

Herbie Hancock

Quotes

*Jazz, Music, People, Musician, Buddhism, Thinking, Mean, Practice, Years,
Trying, Ideas, Vision, Play, Way, Creativity, Moments, Keys, Art, Together,
Wisdom*

Jazz has borrowed from other genres of music and also has lent itself to other genres of music.

~Herbie Hancock

The spirit of jazz is the spirit of openness.

~Herbie Hancock

Don't be afraid to expand yourself, to step out of your comfort zone. That's where the joy and the adventure lie.

~Herbie Hancock

You would not exist if you did not have something to bring to the table of life.

~Herbie Hancock

Music is the tool to express life - and all that makes a difference.

~Herbie Hancock

Forget about trying to compete with someone else. Create your own pathway. Create your own new vision.

~Herbie Hancock

I think there's a great beauty to having problems. That's one of the ways we learn.

~Herbie Hancock

You can practice to attain knowledge, but you can't practice to attain wisdom.

~Herbie Hancock

Music happens to be an art form that transcends language.

~Herbie Hancock

The most valuable things in life are priceless. They are courage,

compassion, wisdom, respect for ourselves and others, and a host of characteristics that we call the beauty of the human spirit.

~Herbie Hancock

Jazz is about being in the moment.

~Herbie Hancock

I like to be on the edge, on the cutting edge, or be into the unknown, into the territory where I have to depend on being in the moment and depending on my instincts.

~Herbie Hancock

Life is not about finding our limitations, it's about finding our infinity.

~Herbie Hancock

Creativity and artistic endeavors have a mission that goes far beyond just making music for the sake of music.

~Herbie Hancock

People always want to protect what's really going on inside. They want to kind of make visible something that looks more pleasant than what may be happening inside of themselves.

~Herbie Hancock

Jazz is a music that is open enough to borrow from any other form of music, and has the strength to influence any other form of music.

~Herbie Hancock

Nobody told me I was a child prodigy.

~Herbie Hancock

You don't need the fame to be vital.

~Herbie Hancock

I like the idea of an eclectic approach, incorporating jazz with other forms and other genres of music.

~Herbie Hancock

Of course, it's not the technique that makes the music; it's the sensitivity of the musician and his ability to be able to fuse his life with the rhythm of the times. This is the essence of music.

~Herbie Hancock

It's not exclusive, but inclusive, which is the whole spirit of jazz.

~Herbie Hancock

One thing I like about jazz is that it emphasized doing things differently from what other people were doing.

~Herbie Hancock

I look for what's of value and extract that. I don't look to criticize.

~Herbie Hancock

I learned the importance of being nonjudgmental, taking what happens and trying to make it work. That's something you should apply to life.

~Herbie Hancock

The arts have always served relationships between people of different cultures so well. In a way, the arts function as a very serious kind of ambassador.

~Herbie Hancock

But I have to be careful not to let the world dazzle me so much that I forget that I'm a husband and a father.

~Herbie Hancock

It pulled me like a magnet, jazz did, because it was a way that I could express myself.

~Herbie Hancock

Since time is a continuum, the moment is always different, so the music is always different.

~Herbie Hancock

I'm always interested in looking forward toward the future. Carving out new ways of looking at things.

~Herbie Hancock

So in other words, we were constantly challenged to grow, and that's what a master does.

~Herbie Hancock

We are eternally linked not just to each other but our environment.

~Herbie Hancock

All you have to do is play one note. But it needs to be the right note.

~Herbie Hancock

I hope that I can make good music out of whatever genre I go into. Just to prove to myself that I can.

~Herbie Hancock

One thing that attracted me to Buddhism was the support for this larger vision of values.

~Herbie Hancock

I don't go around, the way many musicians do, with earbuds in my ear listening to my iPod all day and just sticking my head in the music all the time.

~Herbie Hancock

In the world of Art there are no wrong choices.

~Herbie Hancock

While knowledge may provide useful point of reference, it cannot become a force to guide the future.

~Herbie Hancock

I've been curious ever since I was a little kid.

~Herbie Hancock

Globalization means we have to re-examine some of our ideas, and look at ideas from other countries, from other cultures, and open ourselves to them. And that's not comfortable for the average person.

~Herbie Hancock

The thing that we possess, that machines don't, is the ability to exhibit wisdom.

~Herbie Hancock

It's part of life to have obstacles. It's about overcoming obstacles; that's the key to happiness.

~Herbie Hancock

It's not the style that motivates me, as much as an attitude of openness that I have when I go into a project.

~Herbie Hancock

I think I was supposed to play jazz.

~Herbie Hancock

Buddhism has turned me on to my humanness, and is challenging my humanness so that I can become more human.

~Herbie Hancock

There's so much spontaneity involved, what do you practice? How do

you practice teamwork? How do you practice sharing? How do you practice daring? How do you practice being nonjudgmental?

~Herbie Hancock

When I was in my early teens, I remember coming to the conclusion that your life never ends.

~Herbie Hancock

My first Grammy wasn't even in a jazz category, but of course I was really excited. 'Rockit' was the beginning of kind of a new era for the whole hip-hop movement.

