

George Balanchine Quotes

*Dance, Ballet, Men, Girl, Inspirational, Beautiful, Years, Saving, Believe, Stories,
Eye, Motivational, Dancing, Teacher, Art, Dancer, Two, Remember, Long,
Masterpiece*

Why are you stingy with yourselves? Why are you holding back? What are you saving for - for another time? There are no other times. There is only now. Right now.

~George Balanchine

First comes the sweat. Then comes the beauty if you're very lucky and have said your prayers.

~George Balanchine

In my ballets, woman is first. Men are consorts. God made men to sing the praises of women. They are not equal to men: They are better.

~George Balanchine

I don't have a past. I have a continuous present. The past is part of the present, just as the future is. We exist in time.

~George Balanchine

What are you waiting for? What are you saving for? Now is all there is.

~George Balanchine

Someone once said that dancers work just as hard as policeman, always alert, always tense. But I don't agree with that because policeman don't have to look beautiful at the same time.

~George Balanchine

I don't want people who want to dance; I want people who have to dance.

~George Balanchine

The ballet is a purely female thing; it is a woman, a garden of beautiful flowers, and man is the gardener.

~George Balanchine

Dancers are instruments, like a piano the choreographer plays.

~George Balanchine

Dance is music made visible

~George Balanchine

Storyless is not abstract. Two dancers on the stage are enough material for a story; for me, they are already a story in themselves

~George Balanchine

Music must be seen, and dance must be heard

~George Balanchine

Put a man and a girl on stage and there is already a story; a man and two girls, there's already a plot.

~George Balanchine

Choreography is simpler than you think. Just go and do, and don't think so much about it. Just make something interesting.

~George Balanchine

God creates, I do not create. I assemble and I steal everywhere to do it - from what I see, from what the dancers can do, from what others do.

~George Balanchine

See the music, hear the dance.

~George Balanchine

I cannot move, I cannot even want to move, unless I hear the music first.

~George Balanchine

The mirror is not you. The mirror is you looking at yourself.

~George Balanchine

Ballet is important and significant - yes. But first of all, it is a pleasure.

~George Balanchine

I've got more energy now than when I was younger because I know exactly what I want to do.

~George Balanchine

The choreographer and the dancer must rememberâ€”that they reach the audience through the eye.â€”It's the illusion created which convinces the audience,â€”much as it is with the work of a magician.

~George Balanchine

Ballet will speak for itself. About itself.

~George Balanchine

They are poets of gesture.

~George Balanchine

In ballet a complicated story is impossible to tell. We can't dance synonyms.

~George Balanchine

I could never make a ballet by wrinkling my brow and concentrating. If you set out deliberately to make a masterpiece, how will you ever get it finished?

~George Balanchine

The pointes for girls, I always say, have to be like an elephant's trunk; strong and yet flexible and soft.

~George Balanchine

Most ballet teachers in the United States are terrible. If they were in medicine, everyone would be poisoned.

~George Balanchine

One is born to be a great dancer.

~George Balanchine

I am a cloud - in trousers.

~George Balanchine

Your eyes is camera and your brain is a file cabinet.

~George Balanchine

The woman's function is to fascinate men.

~George Balanchine

My muse must come to me on union time.

~George Balanchine

I have no literary approach - except to literature.

~George Balanchine

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