~Andre Malraux

In art, we are the first heirs of all the earth. . . . Accidents impair and Time transforms, but it is we who choose.

~Andre Malraux

Chanel, General De Gaulle and Picasso are the three most important figures of our time.

~Andre Malraux

The ordinary man puts up a struggle against all that is not himself, whereas it is against himself, in a limited but all-essential field, that the artist has to battle.

~Andre Malraux

Every young man's heart is a graveyard in which are inscribed the names of a thousand dead artists but whose only actual denizens are a few mighty, often antagonistic, ghosts.

~Andre Malraux

Some pictures are in the gallery because they belong to humanity and others because they belong to the United States.

~Andre Malraux

A break in the established order is never the work of chance. It is the outcome of a man's resolve to turn life to account.

~Andre Malraux

Our civilization ... is not devaluing its awareness of the unknowable; nor is it deifying it. It is the first civilization that has severed it from religion and superstition. In order to question it.

~Andre Malraux

No one can endure his own solitude.

~Andre Malraux

War puts its questions stupidly, peace mysteriously.

~Andre Malraux

In a world in which everything is subject to the passing of time, art alone is both subject to time and yet victorious over it.

~Andre Malraux

Our art culture makes no attempt to search the past for precedents, but transforms the entire past into a sequence of provisional responses to a problem that remains intact.

~Andre Malraux

Every great masterpiece is a purification of the world.

~Andre Malraux

Since 1789 history has had a new perspective, revolution being a

successful revolt, and revolt a revolution that has failed.

~Andre Malraux

A large share of our art heritage is now derived from peoples whose idea of art was quite other than ours, and even from peoples to whom the very idea of art meant nothing.

~Andre Malraux

Seldom is a Gothic head more beautiful than when broken.

~Andre Malraux

As for the outside world, the artist is confronted by what he sees; but what he sees is primarily what he looks at.

~Andre Malraux

The truth about a man lies first and foremost in what he hides.

~Andre Malraux

History may clarify our understanding of the supreme work of art, but can never account for it completely; for the Time of art is not the same as the Time of history.

~Andre Malraux

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