

Jenny Holzer

Quotes

*Art, People, Thinking, Want, Artist, Lovely, Stupid, Mind, Way, Mean, Important,
I Can, Real, Interesting, Be Kind, Turns, Desire, Writing, Chance, Hands*

At times inactivity is preferable to mindless functioning.

~Jenny Holzer

You are a victim of the rules you live by.

~Jenny Holzer

My arrogance knows no bounds and I will make no peace today, and you should be so lucky to find a woman like me.

~Jenny Holzer

TRYING TO BE POPULAR IN HIGH SCHOOL IS LIKE TRYING TO BE MAYOR OF A CITY THAT WON'T EXIST IN FOUR YEARS.

~Jenny Holzer

If you have many desires your life will be interesting.

~Jenny Holzer

Protect me from what I want.

~Jenny Holzer

All things are delicately interconnected.

~Jenny Holzer

I used language because I wanted to offer content that people - not necessarily art people - could understand.

~Jenny Holzer

THERE IS A PERIOD WHEN IT IS CLEAR THAT YOU HAVE GONE WRONG BUT YOU CONTINUE. SOMETIMES THERE IS A LUXURIOUS AMOUNT OF TIME BEFORE ANYTHING BAD HAPPENS.

~Jenny Holzer

Slipping into madness is good for the sake of comparison

~Jenny Holzer

Abuse of power comes as no surprise

~Jenny Holzer

Ensure that your life stays in flux.

~Jenny Holzer

It's better to be a good person than a famous person.

~Jenny Holzer

Fear is the most elegant weapon, your hands are never messy

~Jenny Holzer

A lot of professionals are crackpots.

~Jenny Holzer

I wasn't sure I was an artist, so I thought maybe I just was throwing ideas out for people to consider.

~Jenny Holzer

The desperate things seem to require attention, the lovely things seem to elicit celebration. If I had to choose, I would go to the awful in the hope that doing something could yield a happier result.

~Jenny Holzer

Everyone's work is equally important.

~Jenny Holzer

The most profound things are inexpressible.

~Jenny Holzer

I really like doing the laundry, because I succeed at it. But I loathe putting it away. It is already clean.

~Jenny Holzer

Expressing anger is necessary.

~Jenny Holzer

When you start liking pain things start to get interesting.

~Jenny Holzer

Drama often obscures the real issues

~Jenny Holzer

Lack of charisma can be fatal.

~Jenny Holzer

Enjoy yourself because you can't change anything anyway

~Jenny Holzer

Going with the flow is soothing but risky.

~Jenny Holzer

I think of a piece, and then people who are competent fabricate it. But lately I've started finger painting, which probably should be a joke but isn't!

~Jenny Holzer

Being alone with yourself is increasingly unpopular.

~Jenny Holzer

Turn soft and lovely any time you have a chance

~Jenny Holzer

How do you resign yourself to something that will never be? You stop wanting just that thing. You go numb. Or you kill the agent of desire.

~Jenny Holzer

It's fun wandering around other people's minds.

~Jenny Holzer

The epiphany for me was that I wasn't a writer, and I had to do something with these texts. I put them in the streets as posters.

~Jenny Holzer

Expiring for love is beautiful but stupid.

~Jenny Holzer

Remember you always have freedom of choice.

~Jenny Holzer

SPIT ALL OVER SOMEONE WITH A MOUTHFUL OF MILK IF YOU WANT TO FIND OUT SOMETHING ABOUT THEIR PERSONALITY FAST.

~Jenny Holzer

It is in your self-interest to find a way to be very tender.

~Jenny Holzer

Anger or hate can be a useful motivating force

~Jenny Holzer

Alienation produces eccentrics or revolutionaries.

~Jenny Holzer

Being happy is more important than anything else.

~Jenny Holzer

I'd been doing projects outdoors for the public. I made pigeons eat geometry by putting bread out in rhomboids and triangles. I don't know if this activity made sense, but the work was available.

