

# Jean-Michel Basquiat

## Quotes

*Painting, Artist, Art, Thinking, Awful, Kids, People, Stars, Wanted, Crosses,  
Black, Young, Fame, Chickens, Kings, Inspiration, Men, Winning, Names,  
Single Line*

I cross out words so you will see them more; the fact that they are obscured makes you want to read them.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I wanted to be a star, not a gallery mascot.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I don't listen to what art critics say. I don't know anybody who needs a critic to find out what art is.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

Most Young Kings Get Their Heads Cut Off.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

If you wanna talk about influence, man, then you've got to realize that influence is not influence. It's simply someone's idea going through my new mind.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

Every single line means something.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I start a picture and I finish it. I don't think about art while I work. I try to think about life.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

The more I paint the more I like everything.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

Fire will attract more attention than any other cry for help.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

The black person is the protagonist in most of my paintings. I realized that I didn't see many paintings with black people in them.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I like kids' work more than work by real artists any day.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I cross out words so you will see them more

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I am not a black artist, I am an artist.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I was a really lousy artist as a kid. Too abstract expressionist; or I'd draw a big ram's head, really messy. I'd never win painting contests. I remember losing to a guy who did a perfect Spiderman.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

SAMO as an end to to mindwash religion, nowhere politics and bogus philosophy.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I don't think about art when I'm working. I think about life.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

The country makes me more paranoid, you know? I think the crazy people out there are little crazier.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

There are about 30 words around you all the time, like 'thread' or 'exit.'

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

Believe it or not, I can actually draw.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I had some money, I made the best paintings ever. I was completely

reclusive, worked a lot, took a lot of drugs. I was awful to people.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

Since I was seventeen I thought I might be a star. I'd think about all my heroes, Charlie Parker, Jimi Hendrix... I had a romantic feeling about how these people became famous.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

Occasionally, when I get mad at a woman, I'll do some great, awful painting about her.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

My favorite Twombly is 'Apollo and the Artist,' with the big 'Apollo' written across it.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I wanted to build up a name for myself.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I have a painting where somebody's holding a chicken, and underneath the chicken is somebody's head.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

If I'm away from painting for a week, I get bored.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I wanted to be a cartoonist when I was young.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

I start a picture and I finish it.

~Jean-Michel Basquiat

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