

# Joe Bradley

## Quotes

*Thinking, Painting, Art, People, Moving, Fall, Giving, Silly, Levels, Looks, Years,  
Culture, Different, Taken, Issues, Fundamentals, Force, Book, Fun, Might*

A good painting has to do about 12 things at once.

~Joe Bradley

I can only think of a handful of artists that can make a funny painting or a funny sculpture without it feeling coined in someway.

~Joe Bradley

I think you do kind of slip into a trance when you look at a painting. At least I do.

~Joe Bradley

I think that painting relates very neatly to inner travel and the exploration of inner worlds. With painting, I always get the impression that you're sort of entering into a shared space.

~Joe Bradley

You have the 20th century wrapping up and everything is moving at this breakneck speed? And then, painting is still walking. It's just a very human activity that takes time.

~Joe Bradley

I think, with abstraction, it's easy to fall into a sort of pastiche.

~Joe Bradley

There are different kinds of concentration required to make a painting, different kinds of being present.

~Joe Bradley

I'm not interested in popular culture, particularly. I'm not against it, I'm not avoiding it, but I'm not interested in it as a force in life.

~Joe Bradley

I always like being surprised and sort of caught off guard by other people's work. So it doesn't cause me any anxiety to explore different

avenues.

~Joe Bradley

I don't really get excited about good things happening to me.

~Joe Bradley

I'm also interested in something that can happen later in life. In midstream, you can suddenly take what looks like a detour; I'm sure I've taken many detours.

~Joe Bradley

I love looking at sculpture, but there's some sort of spell that's broken with it.

~Joe Bradley

I think that time moves slower in painting. And maybe that accounts for a lot of the anxiety around painting in the last 40 or 50 years.

~Joe Bradley

I remember looking at books when I was in high school, but I don't think I really stood in front of a genuine painting or sculpture until I was out of high school.

~Joe Bradley

I suppose some people find their voice later than others, but it's interesting to look back at really early work to see that there's some kernel or a Rosetta Stone, in a way.

~Joe Bradley

I'm not a planner. I should be more articulate about what the imagery means, but I don't have a good reason for it; it's just there.

~Joe Bradley

I think painting has that unique potential to project opposing viewpoints.

~Joe Bradley

It's a funny semantic turn - when someone paints a landscape, no one says they "borrowed" it, only that they painted it.

~Joe Bradley

Paintings exist in the present tense, yet somehow, because of how it's structured, it can move backwards through time as well.

~Joe Bradley

Technology's always changing. There was a time where oil painting was a new technology. That changed painting.

~Joe Bradley

The era of television in which I grew up was much simpler than now. Its conventions were quite transparent and fun to think about. Who could ever remember the plot of those shows?

~Joe Bradley

Painting has this ability to send the viewer [backward], but it's also this physical object in the room with you. It's always knocking you back into the present moment, which I find very pleasurable.

~Joe Bradley

I guess I have no motivation to make an abstract painting, even if they sometimes read as abstract. I think, with abstraction, it's easy to fall into a sort of pastiche.

~Joe Bradley

There's art that I think is pretty silly, but it doesn't get under my skin like it used to.

~Joe Bradley

Money issue looms so large in art now. And it has absolutely nothing to

do with art.

~Joe Bradley

People weep at music all the time, because music gives form to some abstract level of integration.

~Joe Bradley

There's something retro about the pop culture references in the paintings, so I'd imagine it's not as much a pop culture reference as a pop art reference.

~Joe Bradley

I've always liked the fact that galleries are free to visit in New York.

~Joe Bradley

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