Art, Artist, Believe, Ideas, Thinking, Ruins, Space, Heaven, Giving, House, People, Book, Children, Facts, Political, Skills, Sometimes, Interesting, Age, Germany

I am interested in reconstructing symbols. It's about connecting with an older knowledge and trying to discover continuities in why we search for heaven.

~Anselm Kiefer

Ruins, for me, are the beginning. With the debris, you can construct new ideas. They are symbols of a beginning.

~Anselm Kiefer

Buying art is not understanding art.

~Anselm Kiefer

Art is longing. You never arrive, but you keep going in the hope that you will.

~Anselm Kiefer

As a child I had no toys; our house was bombed, but there were lots of bricks. Ruins are wonderful because they are the beginning of something new, you can do something with them.

~Anselm Kiefer

But I believe above all that I wanted to build the palace of my memory, because my memory is my only homeland.

~Anselm Kiefer

I believe art has to take responsibility but it should not give up being art.

~Anselm Kiefer

When, at the end of the 1960s, I became interested in the Nazi era, it was a taboo subject in Germany. No one spoke about it anymore, no more in my house than anywhere else.

~Anselm Kiefer

History speaks to artists. It changes the artist's thinking and is constantly reshaping it into different and unexpected images.

~Anselm Kiefer

I believe in empty spaces; they're the most wonderful thing.

~Anselm Kiefer

History is formed by the people, those who have power and those without power. Each one of us makes history.

~Anselm Kiefer

If I do something that depresses, it's not because I'm depressed, but because political life and history is depressing.

~Anselm Kiefer

The book, the idea of a book or the image of a book, is a symbol of learning, of transmitting knowledge.. I make my own books to find my way through the old stories.

~Anselm Kiefer

Life is an illusion. I am held together in the nothingness by art.

~Anselm Kiefer

I never see a forest that does not bear a mark or a sign of history.

~Anselm Kiefer

When knowledge becomes rigid, it stops living.

~Anselm Kiefer

Art is difficult. Its not entertainment.

~Anselm Kiefer

Art really is something very difficult. It is difficult to make, and it is sometimes difficult for the viewer to understand. It is difficult to work out

what is art and what is not art.

~Anselm Kiefer

I might have been born into a very literal sense of chaos, but in fact that state is true of all of us.

~Anselm Kiefer

Art maybe the only space where an indvidual can be utterly free to question himself, as well as his relationship to his God

~Anselm Kiefer

I grew up in a forest. It's like a room. It's protected. Like a cathedral... it is a place between heaven and earth.

~Anselm Kiefer

Because of my Calvinistic upbringing, I was trained to think that what you do has to have a purpose.

~Anselm Kiefer

Not content, but the road the artist takes, is the interesting part.

~Anselm Kiefer

I am against the idea of the end, that everything culminates in paradise or judgment.

~Anselm Kiefer

When I see a new artist I give myself a lot of time to reflect and decide whether it's art or not.

~Anselm Kiefer

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