

Dana Gioia

Quotes

*Art, Names, Real, Poetry, Stories, Poet, Culture, Understanding, Voice, Speak,
Essence, Cutting, Sound, Secret Identity, Dark, Cousin, Apology, Dumb, Age,
Special*

There are some truths about life that can be expressed only as stories, or songs, or images. Art delights, instructs, consoles. It educates our emotions.

~Dana Gioia

Money. You don't know where it's been, but you put it where your mouth is. And it talks!

~Dana Gioia

The new year always brings us what we want Simply by bringing us along—^{to see} A calendar with every day uncrossed, A field of snow without a single footprint.

~Dana Gioia

Everyone enjoys stories of double lives and secret identities. Children have Superman; intellectuals have Wallace Stevens.

~Dana Gioia

Poetry offers a way of understanding and expressing existence that is fundamentally different from conceptual thought.

~Dana Gioia

Teach us the names of what we have destroyed.

~Dana Gioia

My blessed California, you are so wise. You render death abstract, efficient, clean. Your afterlife is only real estate, And in his kingdom Death must stay unseen.

~Dana Gioia

Art is an irreplaceable way of understanding and expressing the world.

~Dana Gioia

We offer you the landscape of your birth -- Exquisite and despoiled.

We all share blame. We cannot ask forgiveness of the earth For killing what we cannot even name.

~Dana Gioia

Poetry speaks most effectively and inclusively (whether in free or formal verse) when it recognizes its connection - without apology - to its musical and ritualistic origins.

~Dana Gioia

The music that of common speech but slanted so that each detail sounds unexpected as a sharp inserted in a simple scale.

~Dana Gioia

In America, the term younger poet is applied with chivalric liberality. It can be used to describe anyone not yet collecting a Social Security pension.

~Dana Gioia

We are not as we were. Death has been our pentecost.

~Dana Gioia

Poetry is not a creed or dogma. It is a special way of speaking and listening.

~Dana Gioia

What we conceal Is always more than what we dare confide. Think of the letters that we write our dead.

~Dana Gioia

Being so deeply rooted in one place and culture allows a genuine writer to experiment wildly with the material without ever losing touch with its essence.

~Dana Gioia

To speak from a particular place and time is not provincialism but part of a writer's identity.

~Dana Gioia

Old empires always appeal to modern poets more than new ones.

~Dana Gioia

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