

# Gustave Courbet

## Quotes

*Art, Artist, Ideas, Painting, Principles, Freedom, Angel, Mean, Real, Show Me, Criticism, Truth Is, Lying, Limits, Artistic, Transcendentalism, Trying, Quests, Essence, Would Be*

Fine art is knowledge made visible.

~Gustave Courbet

I have never seen either angels or goddesses, so I am not interested in painting them.

~Gustave Courbet

Beauty, like truth, is relative to the time when one lives and to the individual who can grasp it.

~Gustave Courbet

Painting is the representation of visible forms. The essence of realism is its negation of the ideal.

~Gustave Courbet

The principle of realism means denial of the ideal.

~Gustave Courbet

Beauty lies in nature and reveals, once the artist has perceived it, its own expressive power.

~Gustave Courbet

To be able to translate the customs, ideas and appearance of my times as I see them - in a word, to create a living art - this has been my aim.

~Gustave Courbet

When I am no longer controversial, I will no longer be important

~Gustave Courbet

Titles have never given a just idea of things; were it otherwise, the work would be superfluous.

~Gustave Courbet

It is fatal for art if it is forced into official respectability and condemned

to sterile mediocrity.

~Gustave Courbet

The beautiful is in nature, and it is encountered under the most diverse forms of reality. Once it is found it belongs to art, or rather to the artist who discovers it.

~Gustave Courbet

The state is not competent in artistic matters... When the state leaves us free, it will have carried out its duty.

~Gustave Courbet

France is the only nation in which astoundingly small numbers of civilized patrons reside.

~Gustave Courbet

I am not one who was born in the custody of wisdom; I am one who is fond of olden times and intense in quest of the sacred knowing of the ancients.

~Gustave Courbet

I too am a government.

~Gustave Courbet

Art or talent, for an artist, is merely a means of applying his personal faculties to the ideas and the things of the period in which he lives.

~Gustave Courbet

I hope always to earn my living by my art without having ever deviated by even a hair's breadth from my principles... to please anyone or to sell more easily.

~Gustave Courbet

The expression of beauty is in direct ratio to the power of conception

the artist has acquired.

~Gustave Courbet

Painting is an essentially concrete art and can only consist of the representation of real and existing things.

~Gustave Courbet

Art is a wholly physical language whose words are all the visible objects.

~Gustave Courbet

I hope to live all my life for my art, without abandoning my principles one iota.

~Gustave Courbet

I have never seen an angel. Show me an angel, and I'll paint one.

~Gustave Courbet

### **Related Links:**

- Art Quotes
- Artist Quotes
- Ideas Quotes
- Painting Quotes
- Principles Quotes
- Freedom Quotes
- Angel Quotes
- Mean Quotes
- Real Quotes
- Show Me Quotes
- Criticism Quotes
- Truth Is Quotes
- Lying Quotes
- Limits Quotes
- Artistic Quotes
- Transcendentalism Quotes
- Trying Quotes
- Quests Quotes
- Essence Quotes
- Would Be Quotes