

Damien Hirst

Quotes

*Art, Thinking, People, Believe, Ideas, Way, Artist, Kind, Answers, Term, Stuff,
Painting, Real, Sometimes, Names, Want, Waiting, Feels, Writing, Medicine*

It's such a crass idea - you're either in love or out of love.

~Damien Hirst

I can't understand why most people believe in medicine and don't believe in art, without questioning either.

~Damien Hirst

I have always been aware that you have to get people listening before you can change their minds. Any artist's big fear is being ignored, so if you get debate, that's great.

~Damien Hirst

It's very easy to say, 'I could have done that,' after someone's done it. But I did it. You didn't. It didn't exist until I did it.

~Damien Hirst

I think as an artist you have to reinvent yourself every day.

~Damien Hirst

Painting is so poetic, while sculpture is more logical and scientific and makes you worry about gravity.

~Damien Hirst

You've really got to get down on the floor with yourself and get low in order to make great art. I think you've just got to accept who you are and do the most unbelievable things.

~Damien Hirst

I sometimes feel that I have nothing to say and I want to communicate this.

~Damien Hirst

I believe all painting and art should be uplifting for the viewer.

~Damien Hirst

I love color. I feel it inside me. It gives me a buzz.

~Damien Hirst

So smoking is the perfect way to commit suicide without actually dying. I smoke because it's bad, it's really simple.

~Damien Hirst

I realised that you couldn't use the tools of yesterday to communicate today's world. Basically, that was the big light that went on in my head.

~Damien Hirst

The idea is more important than the object.

~Damien Hirst

I think art is good at looking back and looking forward. I don't think art is good at looking head-on. At the end of the day, people are more important than paintings.

~Damien Hirst

Art comes from everywhere. It's your response to your surroundings.

~Damien Hirst

I wanted a shark that's big enough to eat you, and in a large enough amount of liquid so that you could imagine you were in there with it.

~Damien Hirst

I just wanted to find out where the boundaries were. So far I've found there aren't any. I just wanted to be stopped, and no one will stop me.

~Damien Hirst

I mean, people listen to music, and they like that, but I think in England, a lot of people don't like contemporary art.

~Damien Hirst

I think suicide is the most perfect thing you can do in life.

~Damien Hirst

I think money is important for everyone, because the lack of it is so painful.

~Damien Hirst

It's amazing what you can do with an E in A-Level art, a twisted imagination and a chainsaw.

~Damien Hirst

Being best is a false goal, you have to measure success on your own terms.

~Damien Hirst

I like the confusion you get between science and religion â€¦ that's where belief lies and art as well.

~Damien Hirst

But the answer to how to live is to stop thinking about it. And just to live. But you're doing that anyway. However you intellectualise it, you still just live.

~Damien Hirst

I did a load of medicine cabinets a long time ago and I named them after Sex Pistols songs. I suppose I must be getting old if I'm naming work after Philip Larkin poems.

~Damien Hirst

I've never learned to drive because I get lots of ideas when I'm a passenger in a car. I love to get in a car with a driver and just think and work things out.

~Damien Hirst

Since I was a child, death is definitely something that I think about every day. But I think that everybody does. You try and avoid it, but it's such a big thing that you can't.

~Damien Hirst

The goal in life is to be solid, whereas the way that life works is totally fluid, so you can never actually achieve that goal.

~Damien Hirst

But I'm more interested in why people are frightened by Jaws and why Jaws was such a hit than saying Spielberg's my main influence.

~Damien Hirst

I think an ashtray is the most fantastically real thing.

~Damien Hirst

It's ridiculous what I do. I can't believe in it - but I have to.

~Damien Hirst

Sometimes when you're drunk you can see better.

~Damien Hirst

Commercials are so contemporary and up to date that when you're involved in that visual world, you can't really go backwards.

~Damien Hirst

As an artist, you don't stop making art because people are not buying it.

~Damien Hirst

Buy art, build a museum, put your name on it, let people in for free. That's as close as you can get to immortality.

~Damien Hirst

The best spot painting you can have by me is one painted by Rachel.

~Damien Hirst

I always feel like the art's there and I just see it, so it's not really a lot of work.

~Damien Hirst

If the choice is between buying another building or a Pollock, I'd go for the Pollock every time.

~Damien Hirst

When we are no longer children, we are already dead.

~Damien Hirst

When it comes to the British monarchy, I prefer to be seduced by an image than presented with a real person. It's kind of a Warhol thing.

~Damien Hirst

I did a butterfly show in Berlin, and we had a guy who's an expert on butterflies; who bred them all and who looks after them all in the space.

~Damien Hirst

Artists are like everybody else.

~Damien Hirst

But then architects don't build their own houses.

