

Josef Albers

Quotes

*Art, Color, Men, Way, Years, Thinking, Father, Order, Art Is, Attitude,
Appreciation, Jobs, Paint, Perception, Mean, Heart, Differences, Hue, Teacher,
Different*

I prefer to see with closed eyes.

~Josef Albers

Good teaching is more a giving of right questions than a giving of right answers.

~Josef Albers

Every perception of color is an illusion, we do not see colors as they really are. In our perception they alter one another.

~Josef Albers

Easy-to know that diamonds-are precious, Good-to learn that rubies-have depth, But more-to see that pebbles-are miraculous.

~Josef Albers

We never really perceive what color really is, as it physically is. This fact makes color the most relative medium in art.

~Josef Albers

Abstraction is real, probably more real than nature.

~Josef Albers

Color is like cooking. The cook puts in more or less salt, that's the difference!

~Josef Albers

As we do not see squares in nature, I thought that it is man-made. But I have corrected myself. Because squares exist in salt crystals, our daily salt.

~Josef Albers

In order to use color effectively it is necessary to recognize that color deceives continually.

~Josef Albers

Learn to see and to feel life; that is, cultivate imagination, because there are still marvels in the world, because life is a mystery and always will be. But be aware of it.

~Josef Albers

The purpose of art is to re-present nature, not represent it.

~Josef Albers

There is no difference between science and art when it comes to creativeness, productiveness, to come to conclusions and to formulations.

~Josef Albers

The role of art for me is the visualization of attitude, of the human attitude towards life, towards the world.

~Josef Albers

I've handled colour as a man should behave. You may conclude that I consider ethics and aesthetics as one.

~Josef Albers

Instead of art I have taught philosophy. Though technique for me is a big word, I never have taught how to paint. All my doing was to make people to see.

~Josef Albers

Simultaneous contrast is not just a curious optical phenomenon - it is the very heart of painting.

~Josef Albers

I do not like to be a prophet. I like better to paint than to predict what the next painters will do. Though I have a feeling that consideration of order is very much in the air.

~Josef Albers

Art problems are problems of human relationship.

~Josef Albers

In my basic courses I have always tried to develop discovery and invention which, in my opinion, are the criteria of creativeness.

~Josef Albers

I want color and form to have contradictorily functions.

~Josef Albers

When we are honest - that's my saying - if we are honest then we will reveal ourselves. But we do not have to make an effort to be individualistic, different from others.

~Josef Albers

It's the only dish I serve my craziness for color in.

~Josef Albers

Repeated similar experiments with adjacent colors will show that any ground subtracts its own hue from colors which it carries and therefore influences.

~Josef Albers

Ah, the creative process is the same secret in science as it is in art. They are all the same absolutely.

~Josef Albers

If you don't do it my way, I suggest you commit suicide.

~Josef Albers

Traditionally art is to create and not to revive. To revive: leave that to the historians, who are looking backward.

~Josef Albers

Therefore art means: you have to believe, to have faith, that is, cultivate vision.

~Josef Albers

My father's parents were carpenters. They were also builders partly. They were painters. And several of them were very, active in the theatre and all such nonsense, you know.

~Josef Albers

I count all the time on resonance. I call on this, you see.

~Josef Albers

I have invented the Thermometer style.

~Josef Albers

One line plus one line results in many meanings.

~Josef Albers

I think Kandinsky and I were very near friends.

~Josef Albers

Whether something 'has color' or not is as hard to define verbally as are such questions as, 'What is music?' or 'What is musical?'

~Josef Albers

Thus art is not an object, it is an experience.

~Josef Albers

It was my family that wanted me to be a teacher. That was safe, you see. To be a painter was terrible.

~Josef Albers

Independent of harmony rules, any color 'goes' or 'works' with any other color, presupposing that their quantities are appropriate.

~Josef Albers

I have taught my students not to apply rules or mechanical ways of seeing.

~Josef Albers

I paint the way I spread butter on pumpernickel.

~Josef Albers

In Italy the artist is a god. Now if the artist is a god, the scientist is likewise a god.

~Josef Albers

I'm not a talker. I'm a formulator.

~Josef Albers

I love very much to draw animals.

~Josef Albers

I was at the Royal Art School. That was a preparatory school specially for art teachers. You see, it was not so much for the development of artists. But we had there terribly stiff training.

~Josef Albers

When we were in the seminary we got a stipend direct from the government and for that stipend we had an obligation to stick to our teaching job for five years.

~Josef Albers

A painter paints because he has no time not to paint.

~Josef Albers

What has been said does not simply belong to us.

~Josef Albers

I was for years in the yellow period, you know.

~Josef Albers

We never really perceive what color is physically!

~Josef Albers

Color deceives continuously.

~Josef Albers

A thing is never seen as it really is.

~Josef Albers

Art is concerned with the HOW and not the WHAT.

~Josef Albers

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