

Claude Monet Quotes

*Painting, Art, Light, Thinking, Garden, Flower, Long, Paint, Color, People,
Water, Done, Blue, Nature, Finishing, Taken, Beautiful, Landscape, Reflection,
Giving*

To see we must forget the name of the thing we are looking at.

~Claude Monet

Everyone discusses my art and pretends to understand, as if it were necessary to understand, when it is simply necessary to love.

~Claude Monet

I must have flowers, always, and always.

~Claude Monet

It's on the strength of observation and reflection that one finds a way. So we must dig and delve unceasingly.

~Claude Monet

All I did was to look at what the universe showed me, to let my brush bear witness to it.

~Claude Monet

The light constantly changes, and that alters the atmosphere and beauty of things every minute.

~Claude Monet

Light is the most important person in the picture.

~Claude Monet

Every day I discover more and more beautiful things. It's enough to drive one mad. I have such a desire to do everything, my head is bursting with it.

~Claude Monet

It is a tragedy that we live in a world where physical courage is so common, and moral courage is so rare.

~Claude Monet

I would like to paint the way a bird sings.

~Claude Monet

It is better to have done something than to have been someone.

~Claude Monet

Everything changes, even stone.

~Claude Monet

My only desire is an intimate infusion with nature, and the only fate I wish is to have worked and lived in harmony with her laws.

~Claude Monet

Critic asks: 'And what, sir, is the subject matter of that painting?' - 'The subject matter, my dear good fellow, is the light.'

~Claude Monet

I would advise young artists to paint as they can, as long as they can, without being afraid of painting badly.

~Claude Monet

I didn't become an impressionist. As long as I can remember I always have been one.

~Claude Monet

It took me time to understand my water lilies. I had planted them for the pleasure of it; I grew them without ever thinking of painting them.

~Claude Monet

All of a sudden I had the revelation of how enchanting my pond was.

~Claude Monet

I am good at only two things, and those are gardening and painting.

~Claude Monet

What I need most of all is color, always, always.

~Claude Monet

I had so much fire in me and so many plans.

~Claude Monet

By the single example of this painter devoted to his art with such independence, my destiny as a painter opened out to me.

~Claude Monet

The richness I achieve comes from nature, the source of my inspiration.

~Claude Monet

No one is an artist unless he carries his picture in his head before painting it, and is sure of his method and composition.

~Claude Monet

I'm enjoying the most perfect tranquillity, free from all worries, and in consequence would like to stay this way forever, in a peaceful corner of the countryside like this.

~Claude Monet

I perhaps owe having become a painter to flowers.

~Claude Monet

My garden is my most beautiful masterpiece

~Claude Monet

It's enough to drive you crazy, trying to depict the weather, the atmosphere, the ambience.

~Claude Monet

My heart is forever in Giverny.

~Claude Monet

I'm not performing miracles, I'm using up and wasting a lot of paint.

~Claude Monet

Listening only to my instincts, I discovered superb things.

~Claude Monet

I'm continuing to work hard, not without periods of discouragement, but my strength comes back again.

~Claude Monet

Now I really feel the landscape, I can be bold and include every tone of pink and blue: it's enchanting, it's delicious, and I hope it will please you.

~Claude Monet

A good impression is lost so quickly.

~Claude Monet

I am very depressed and deeply disgusted with painting. It is really a continual torture.

~Claude Monet

I haven't many years left ahead of me and I must devote all my time to painting, in the hope of achieving something worthwhile in the end, something if possible that will satisfy me.

~Claude Monet

The real subject of every painting is light.

~Claude Monet

My work is always better when I am alone and follow my own impressions.

~Claude Monet

Nature won't be summoned to order and won't be kept waiting. It must be caught, well caught.

~Claude Monet

I'm never finished with my paintings; the further I get, the more I seek the impossible and the more powerless I feel.

~Claude Monet

Color is my day-long obsession, joy and torment.

~Claude Monet

Impressionism is only direct sensation. All great painters were less or more impressionists. It is mainly a question of instinct, and much simpler than [John Singer] Sargent thinks.

~Claude Monet

Lots of people will protest that it's quite unreal and that I'm out of my mind, but that's just too bad

~Claude Monet

I waited for the idea to consolidate, for the grouping and composition of themes to settle themselves in my brain.

~Claude Monet

When it is dark, it seems to me as if I were dying, and I can't think any more.

~Claude Monet

Without the fog, London would not be a beautiful city. It is fog that gives it its magnificent amplitude...its regular and massive blocks become grandiose in that mysterious mantle.

~Claude Monet

I don't think I'm made for any earthly kind of pleasure.

~Claude Monet

Zaandam has enough to paint for a lifetime.

~Claude Monet

Colors pursue me like a constant worry. They even worry me in my sleep.

~Claude Monet

I'm knocked out, I've never felt so physically and mentally exhausted, I'm quite stupid with it and long only for bed; but I am happy.

~Claude Monet

One can do something if one can see and understand it.

~Claude Monet

When I work I forget all the rest.

~Claude Monet

I'm in fine fettle and fired with a desire to paint.

~Claude Monet

Nothing in the whole world is of interest to me but my painting and my flowers.

~Claude Monet

I am following Nature without being able to grasp her, I perhaps owe having become a painter to flowers.

