

Bernard Berenson

Quotes

Art, Men, Hands, Believe, Doe, Passion, Government, Lying, Mind, People, Time, Life, Together, Self, Appreciate, Way, Taxation, Parody, Funeral, Quality

Miracles happen to those who believe in them.

~Bernard Berenson

No artifact is a work of art if it does not help to humanize us. Without art...our world would have remained a jungle.

~Bernard Berenson

You can parody and make fun of almost anything, but that does not turn the universe into a caricature.

~Bernard Berenson

Consistency requires you to be as ignorant today as you were a year ago.

~Bernard Berenson

Psychoanalysts are not occupied with the minds of their patients; they do not believe in the mind but in a cerebral intestine.

~Bernard Berenson

A complete life may be one ending in so full an identification with the oneself that there is no self left to die.

~Bernard Berenson

I would I could stand on a busy corner, hat in hand, and beg people to throw me all their wasted hours.

~Bernard Berenson

Literature in its most comprehensive sense is the autobiography of humanity.

~Bernard Berenson

There are two futures, the future of desire and the future of fate, and man's reason has never learnt to separate them.

~Bernard Berenson

It makes me happy to encounter goodness, love of work, humane intelligence, and people no matter at what kind of job, be it ever so humble, or ever so exalted, who do it well and con amore.

~Bernard Berenson

Boast is always a cry of despair, except in the young it is a cry of hope.

~Bernard Berenson

I wonder whether art has a higher function than to make me feel, appreciate, and enjoy natural objects for their art value?

~Bernard Berenson

International affairs will be placed on a better footing when it is understood that there is no way of punishing a people for the crimes of its rulers.

~Bernard Berenson

I am only a picture-taster, the way others are wine-or tea-tasters.

~Bernard Berenson

Taste begins when appetite is satisfied.

~Bernard Berenson

Genius is the capacity for productive reaction against one's training.

~Bernard Berenson

The ultimate justification of the work of art is to help the spectator to become a work of art himself.

~Bernard Berenson

Art is mind and heart and touch as much and more than it is mere instrument, technique - without which however it cannot exist at all.

~Bernard Berenson

When everything else physical and mental seems to diminish, the appreciation of beauty is on the increase.

~Bernard Berenson

Life has taught me that it is not for our faults that we are disliked and even hated, but for our qualities.

~Bernard Berenson

From childhood on I have had the dream of life lived as a sacrament... the dream implied taking life ritually as something holy.

~Bernard Berenson

The average European does not seem to feel free until he succeeds in enslaving and oppressing others.

~Bernard Berenson

We usually meet all of our relatives only at funerals where somebody always observes: "Too bad we can't get together more often".

~Bernard Berenson

In figure painting, the type of all painting, I have endeavoured to set forth that the principal if not sole source of life enchantments are Tactile Values, Movement and Space Composition.

~Bernard Berenson

Government lasts as long as the under-taxed can defend themselves against the over-taxed.

~Bernard Berenson

Miracles happen to those who believe in them. Otherwise why does not the Virgin Mary appear to Lamaists, Mohammedans, or Hindus who have never heard of her.

~Bernard Berenson

I would willingly stand at street corners, hat in hand, begging passerby to drop their unused minutes into it.

~Bernard Berenson

One can repent even of having repented.

~Bernard Berenson

Between truth and the search for it, I choose the second.

~Bernard Berenson

[Describing his house:] It is a library with living rooms attached.

~Bernard Berenson

I never felt that there was anything enviable in youth. I cannot recall that any of us, as youths, admired our condition to excess or had a desire to prolong it.

~Bernard Berenson

Not what man knows but what man feels, concerns art. All else is science.

~Bernard Berenson

Government is the art of the momentary feasible, of the least bad attainable, and not of the rationally most desirable.

~Bernard Berenson

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