~Jenny Holzer

It can be kind of gruesome at times, making things alone.

~Jenny Holzer

I wanted to support things that are helpful to people and maybe bash what I think is dangerous. So I switched from being everybody to being myself.

~Jenny Holzer

Someone else's body is a place for your mind to go.

~Jenny Holzer

Boredom makes you do crazy things

~Jenny Holzer

Deviants are sacrificed to increase group solidarity

~Jenny Holzer

Usually going places makes me feel optimistic. And I'm a hillbilly, so heading to the countryside made sense a number of ways.

~Jenny Holzer

A positive attitude means all the difference in the world.

~Jenny Holzer

It's important to keep life simple, and if I'm traveling, I only can do a couple of things, and those are the things that I'm meant to be doing.

~Jenny Holzer

It is embarrassing to be caught and killed for stupid reasons

~Jenny Holzer

It can be kind of gruesome at times, making things alone. I don't want to be too dramatic, but it's hard. It's necessary to start most work alone.

~Jenny Holzer

A name means a lot just by itself.

~Jenny Holzer

A sense of timing is the mark of a genius.

~Jenny Holzer

I try to excite myself so I stay crazy.

~Jenny Holzer

I get up about four times a night and go back to sleep, or not. Then I swill tea around 8 a.m. I answer e-mail, while I stall thinking about whatever scares me.

~Jenny Holzer

Sloppy thinking gets worse over time.

~Jenny Holzer

I wanted to be an abstract painter, but I was rotten at it.

~Jenny Holzer

What urge will save us now that sex won't?

~Jenny Holzer

Faithfulness is a social not a biological law.

~Jenny Holzer

I moved to New York in the 1970s and started writing when I was at the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program.

~Jenny Holzer

Exceptional people deserve special concessions.

~Jenny Holzer

At times your unconsciousness is truer than your conscious mind

~Jenny Holzer

Knowing yourself lets you understand others.

~Jenny Holzer

There's a fine line between information and propaganda.

~Jenny Holzer

Killing is unavoidable but is nothing to be proud of

~Jenny Holzer

A sense of duty imprisons you.

~Jenny Holzer

Stupid people shouldn't breed.

~Jenny Holzer

That's the test of street art - to see if anybody stopped. People would cross out ones they didn't like and would star others. I liked that people would engage with them.

~Jenny Holzer

When my daughter was young, she thought all electronic signs were mine.

~Jenny Holzer

The greatest disappointment is when you let yourself down.

~Jenny Holzer

One of the glories and terrors of working in public is that you do see if your output means anything to anyone.

~Jenny Holzer

Romantic love was invented to manipulate women

~Jenny Holzer

Disgust is the appropriate response to most situations

~Jenny Holzer

Savor kindness because cruelty is always possible later.

~Jenny Holzer

Raise boys and girls the same way.

~Jenny Holzer

If you are an artist and you are honest, you are never good enough.

~Jenny Holzer

Turn soft and lovely anytime you have the chance.

~Jenny Holzer

I'm always trying to bring unusual content to a different audience - a non-art-world audience.

~Jenny Holzer

It's good to be employable, but I hope to show the truth. The paintings seem true because nobody wants me to do them.

~Jenny Holzer

Any surplus is immoral.

~Jenny Holzer

It's necessary to start most work alone. But I'm tickled to death when I can pull somebody in or join someone, whether it's borrowing poetry or traveling with an associate.

~Jenny Holzer

On the worst days, I don't feel like an artist.

~Jenny Holzer

Hands on your breast can keep your heart beating.

~Jenny Holzer

I seldom have my stuff up unless I'm testing it. If I'm worrying about a painting, I put it up and see if I detest it quickly or slowly. Otherwise I have things by other artists.

~Jenny Holzer

I am not free because I can be exploded anytime.

~Jenny Holzer

A little knowledge can go a long way.

~Jenny Holzer

Use what is dominant in a culture to change it quickly.

~Jenny Holzer

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