~Claude Monet

These landscapes of water and reflection have become an obsession.

~Claude Monet

One day Boudin said to me, 'Learn to draw well and appreciate the sea, the light, the blue sky.' I took his advice.

~Claude Monet

I am pleased with the exhibition... everything on display was sold for a good price to decent people. It has been a long time since I believed that you could educate public taste.

~Claude Monet

I've done what I could as a painter and that seems to me to be sufficient. I don't want to be compared to the great masters of the past, and my painting is open to criticism; that's enough.

~Claude Monet

I sometimes feel ashamed that I am devoting myself to artistic pursuits while so many of our people are suffering and dying for us. It's true that fretting never did any good.

~Claude Monet

Perhaps it's true that I'm very hard on myself, but that's better than exhibiting mediocre work... too few were satisfactory enough to trouble the public with.

~Claude Monet

For me, the subject is of secondary importance: I want to convey what is alive between me and the subject.

~Claude Monet

The point is to know how to use the colours, the choice of which is, when all's said and done, a matter of habit.

~Claude Monet

One's better off alone, and yet there are so many things that are impossible to fathom on one's own. In fact it's a terrible business and

the task is a hard one.

~Claude Monet

If only the weather would improve, there'd be hope of some work, but every day brings rain.

~Claude Monet

I can only draw what I see.

~Claude Monet

the more I live, the more I regret how little i know

~Claude Monet

The only merit I have is to have painted directly from nature with the aim of conveying my impressions in front of the most fugitive effects.

~Claude Monet

Apart from painting and gardening, I'm not good at anything.

~Claude Monet

While adding the finishing touches to a painting might appear insignificant, it is much harder to do than one might suppose.

~Claude Monet

I still don't know where I am going to sleep tomorrow.

~Claude Monet

I despise the opinion of the press and the so-called critics.

~Claude Monet

I work at my garden all the time and with love. What I need most are flowers, always. My heart is forever in Giverny.

~Claude Monet

For me, a landscape does not exist in its own right, since its appearance changes at any moment.

~Claude Monet

My eyes were finally opened and I understood nature. I learned at the same time to love it.

~Claude Monet

I'm getting so slow at my work it makes me despair, but... I'm increasingly obsessed by the need to render what I experience, and I'm praying that I'll have a few more good years left to me.

~Claude Monet

My life has been nothing but a failure.

~Claude Monet

The older I become the more I realize of that I have to work very hard to reproduce what I search: the instantaneous. The influence of the atmosphere on the things and the light scattered throughout.

~Claude Monet

I have once more taken up things that can't be done: water with grasses weaving on the bottom. But I'm always tackling that sort of thing!

~Claude Monet

It would be a very bad idea... to exhibit even a small number of this new series, as the whole effect can only be achieved from an exhibition of the entire group.

~Claude Monet

These landscapes of water and reflections have become an obsession. It's quite beyond my powers at my age, and yet I want to succeed in expressing what I feel.

~Claude Monet

I still have a lot of pleasure doing them, but as time goes by I come to appreciate more clearly which paintings are good and which should be discarded.

~Claude Monet

I want to paint the air in which the bridge, the house and the boat are to be found - the beauty of the air around them, and that is nothing less than the impossible.

~Claude Monet

Techniques vary, art stays the same; it is a transposition of nature at once forceful and sensitive.

~Claude Monet

I'm very happy, very delighted. I'm setting to like a fighting cockerel, for I'm surrounded here by all that I love.

~Claude Monet

It seems to me that when I see nature I see it ready-made, completely written - but then, try to do it!

~Claude Monet

Getting up at 4 in the morning, I slave away all day until by the evening I'm exhausted, and I end by forgetting all my responsibilities, thinking only of the work I've set out to do.

~Claude Monet

Gardening was something I learned in my youth when I was unhappy. I perhaps owe having become a painter to flowers.

~Claude Monet

To have gone to all this trouble to get to this is just too stupid! Outside

there's brilliant sunshine but I don't feel up to looking at it.

~Claude Monet

I intend to do a large painting of the cliff at Etretat, although it is terribly bold of me to do so after Courbet has painted it so admirably, but I will try to do it in a different way.

~Claude Monet

I can no longer work outside because of the intensity of the light.

~Claude Monet

I would love to do orange and lemon trees silhouetted against the blue sea, but I cannot find them the way I want them.

~Claude Monet

I think only of my painting, and if I were to drop it, I think I'd go crazy.

~Claude Monet

I've spent so long on some paintings that I no longer know what to think of them, and I am definitely getting harder to please; nothing satisfies me.

~Claude Monet

It would be asking too much to want to sell only to connoisseurs - that way starvation lies.

~Claude Monet

I'm quite content: although what I'm doing is far from being as I should like, I am complemented often enough all the same.

~Claude Monet

I've always refused requests even from friends to employ a technique I know nothing about.

~Claude Monet

What can be said about a man who is interested in nothing but his painting? It's a pity if a man can only interest himself in one thing. But I can't do any thing else. I have only one interest.

~Claude Monet

Work is nearly always a torture. If I could find something else I would be much happier, because I could use this other interest as a form of relaxation. Now I cannot relax.

~Claude Monet

Despite my exhaustion I have a devil of a time getting to sleep because of the rats above my bed and a pig who lives beneath my room.

~Claude Monet

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