

Artie Shaw

Quotes

Music, Jazz, Swings, Artist, Thinking, Clarinet, Firsts, Trying, Band, Has Beens, Writing, Play, Running, Musician, Needs, Country, Playing Music, Stars, Funny Marriage, Why Not

'Swing' is an adjective or a verb, not a noun. All jazz musicians should swing. There is no such thing as a 'swing band' in music.

~Artie Shaw

If you don't see the wonder in the most ordinary phenomenon, you're not going to resonate very much.

~Artie Shaw

If you wanna dance, a windshield wiper'll do it-all you need is a beat.

~Artie Shaw

I did all you can do with a clarinet. Any more would have been less.

~Artie Shaw

Jazz was born out of the whiskey bottle, was raised on marijuana, and will expire on cocaine.

~Artie Shaw

You have no idea of the women I didn't marry.

~Artie Shaw

An audience is in many respects no more than a mob under loose control.

~Artie Shaw

The good old days are neither better nor worse than the ones we're living through right now.

~Artie Shaw

An entertainer pleases others while an artist only has to please himself.

~Artie Shaw

Somebody asked me once, 'Do you think that swing will ever come

back?' And I said, 'Do you think the 1938 Ford will ever come back?'

~Artie Shaw

An artist should write for himself & not for an audience. If the audience likes it, great. If not, they can keep away.

~Artie Shaw

Listening to Benny [Goodman] talk about the clarinet was like listening to a surgeon get hung up on a scalpel.

~Artie Shaw

I like the music. I love it & live it in fact. But for me the business part of music just plain stinks.

~Artie Shaw

If I could have done anything more, it would have been less

~Artie Shaw

I was really running a music school back then, because my band wasn't making any money. I keep talking about money, because most people don't understand the part of money in running a band.

~Artie Shaw

I can't understand guys who just have to have your autograph. What do you do when you get home, take it out & look at it?

~Artie Shaw

Benny Goodman plays the clarinet. I play music.

~Artie Shaw

It ["Begin the Beguine"] became such a hit that it superseded anything that any band had ever had. It was the first time that a so-called swing band played something melodic and still gave it a beat.

~Artie Shaw

I wanted to resign from the planet, not just music. It stopped being fun with success. Money got in the way. Everybody got greedy, including me. Fear set in. I got miserable when I became a commodity.

~Artie Shaw

I think that band [Glenn Miller] was the beginning of the end. It was a mechanized version of what they called jazz music. I still can't stand to listen to it.

~Artie Shaw

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