

Louise Bourgeois

Quotes

Art, Artist, Mother, Sculpture, Way, Feelings, Lines, Needs, Sleep, Girl, Made, Clever, Mean, Past, Important, Giving, Interesting, Long, Accepting, Spiders

Art is restoration: the idea is to repair the damages that are inflicted in life, to make something that is fragmented - which is what fear and anxiety do to a person - into something whole.

~Louise Bourgeois

Tell your own story, and you will be interesting.

~Louise Bourgeois

One must accept the fact that others don't see what you do.

~Louise Bourgeois

In my sculpture, it's not an image I am seeking, it's not an idea. My goal is to re-live a past emotion. My art is an exorcism, and beauty is something I never talk about.

~Louise Bourgeois

A work of art doesn't have to be explained. If you do not have any feeling about this, I cannot explain it to you. If this doesn't touch you, I have failed.

~Louise Bourgeois

I have been to hell and back, and let me tell you, it was wonderful.

~Louise Bourgeois

I am not what I am, I am what I do with my hands.

~Louise Bourgeois

Art is a guarantee of sanity. That is the most important thing I have said.

~Louise Bourgeois

I came from a family of repairers. The spider is a repairer. If you bash into the web of a spider, she doesn't get mad. She weaves and repairs it.

~Louise Bourgeois

An artist can show things that other people are terrified of expressing.

~Louise Bourgeois

I am a searcher... I always was... and I still am... searching for the missing piece.

~Louise Bourgeois

The feminists took me as a role model, as a mother. It bothers me. I am not interested in being a mother. I am still a girl trying to understand myself.

~Louise Bourgeois

Horizontality is a desire to give up, to sleep. Verticality is an attempt to escape. Hanging and floating are states of ambivalence.

~Louise Bourgeois

The subject of pain is the business I am in - to give meaning and shape to frustration and suffering. The existence of pain cannot be denied. I propose no remedies or excuses.

~Louise Bourgeois

Every day you have to abandon your past or accept it and then, if you cannot accept it, you become a sculptor.

~Louise Bourgeois

It is not so much where my motivation comes from but rather how it manages to survive.

~Louise Bourgeois

Art is a way of recognizing oneself.

~Louise Bourgeois

A work of art doesn't have to be explained.

~Louise Bourgeois

Don't get the green disease of envy. Don't be fooled by success and money. Don't let anything come between you and your work.

~Louise Bourgeois

Art is manipulation without intervention.

~Louise Bourgeois

I do not need the musing of the philosophers to tell me what I am doing. It would be more interesting to let me know why I am doing it.

~Louise Bourgeois

My childhood has never lost its magic, it has never lost its mystery, and it has never lost its drama.

~Louise Bourgeois

I have kept a diary as long as I can remember, and drawings are really another kind of diary.

~Louise Bourgeois

My art is a form of restoration in terms of my feelings to myself and to others.

~Louise Bourgeois

You must put the essence of what you want to say into a painting. The rest is arbitrary. Chosen with discernment, but chosen, and choice involves elimination.

~Louise Bourgeois

Clothing is . . . an exercise in memory. It makes me explore the past: how did I feel when I wore that. They are like signposts in the search for the past.

~Louise Bourgeois

To be an artist, you need to exist in a world of silence.

~Louise Bourgeois

I always had the fear of being separated and abandoned. The sewing is my attempt to keep things together and make things whole.

~Louise Bourgeois

My work disturbs people and nobody wants to be disturbed. They are not fully aware of the effect my work has on them, but they know it is disturbing.

~Louise Bourgeois

My knives are like a tongue - I love, I do not love, I hate. If you don't love me, I am ready to attack. I am a double-edged knife.

~Louise Bourgeois

Everywhere in the modern world there is neglect, the need to be recognized, which is not satisfied. Art is a way of recognizing oneself, which is why it will always be modern.

~Louise Bourgeois

If you flatter me, or if you look at me the right way, I will kill myself to please you. It's very painful to be an overachiever.

~Louise Bourgeois

Art is a guarantee of sanity.

~Louise Bourgeois

It is a great privilege to be able to work with, and I suppose work off, my feelings through sculpture.

~Louise Bourgeois

Sometimes it is necessary to make a confrontation-and I like that.

~Louise Bourgeois

Once I was beset by anxiety but I pushed the fear away by studying the sky, determining when the moon would come out and where the sun would appear in the morning.

~Louise Bourgeois

If you are resentful, you keep the thing alive. So the way to go on is to get rid of it, in order to forgive in order to forget.

~Louise Bourgeois

My life has been regulated by insomnia.

~Louise Bourgeois

It is not a torment to be an artist. It is a privilege.

~Louise Bourgeois

To express your emotions, you have to be very loose and receptive. The unconscious will come to you if you have that gift that artists have. I only know if I'm inspired by the results.

~Louise Bourgeois

Look at it this way - a totem pole is just a decorated tree. My work is a confessional.

~Louise Bourgeois

Artists are born not made. There's nothing you can do for them.

~Louise Bourgeois

For me, sculpture is the body. My body is my sculpture.

~Louise Bourgeois

I found in rules of mathematics a peace and a trust that I could not

place in human beings. This sublimation was total and remained total.

~Louise Bourgeois

Everyone should have the right to marry. To make a commitment to love someone forever is a beautiful thing.

~Louise Bourgeois

Surrealism is anathema for me. Because the surrealists made a joke of everything. And I consider life a tragedy.

~Louise Bourgeois

The spider is an animal who eats mosquitoes. That's why I love the spider - it is the only way we have to deal with these insects.

~Louise Bourgeois

I was a runaway girl from France who married an American and moved to New York City. Im not sure I would have continued as an artist had I remained in Paris because of the family setup.

~Louise Bourgeois

I am a lonely runner, but I am a long-distance runner.

~Louise Bourgeois

Artists have to be useful. They have to fill a role.

~Louise Bourgeois

I dont watch TV. I dont use a computer, a fax or a cellphone.

~Louise Bourgeois

I was raised a Catholic. But I am not religious. In my work, I am interested in real flesh and blood.

~Louise Bourgeois

I work like a bee and feel that I accomplish little.

~Louise Bourgeois

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