

Leon Battista Alberti

Quotes

*Art, Painting, Men, Errors, Light, Perfect, Color, Fortune, Practice, Body, Doe,
Artist, Drawing, Alive, Divine, Turns, Beautiful, Order, Enough, Cities*

Beauty is the adjustment of all parts proportionately so that one cannot add or subtract or change without impairing the harmony of the whole.

~Leon Battista Alberti

I certainly consider a great appreciation of painting to be the best indication of a most perfect mind.

~Leon Battista Alberti

A common error of ignorance is to maintain that what one does not know does not exist.

~Leon Battista Alberti

No art, however minor, demands less than total dedication if you want to excel in it.

~Leon Battista Alberti

A man can do all things if he will.

~Leon Battista Alberti

We must always take from nature what we paint and always choose the most beautiful things.

~Leon Battista Alberti

It is very rarely granted even to Nature herself to produce anything absolutely perfect in every part.

~Leon Battista Alberti

There is no art which has not had its beginnings in things full of errors. Nothing is at the same time both new and perfect.

~Leon Battista Alberti

The city is like a great house, and the house in its turn a small city.

~Leon Battista Alberti

... the movements of the body reveal the movements of the soul.

~Leon Battista Alberti

When I investigate and when I discover that the forces of the heavens and the planets are within ourselves, then truly I seem to be living among the gods.

~Leon Battista Alberti

The Arts are learnt by reason and method; they are mastered by practice.

~Leon Battista Alberti

I would have artists be convinced that the supreme skill and art in painting consists in knowing how to use black and white... because it is light and shade that make objects appear in relief.

~Leon Battista Alberti

Errors accumulate in the sketch and compound in the model.

~Leon Battista Alberti

Men are themselves the source of their own fortune and misfortune.

~Leon Battista Alberti

A person can do anything if they only will it strongly enough.

~Leon Battista Alberti

The function of the painter is to render... the visible surface so that at a certain distance... and position it appears... like the body itself.

~Leon Battista Alberti

Practice by drawing things large, as if equal in representation and reality. In small drawings every large weakness is easily hidden; in the large, the smallest weakness is easily seen.

~Leon Battista Alberti

It was never shameful to learn from any teacher things that are useful to know.

~Leon Battista Alberti

Painting contains a divine force which not only makes absent men present, as friendship is said to do, but moreover makes the dead seem almost alive.

~Leon Battista Alberti

The greatest work of an artist is the history of a painting.

~Leon Battista Alberti

As ability goes, so goes our fortune.

~Leon Battista Alberti

Philosophers say that nothing can be seen that is neither illuminated nor colored.

~Leon Battista Alberti

Nothing overshadows truth so much as authority.

~Leon Battista Alberti

I shall praise those faces which seem to project out of the picture as though they were sculptured, and I shall censure those faces in which I see no art but that of outline.

~Leon Battista Alberti

What is painting but the act of embracing, by means of art, the surface of the pool?

~Leon Battista Alberti

Painting is possessed of divine power, for not only does it make the absent present, but also makes the dead almost alive.

~Leon Battista Alberti

The picture will have charm when each color is very unlike the one next to it.

~Leon Battista Alberti

Buildings have been made because of man.

~Leon Battista Alberti

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