

# George Crumb

## Quotes

*Writing, Spiritual, Country, Elements, World, Diversity, Historical, Easy, Culture, Musical, Years, Interesting, Past, Kind, Talking, Rhythm, Confusing, Soul, Two, Determined*

If we look at music history closely, it is not difficult to isolate certain elements of great potency which were to nourish the art of music for decades, if not centuries.

~George Crumb

The rhythms of nature - the sounds of wind and water, the sounds of birds and insects - must inevitably find their analogues in music.

~George Crumb

Although technical discussions are interesting to composers, I suspect that the truly magical and spiritual powers of music arise from deeper levels of our psyche.

~George Crumb

Perhaps two million years ago the creatures of a planet in some remote galaxy faced a musical crisis similar to that which we earthly composers face today.

~George Crumb

The retrospective glance is a relatively easy gesture for us to make.

~George Crumb

The advent of electronically synthesized sound after World War II has unquestionably had enormous influence on music in general.

~George Crumb

I believe that music surpasses even language in its power to mirror the innermost recesses of the human soul

~George Crumb

Music might be defined as a system of proportions in the service of a spiritual impulse

~George Crumb

Perhaps of all the most basic elements of music, rhythm most directly affects our central nervous system.

~George Crumb

I am certain that most composers today would consider today's music to be rich, not to say confusing, in its enormous diversity of styles, technical procedures, and systems of esthetics.

~George Crumb

Unquestionably, our contemporary world of music is far richer, in a sense, than earlier periods, due to the historical and geographical extensions of culture to which I have referred.

~George Crumb

Perhaps many of the perplexing problems of the new music could be put into a new light if we were to reintroduce the ancient idea of music being a reflection of nature.

~George Crumb

I am optimistic about the future of music.

~George Crumb

Nonetheless, I sense that it will be the task of the future to somehow synthesize the sheer diversity of our present resources into a more organic and well-ordered procedure.

~George Crumb

The future will be the child of the past and the present, even if a rebellious child.

~George Crumb

I pick up the New York Times or Time and it's talking about the latest rock group, which I'm sure is exciting to some people, but it neglects a huge area of music.

~George Crumb

I frequently hear our present period described as uncertain, confused, chaotic.

~George Crumb

The development of new instrumental and vocal idioms has been one of the remarkable phenomena of recent music.

~George Crumb

I must confess, my Spanish is not so good - except I read a little, so I started with the English but then determined that it would have to be in Spanish.

~George Crumb

I have observed, too, that the people of the many countries that I have visited are showing an ever increasing interest in the classical and traditional music of their own cultures.

~George Crumb

It is easy to write unthinking music.

~George Crumb

Most of my influences are turn-of-the-century.

~George Crumb

As interesting as that music can occasionally be, I don't think it really replaces the other.

~George Crumb

This is not a happy time for this kind of music in this country.

~George Crumb

Writing seems to be more difficult as you move through the years.

~George Crumb

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