~Herbie Hancock

I'm always looking to create new avenues or new visions of music.

~Herbie Hancock

The music becomes something that is its own entity.

~Herbie Hancock

We can all be ourselves, be true to ourselves, and all be together.

~Herbie Hancock

Creativity shouldn't be following radio; it should be the other way around.

~Herbie Hancock

You can change your character and, at the same time, change your fortune.

~Herbie Hancock

As a human being, I'm concerned about the world that I live in. So, I'm concerned about peace. I'm concerned about man's inhumanity to man. I'm concerned about the environment.

~Herbie Hancock

I feel a lot more secure about the directions I take, than I might have, had I not practiced Buddhism.

~Herbie Hancock

Miles' sessions were not typical of anybody else's sessions. They were totally unique.

~Herbie Hancock

Jazz to me is the spirit of freedom. I mean real freedom. Freedom to explore. Freedom to express. Freedom to pour out your guts.

~Herbie Hancock

I try to practice with my life.

~Herbie Hancock

Each human being exists because there's something they have to offer for the evolution of the universe that only they can fulfill.

~Herbie Hancock

Music isn't about music, it's about life.

~Herbie Hancock

Music truly is the universal language.

~Herbie Hancock

When you struggle to reach for something you don't know, that's where most of the interesting stuff is.

~Herbie Hancock

You make different colors by combining those colors that already exist.

~Herbie Hancock

Getting the Oscar had the biggest impression on me.

~Herbie Hancock

It is people's hearts that move the age.

~Herbie Hancock

It's part of my nature. I get excited when trying out new stuff, whether it be an idea or equipment. It stimulates my juices.

~Herbie Hancock

Without wisdom, the future has no meaning, no valuable purpose.

~Herbie Hancock

In World War II, jazz absolutely was the music of freedom, and then in the Cold War, behind the Iron Curtain, same thing. It was all underground, but they needed the food of freedom that jazz offered.

~Herbie Hancock

One of the greatest attributes of jazz, I think, is that it is that open.

~Herbie Hancock

But, the truth is that everyone is somebody already.

~Herbie Hancock

The true artform is being a human being.

~Herbie Hancock

Oscar Peterson is the greatest living influence on jazz pianists today.

~Herbie Hancock

I've never really been interested in doing a solo piano tour.

~Herbie Hancock

In the past, there's always been one leader that has led the pack to development of the music.

~Herbie Hancock

At a certain point, I became a kind of musician that has tunnel vision about jazz. I only listened to jazz and classical music.

~Herbie Hancock

I've been a religious, spiritual person for a long time.

~Herbie Hancock

I am not fundamentally a musician, I am fundamentally a human being.

~Herbie Hancock

I think risk-taking is a great adventure. And life should be full of adventures.

~Herbie Hancock

I hope to use dialogue and culture as a means of bringing people of various cultures together, and using that as a way to resolve conflict.

~Herbie Hancock

I try stuff. I synthesize what's of value with some of the other things I have at my disposal.

~Herbie Hancock

So I didn't actually change my name the way some people did.

~Herbie Hancock

I'm aware that a lot of what is happening in jazz has not had a very dynamic change in a long time.

~Herbie Hancock

Music is not the only reason that I practice Buddhism anymore because it has affected my whole life.

~Herbie Hancock

There are a lot of records coming out, in every field of music, not just

jazz.

~Herbie Hancock

When I was young I used to listen to everything.

~Herbie Hancock

Wisdom corresponds to the future; it is philosophy.

~Herbie Hancock

I started off with classical music, and I got into jazz when I was about 14 years old. And I've been playing jazz ever since.

~Herbie Hancock

The Internet opens up a whole new range of possibilities in a wide range of areas.

~Herbie Hancock

Technology has developed to a whole other level and theres the scientist part of me that loves that stuff.

~Herbie Hancock

People are afraid to spend money now because they dont know how long theyre going to be working.

~Herbie Hancock

Being a musician is what I do, but it's not what I am.

~Herbie Hancock

The value of music is not dazzling yourself and others with technique.

~Herbie Hancock

I've been practising Buddhism for forty years, and that's what has led me to this path of discovering my own humanity and recognizing the humanity in others.

~Herbie Hancock

I'm one of the people who was a pioneer in encouraging musicians, early in the game, to get interested in technology, and now all the musicians are getting into it.

~Herbie Hancock

Like no matter what happens, this would be the ultimate, they can make something positive happen.

~Herbie Hancock

World peace is no longer some pie-in-the-sky thing, because no single person or country is going to solve it on their own.

~Herbie Hancock

The first thing I ever heard about synthesizers, they were being used in rock.

~Herbie Hancock

I don't look at music from the standpoint of being a musician; I look at it from the standpoint of being a human being.

~Herbie Hancock

The value of music is to be able to play one note at the right time in the right way.

~Herbie Hancock

You can practice to learn a technique, but I'm more interested in conceiving of something in the moment.

~Herbie Hancock

Jazz translates the moment into a sense of inspiration for not only the musicians but for the listeners.

~Herbie Hancock

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