

# Edgard Varese

## Quotes

*Art, People, Men, Sound, Composer, Mean, Music, Dream, Writing, World, Eye, Complacency, Certain, Alphabet, Artist, Wine, Understanding, Poor, Present Day, Organization*

Contrary to general belief, an artist is never ahead of his time but most people are far behind theirs.

~Edgard Varese

I don't want to write any more for the old Man-power instruments and am handicapped by the lack of adequate electrical instruments for which I now conceive my music.

~Edgard Varese

A man is culpable in the eyes of society when he escapes from the jurisdiction of its mediocrity.

~Edgard Varese

I rather like a certain clumsiness in a work of art.

~Edgard Varese

I do not write experimental music. My experimenting is done before I make the music. Afterwards it is the listener who must experiment.

~Edgard Varese

Music is organized sound.

~Edgard Varese

The present day composer refuses to die.

~Edgard Varese

A work of art must make the rules: rules do not make a work of art...I tell people I am not a musician; I work with rhythms, frequencies and intensities...tunes are merely the gossips of music.

~Edgard Varese

Music, which should pulsate with life, needs new means of expression, and science alone can infuse it with youthful vigor.

~Edgard Varese

I was not influenced by composers as much as by natural objects and physical phenomena.

~Edgard Varese

I dream of instruments obedient to my thought and which with their contribution of a whole new world of unsuspected sounds, will lend themselves to the exigencies of my inner rhythm.

~Edgard Varese

Men set themselves a goal, and having attained it, are satisfied and grow paunches. In their complacency they forget that their only future is now death.

~Edgard Varese

In every domain of art, a work that corresponds to the need of its day carries a message of social and cultural value. It is the artist who crystallizes his age ... who fixes his time in history.

~Edgard Varese

Music is the most abstract of the arts and also the most physical....music is under two signs, the stars and the wine

~Edgard Varese

Everyone is born with genius, but most people only keep it a few minutes.

~Edgard Varese

Our musical alphabet is poor and illogical.

~Edgard Varese

The beginning of art is not reason. It is the buried treasure of the unconscious...that unconscious which has more understanding than our lucidity.

~Edgard Varese

There are two infinities: God and stupidity.

~Edgard Varese

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