

# Giuseppe Verdi

## Quotes

*Yield, Artist, Art, Writing, Stupid, May, Reality, Singers, Feel Better, Inspiration,  
Bosoms, Eye, Men, Son, Joy, Tenors, Funeral, Perfection, Hands, Song*

I have striven for perfection, it has always eluded me, but I surely had an obligation to make one more try.

~Giuseppe Verdi

You may have the universe if I may have Italy.

~Giuseppe Verdi

To copy the truth can be a good thing, but to invent the truth is better, much better.

~Giuseppe Verdi

I adore art...when I am alone with my notes, my heart pounds and the tears stream from my eyes, and my emotion and my joys are too much to bear.

~Giuseppe Verdi

It is better to invert reality than to copy it.

~Giuseppe Verdi

It may be a good thing to copy reality; but to invent reality is much, much better.

~Giuseppe Verdi

The artist must yield himself to his own inspiration, and if he has a true talent, no one knows and feels better than he what suits him.

~Giuseppe Verdi

Stupid criticism and still more stupid praise.

~Giuseppe Verdi

The success of our operas rests most of the time in the hands of the conductor. This person is as necessary as a tenor or a prima donna.

~Giuseppe Verdi

Of all composers, past and present, I am the least learned. I mean that in all seriousness, and by learning I do not mean knowledge of music.

~Giuseppe Verdi

Oh blessed a thousand times the peasant who is born, eats and dies without anybody bothering about his affairs.

~Giuseppe Verdi

Through care taken over trends, the desire to be novel and affectation knowledge, we repudiate our art, our instinct, our own way of doing things; it is absurd and stupid

~Giuseppe Verdi

Oh, you happy sons of the North who have been reared at the bosom of Bach, how I envy you!

~Giuseppe Verdi

A man like Verdi must write like Verdi.

~Giuseppe Verdi

I deny that either singers or conductors can "create" or work creatively - this, as I have always said, is a conception that leads to the abyss.

~Giuseppe Verdi

I order that my funeral ceremonies be extremely modest, and that they take place at dawn or at the evening Ave Maria, without song or music.

~Giuseppe Verdi

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