

Lewis Hyde

Quotes

*Artist, Art, Essentials, Community, Thinking, Men, Alive, Self, Garden, Stories,
Doe, Ideas, Empty, Donation, Poet, Faces, Way, Spirit, World, Creation*

But neither money nor machines can create. They shuttle tokens of energy, but they do not transform. A civilization based on them puts people out of touch with their creative powers.

~Lewis Hyde

A gift that cannot be given away ceases to be a gift. The spirit of a gift is kept alive by its constant donation.

~Lewis Hyde

An essential portion of any artist's labor is not creation so much as invocation

~Lewis Hyde

Irony has only emergency use. Carried over time it is the voice of the trapped who have come to enjoy their cage.

~Lewis Hyde

When we are moved by art we are grateful that the artist lived, grateful that he labored in the service of his gifts.

~Lewis Hyde

We are each born into a situation—a particular body (its race, sex, health...), a set of ancestors, a community, a nation—and born into the stories told of each of these.

~Lewis Hyde

We are only alive to the degree that we can let ourselves be moved.

~Lewis Hyde

We forgive when we give up attachment to our wounds.

~Lewis Hyde

I think of a myth as a story that helps you explain all the different pieces of your life. In that broad sense, there is no way to live without

mythology.

~Lewis Hyde

True citizens are not the audience of their government, nor its consumers; they are its makers.

~Lewis Hyde

The gift finds the man attractive who stands with an empty bowl he does not own.

~Lewis Hyde

Uncovering secrets is apocalyptic in the simple sense (the Greek root means "an uncovering"). In this case, it lifts the shame covers. It allows articulation to enter where silence once ruled.

~Lewis Hyde

An anaesthetic is a poet-killer.

~Lewis Hyde

Science may not be as intimate as the medical profession; nonetheless, it certainly is a community in which ideas are often shared as contributions, not as proprietary things.

~Lewis Hyde

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