~Damien Hirst

But for me, from my point of view, I don't mind if it falls over... if you break the glass you replace the glass, if the sheep falls out you can always get a new sheep.

~Damien Hirst

You can always tell a great painting, because when you get close there

are all these nervous marks.

~Damien Hirst

The spot paintings, the spin paintings, they're all a mechanical way to avoid the actual guy in a room, myself, with a blank canvas.

~Damien Hirst

I don't really have a career plan.

~Damien Hirst

Because it's visual art, a lot of it comes from childhood experience but then a lot comes from the visual language - in advertising and stuff like that - which is around us.

~Damien Hirst

Art goes on in your head. If you said something interesting, that might be a title for a work of art and I'd write it down.

~Damien Hirst

Immortality is really desirable, I guess. In terms of images, anyway.

~Damien Hirst

But I could never make a judgement that something was obscene.

~Damien Hirst

You've got to be able to copy things faithfully before you can deviate.

~Damien Hirst

In an artwork you're always looking for artistic decisions, so an ashtray is perfect. An ashtray has got life and death.

~Damien Hirst

When you've just done it, you're not sure. But when you've sat with it for a couple of hours and you don't want to do anything more to it, that's

a great feeling. It can stand on its own two feet.

~Damien Hirst

What I really like is minimum effort for maximum effect.

~Damien Hirst

Never let money get in the way of an idea

~Damien Hirst

It'd be nice to make lots of money but it's quite difficult, because every time I make lots of money I make a bigger piece that costs lots of money.

~Damien Hirst

There's always something you missed or something you didn't notice or somehow you got wrong... I don't really have a beginning.

~Damien Hirst

I love art. It is uplifting.

~Damien Hirst

The answer to how to live is to stop thinking about it.

~Damien Hirst

I don't see what else you can spend your money on... If you want to own things, art is a pretty good bet.

~Damien Hirst

Great art - or good art - is when you look at it, experience it and it stays in your mind. I don't think conceptual art and traditional art are all that different.

~Damien Hirst

Whenever I've been well-known or hitting the press, I've always had to

get my credit card out to prove I'm Damien Hirst.

~Damien Hirst

I quite like it to be risky. I'm not ready to sit down in a chair with my name on it yet. I've arrived at that point in the art world where there really is a chair that you sit in.

~Damien Hirst

As a father, I would say I am more like a mother. I do a lot of hugging.

~Damien Hirst

I just do what everybody asks me to do, in terms of media and stuff.

~Damien Hirst

Sensation is an element of what I do, and why not? It's not sensational for the sake of being sensational, but it's sensational art... It's like touching skin.

~Damien Hirst

I have titles floating around in my head; I have sculptures floating around in my head. It's like a collage.

~Damien Hirst

I'm 43. I'm not ready to sit down in a chair with my name on it yet.

~Damien Hirst

A painting probably is the most shocking increase in value, from what it costs to make to what you sell it for.

~Damien Hirst

A lot of people thought I wasn't doing anything because I was spending a lot of time socialising and going out, but I've always managed to get work actually done.

~Damien Hirst

But whenever I look at the question of how to live, the answer's always staring me in the face. I'm already doing it.

~Damien Hirst

In fact, the first piece of art I ever sold, I paid someone else to make the next one, so I could actually keep going out drinking.

~Damien Hirst

I was brought up Catholic, and I felt the power of art from a very young age - seeing the brutality of all those images of flayed apostles and tortured saints was a pretty strong introduction.

~Damien Hirst

I used to watch 'Top of the Pops' when I was a kid and say 'Yeah!' or 'Boo!' at every single song. So there was nothing in the middle. You brutally put it on one side or another.

~Damien Hirst

I liked The Beatles a lot when I was growing up.

~Damien Hirst

I don't think I'd want my pet in formaldehyde, but I guess in America they would.

~Damien Hirst

Picasso, Michelangelo, possibly, might be verging on genius, but I don't think a painter like Rembrandt is a genius.

~Damien Hirst

I can't wait to get into a position to make really bad art and get away with it.

~Damien Hirst

I always ignore money.

~Damien Hirst

The infinite possibilities. That's what used to do my nut in.

~Damien Hirst

I think I like big issues, but I don't believe in God or religion.

~Damien Hirst

I used to believe I was going to live forever. And then you suddenly become aware that you're not.

~Damien Hirst

I definitely think about death. And every day your relationship with death changes. And every day I sort of feel like I know it more. I've always thought about it.

~Damien Hirst

As soon as something becomes art I think you get over the fear

~Damien Hirst

You have to step over the boundaries sometimes just to find out where they are.

~Damien Hirst

Death's just something that inspires me, not something that pulls me down. I used to get called morbid at school. I have always loved horror films; I like being frightened.

~Damien Hirst

For me, art is always a kind of theater.

~Damien Hirst

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