David Salle Quotes

Art, People, Thinking, Artist, Kids, Attitude, Painting, Mean, Moving, Done, School, Looks, World, Years, Different, Writing, Ideas, Italian, War, Tree

I feel that the only thing that really matters in art and life is to go against the tidal wave of literalism and literal-mindedness-to insist on and live the life of the imagination.

~David Salle

The pictures present an improvised view of life as normal. Life is shown as we think we see it but in fact never do. The pictures imitate life to find a way out.

~David Salle

Spend a day talking only in rhyme.

~David Salle

For me, art history is like a feather bed - you fall into it and it catches you.

~David Salle

The only thing worth doing is what's never been done before.

~David Salle

Ever since I started painting, I have tried to get the fluidity and surprise of image connection, the simultaneity of film montage, into painting.

~David Salle

Truth is, I didn't know what the hell I was doing when I got out of Cal Arts. I think I wasted a lot of time not being bold enough, or still engaged in the questioning that you get into at school.

~David Salle

My focus was always toward imagery of some sort.

~David Salle

People tend to remember and mentally classify work according to how it looks, sometimes oblivious to the underlying intent.

~David Salle

This is a little off subject, but I'm interested in those cases where someone is barking up the wrong tree, or misapplying their talent.
~David Salle

Being in love is dangerous because you talk yourself into thinking you've never had it so good.
~David Salle

Once established, a successful style looks like an inevitability - maybe that's the definition of a successful style - but there's often the time when it looks like anything but.
~David Salle

What great comedians, great comic writers, great comic actors do is that they just read the headlines with the right eyebrow position and it's funny.
~David Salle

As a young person, you have no fixed address, no studio, no money for materials, so I made things sort of on the run. That life doesn't favor the stability and spatial demands of painting.
~David Salle

I didn't know anything about conceptual art when I left Kansas. I went to Cal Arts to be a painter, but the exciting stuff was happening elsewhere, so I took a holiday from painting for a few years.
~David Salle

It's a mistake to ask a work of art to be all things to all people.
~David Salle

I started when I was nine. Really, everything I know about color theory,

composition, drawing, and painting, I learned when I was a kid.

~David Salle

I think people have to be given - or take - the permission to say that something is nothing. Just because it's in a museum doesn't mean it's anything.

~David Salle

I've always read, I've always admired writers and was lucky really to meet some extraordinary ones and become friends. Certain times you just like people, and it grows out like a nautilus shell.

~David Salle

I remember making a videotape in a fancy hair salon in Beverly Hills. The soundtrack in the salon had a whole worldview behind it - I was interested in things like that.

~David Salle

It sounds formulaic now, but at the time, I was interested in the difference between the thing and the representation of the idea of the thing - the space between the two.

~David Salle

I'm happiest when I feel that several almost opposing sensations are present at the same time.

~David Salle

I have to say, that's pretty typical for artists, kind of embarrassingly typical for artists that everything is all about selection.

~David Salle

What if everything in a museum is crap? It's entirely possible; it's not the end of the world.

~David Salle

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