

Dave Brubeck

Quotes

Jazz, Music, Play, Hate, Believe, Player, People, Thinking, Writing, Musician, Piano, Mother, Discipline, Want, War, Art, California, Night, Years, Rock N Roll

Jazz stands for freedom. It's supposed to be the voice of freedom: Get out there and improvise, and take chances, and don't be a perfectionist - leave that to the classical musicians.

~Dave Brubeck

Jazz is about the only form of art existing today in which there is freedom of the individual without the loss of group contact.

~Dave Brubeck

Kinship doesn't come from skin color. It's in your soul and your mind.

~Dave Brubeck

Damn it, when I'm bombastic, I have my reasons. I want to be bombastic-take it or leave it.

~Dave Brubeck

It's like a whole orchestra, the piano for me.

~Dave Brubeck

The secret of a great melody is a secret.

~Dave Brubeck

I'm always hoping for the nights that are inspired where you almost have an out of body experience

~Dave Brubeck

Jazz is about freedom within discipline.

~Dave Brubeck

I have more energy at the end than I do at the beginning. You can be so beat up that you can scarcely walk on stage but when you get to the piano the excitement kicks in, you forget about being tired.

~Dave Brubeck

Don't be a perfectionist... leave that to the classical musicians.

~Dave Brubeck

We don't know the power that's within our own bodies

~Dave Brubeck

Every individual should be expressing themselves, whether a politician or a minister or a policeman.

~Dave Brubeck

And there is a time where you can be beyond yourself. You can be better than your technique. You can be better than most of your usual ideas. And this is a whole other category that you can get into.

~Dave Brubeck

When things are going well, I hate to quit.

~Dave Brubeck

Probably the most profound thing in the Bible is 'Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.' This is what, to me, is the essence of Christianity.

~Dave Brubeck

Do you think Duke Ellington didn't listen to Debussy? Louis Armstrong loved opera, did you know that? Name me a jazz pianist who wasn't influenced by European music!

~Dave Brubeck

I prefer no one to teach me. I prefer to swing on my own.

~Dave Brubeck

I'm beginning to understand myself. But it would have been great to be able to understand myself when I was 20 rather than when I was 82.

~Dave Brubeck

Jazz stands for freedom.

~Dave Brubeck

I wanted to be like my father, who was a cattle man and a rodeo roper. And that was - he was my hero, and I wanted to be more like him.

~Dave Brubeck

The first choral music I remember hearing was Handel's 'Messiah' when the Mormon Tabernacle Choir broadcast it over the radio.

~Dave Brubeck

The worst thing about the life of a jazz musician on the road is getting to the gig. Once you're there and playing, it's marvelous.

~Dave Brubeck

I had the first integrated Army band in World War II.

~Dave Brubeck

My own Brubeck Institute in California is turning out fantastic young jazz players, and I know great things will happen.

~Dave Brubeck

It's like a whole orchestra, the piano for me. And also it's to me the greatest instrument. I shouldn't say that, but I believe that this is the only instrument I can really feel happy about playing.

~Dave Brubeck

When I was 20, Shostakovich was my favorite composer. I still find his Fifth Symphony wonderful, with its outstanding themes and rhythms. That's the piece that made me want to be a classical composer.

~Dave Brubeck

I knew I wanted to write on religious themes when I was a GI in World War II. I saw and experienced so much violence that I thought I could

express my outrage best with music.

~Dave Brubeck

I never wanted this kind of life that I'm still living.

~Dave Brubeck

I knew even if I'm a cowboy, I'm going to be involved in jazz in some way.

~Dave Brubeck

Most of the international acceptance of jazz education can be traced to the University of North Texas, Denton, Texas, and the wonderful program they inaugurated.

~Dave Brubeck

My mother Elizabeth Ivey Brubeck was a pianist who studied with Dame Myra Hess and Tobias Matthay. As a child in California I used to listen to her play Chopin.

~Dave Brubeck

If I told you all the people that have secretly told me I've influenced them, you'd never believe it, and you'll never see it in print, either.

~Dave Brubeck

You could play probably a span of 50 years of me playing St. Louis Blues, and most of the time it will be different every time.

~Dave Brubeck

When you hear Bach or Mozart, you hear perfection. Remember that Bach, Mozart and Beethoven were great improvisers. I can hear that in their music.

~Dave Brubeck

Concord, California was a great place to grow up.

~Dave Brubeck

You have to be taught to hate.

~Dave Brubeck

What I want to happen is to be really creative, and to play something new in the improvisations, every time.

~Dave Brubeck

When I was first aware that I couldn't read music I didn't know I couldn't read because I could play the music that was in front of me.

~Dave Brubeck

Your mother's heartbeat is the first sound you ever hear and your own heartbeat is the last.

~Dave Brubeck

I played a lot of sports and it's the plays in basketball that weren't worked out that are the ones that are just fantastic that you remember. We don't know the power that's within our own bodies.

~Dave Brubeck

I used to take my mother to Yosemite. When I turned 14, I got my driver's license, and that's where she'd want to go, so I'd go take her there for two weeks.

~Dave Brubeck

If there's a deadline, I work late. If not, I like to have normal hours, and get up early and work. When things are going well, I hate to quit. And then I'll work 'till exhausted.

~Dave Brubeck

I don't think you can separate a person's "style" and his persona. If you're writing or improvising honestly, you will inevitably reflect who you

are.

~Dave Brubeck

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