

Hans Arp Quotes

*Art, Men, Essence, Perfection, Artist, Distance, Light, Writing, Order, Cutting,
Struggle, Nature, Color, Childhood, Attitude, Technology, Anxiety, Spring, Blue,
Want*

Art is a fruit that grows in man, like a fruit on a plant, or a child in its mother's womb.

~Hans Arp

Often the hands grasp more quickly than the head.

~Hans Arp

Dada aimed to destroy the reasonable deceptions of man and recover the natural and unreasonable order.

~Hans Arp

The essence of a sculpture must enter on tip-toe, as light as animal footprints on snow.

~Hans Arp

I use very little red. I use blue, yellow, a little green, but especially... black, white and grey. There is a certain need in me for communication with human beings. Black and white is writing.

~Hans Arp

I allow myself to be guided by the work which is in the process of being born. I have confidence in it. I do not think about it.

~Hans Arp

All things, and man as well, should be like nature, without measure.

~Hans Arp

To be full of joy when looking at an oeuvre is not a little thing.

~Hans Arp

Any work that is not rooted in myth and poetry or that does not partake of the depth and essence of the universe is merely a ghost.

~Hans Arp

The vertical and the horizontal are the extreme signs available to man for touching the beyond and his inwardness.

~Hans Arp

DaDa is beautiful like the night, who cradles the young day in her arms.

~Hans Arp

The important thing about Dada, it seems to me, is that Dadaists despised what is commonly regarded as art, but put the whole universe on the lofty throne of art.

~Hans Arp

Tooting, howling, screeching, booming, crashing, whistling, grinding, and trilling bolster his [mankind's] ego. His anxiety subsides. His inhuman void spreads monstrosly like a gray vegetation.

~Hans Arp

I like nature but not its substitutes... Mondrian opposed art to nature saying that art is artificial and nature is natural. I do not share this opinion... Art's origins are natural.

~Hans Arp

In recent times, Surrealist painters have used descriptive illusionistic academic methods.

~Hans Arp

Ever since my childhood, I was haunted by the search for perfection. An imperfectly cut paper literally made me ill. I would guillotine it.

~Hans Arp

Each one of these bodies (art-works Arp made) certainly signifies something, but it is only once there is nothing left for me to change that I begin to look for its meaning, that I give it a name.

~Hans Arp

I did exhibitions with the Surrealists (in Paris, in 1929) because their attitude revolted against 'art' and their attitude toward life itself was wise, as was Dada's.

~Hans Arp

Artists should work together like the artists of the Middle Ages.

~Hans Arp

In the good times of Dada, we detested polished works, the distracted air of spiritual struggle, the titans, and we rejected them with all out being.

~Hans Arp

As the thought comes to me to exorcise and transform this black with a white drawing, it has already become a surface.. .Now I have lost all fear, and begin to draw on the black surface.

~Hans Arp

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