

# Ian Hamilton Finlay

## Quotes

*People, Garden, Thinking, World, Order, Trying, Marijuana, Writing,  
Collaboration, Chance, Expectations, Law, Opinion, Past, Certain, Friendly,  
Challenges, Language, Men, Feelings*

Certain gardens are described as retreats when they are really attacks.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

The present order is the disorder of the future.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

I came to these mediums through having the garden, and of course, people who have designed gardens have always worked in collaboration, and never made their own inscriptions.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

People have always found me challenging - I don't know why, when I am only being myself. I don't understand why they find me so annoying but they do. It is pity, but that is how it is.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

I am always a beginner. I only try to include different parts of life; the pastoral, the tragic, et cetera.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

As a friendly one. I would still like to write concrete poems, but I can only do it sometimes.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

Little Sparta is a garden in the traditional sense. It is perhaps not like other modern gardens, but I think that other times would have had no difficulty with it.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

What you compose with is neither here nor there, you compose with words, or you compose with stone plants and trees, or you compose with events; the Sheriff's officer, or whatever.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

I am not a modern man, I am just a wee old fashioned one.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

No, I don't make my work in order to challenge or confuse other people's expectations - I only do what I find natural.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

But at the beginning it was clear to me that concrete poetry was peculiarly suited for using in public settings. This was my idea, but of course I never really much got the chance to do it.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

But I can only write what the muse allows me to write. I cannot choose, I can only do what I am given, and I feel pleased when I feel close to concrete poetry - still.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

For me concrete poetry was a particular way of using language which came out of a particular feeling, and I don't have control over whether this feeling is in me or not.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

My position is that since the non-secular status of my garden is not recognised by the law; by the world of the public, then the garden can only be private. So, I closed the garden to the public.

~Ian Hamilton Finlay

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