

James Turrell

Quotes

*Light, Sky, People, Thinking, Space, Revelations, Reality, Ideas, Records,
Vision, Photography, Night, Artist, Creativity, Fall, Mean, Color, Order, Earth,
Beautiful*

Light is not so much something that reveals, as it is itself the revelation.

~James Turrell

With no object no image and no focus, what are you looking at? You are looking at you looking.

~James Turrell

My desire is to set up a situation to which I take you and let you see. It becomes your experience.

~James Turrell

Space has a way of looking. It seems like it has a presence of vision. When you come into it, it is there, it's been waiting for you.

~James Turrell

My work is about your seeing. There is a rich tradition in painting of work about light, but it is not light -- it is the record of seeing. My material is light, and it is responsive to your seeing.

~James Turrell

I am not an Earth artist, I'm totally involved in the sky.

~James Turrell

Science strives for answers, but art is happy with a good question.

~James Turrell

I've always felt that night doesn't fall. Night rises. There are these incidences in flying where you just sit there. It's one of the best seats in the house.

~James Turrell

I like when you feel like you arrive in a very different place, with a different ordering of the reality you normally think of.

~James Turrell

We create the reality in which we live.

~James Turrell

I want to create an atmosphere that can be consciously plumbed with seeing, like the wordless thought that comes from looking in a fire.

~James Turrell

I'm interested that light has thingness itself, so it's not something that reveals something about other things you're looking at, but it becomes a revelation in itself.

~James Turrell

I wanted the light to be the revelation. It has to do with what we value. I want people to treasure light.

~James Turrell

We eat light, drink it in through our skins

~James Turrell

I'm known as a light artist. But rather than be someone who depicted light, or painted light in some way, I wanted to have the work be light.

~James Turrell

Remember technology does not make good work. You can still write a poem on a brown paper bag, and haiku is just as profound as the pyramids.

~James Turrell

I've always felt that night doesn't fall. Night rises.

~James Turrell

To have a certain new eight-and-a-half-minute-old light from the sun-to

feel it physically, almost as we taste things-this is where you can work with light like that.

~James Turrell

It was important that people come to value light as we value gold, silver, paintings, objects.

~James Turrell

When you're O.C.D., you want the most beautiful animals.

~James Turrell

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