

Dmitri Shostakovich

Quotes

*Writing, People, Running, Beautiful, Believe, Symphony, Philosophical, Artist,
Prelude, Pieces, Real, Mean, Music, Long, Thinking, Cutting, Primitive,
Creative, Football, Dark*

When a man is in despair, it means that he still believes in something.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

Real music is always revolutionary, for it cements the ranks of the people; it arouses them and leads them onward.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

If they cut off both hands, I will compose music anyway holding the pen in my teeth.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

I write music, it's performed. After all, my music says it all. It doesn't need historical and hysterical commentaries. In the long run, any words about music are less important than the music.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

A creative artist works on his next composition because he was not satisfied with his previous one.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

In the long run, any words about music are less important than the music.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

What you have in your head, put down on paper. The head is a fragile vessel.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

I feel eternal pain for those who were killed by Hitler, but I feel no less pain for those killed on Stalin's orders. I suffer for everyone who was tortured, shot, or starved to death.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

The most uninteresting part of the biography of a composer is his

childhood. All those preludes are the same and the reader hurries on to the fugue.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

It's about the people, who have stopped believing because the cup of evil has run over.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

A great piece of music is beautiful regardless of how it is performed.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

Our business is rejoicing, our business is rejoicing.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

Stravinsky the composer I worship. Stravinsky the thinker I despise.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

The real geniuses know where their writing has to be good and where they can get away with some mediocrity.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

People knew about Babi Yar before Yevtushenko's poem, but they were silent. And when they read the poem, the silence was broken. Art destroys silence.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

Football is the ballet of the masses.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

I don't know what will become of this piece. Our brave critics will no doubt charge me with imitating Ravel's Bolero. Too bad - this is how I hear war.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

I always try to make myself as widely understood as possible; and if I don't succeed, I consider it my own fault.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

The majority of my symphonies are tombstones.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

He fell like a chicken into the soup.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

Music is good, not evil. Poetry is good, not evil. Primitive, but oh, so true!

~Dmitri Shostakovich

Those who have ears to hear, will hear

~Dmitri Shostakovich

I live in the USSR, work actively and count naturally on the worker and peasant spectator. If I am not comprehensible to them I should be deported.

~Dmitri Shostakovich

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