

Lucian Freud

Quotes

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The painter makes real to others his innermost feelings about all that he cares for. A secret becomes known to everyone who views the picture through the intensity with which it is felt.

~Lucian Freud

Painting is sometimes like those recipes where you do all manner of elaborate things to a duck, and then end up putting it on one side and only using the skin.

~Lucian Freud

The longer you look at an object, the more abstract it becomes, and, ironically, the more real.

~Lucian Freud

What do I ask of a painting? I ask it to astonish, disturb, seduce, convince.

~Lucian Freud

Everything is autobiographical and everything is a portrait.

~Lucian Freud

Full, saturated colours have an emotional significance I want to avoid.

~Lucian Freud

The aura given out by a person or object is as much a part of them as their flesh.

~Lucian Freud

It is the only point of getting up every morning: to paint, to make something good, to make something even better than before, not to give up, to compete, to be ambitious.

~Lucian Freud

I've always wanted to create drama in my pictures, which is why I paint

people. It's people who have brought drama to pictures from the beginning. The simplest human gestures tell stories.

~Lucian Freud

I paint people, not because of what they are like, not exactly in spite of what they are like, but how they happen to be.

~Lucian Freud

Sometimes, when I've been staring too hard, I've noticed that I could see the circumference of my own eye.

~Lucian Freud

I would wish my portraits to be of the people, not like them. Not having a look of the sitter, being them.

~Lucian Freud

The only way I could work properly was by using the absolute maximum of observation and concentration that I could possible muster.

~Lucian Freud

A painter's tastes must grow out of what so obsesses him in life that he never has to ask himself what it is suitable for him to do in art.

~Lucian Freud

The task of the artist is to make the human being uncomfortable.

~Lucian Freud

The painter must give a completely free rein to any feeling or sensations he may have and reject nothing to which he is naturally drawn.

~Lucian Freud

The model should only serve the very private function for the painter of

providing the starting point for his excitement

~Lucian Freud

My work is purely autobiographical... It is about myself and my surroundings.

~Lucian Freud

As far as I am concerned the paint is the person. I want it to work for me just as flesh does

~Lucian Freud

The painter's obsession with his subject is all that he needs to drive him to work.

~Lucian Freud

The paintings that really excite me have an erotic element or side to them irrespective of subject matter

~Lucian Freud

The character of the artist doesn't enter into the nature of the art

~Lucian Freud

I work from the people that interest me, and that I care about, in rooms that I live in and know. I use the people to invent my pictures, and I can work more freely when they are there.

~Lucian Freud

Losing as much money as I can get hold of is an instant solution to my economic problems.

~Lucian Freud

It is through observation and perception of atmosphere that he [the artist] can register the feeling that he wishes his painting to give out.

~Lucian Freud

I use the gallery as if it were a doctor. I come for ideas and help - to look at situations within painting, rather than paintings.

~Lucian Freud

I could never put anything into a picture that wasn't actually there in front of me. That would be a pointless lie, a mere bit of artfulness.

~Lucian Freud

I think half the point of painting a picture is that you don't know what will happen... that if painters did know what was going to happen they wouldn't bother to do it.

~Lucian Freud

The only secret I can claim to have is concentration, and that's something that can't be taught.

~Lucian Freud

If all the qualities which a painter took from the model for his picture were really taken, no person could be painted twice.

~Lucian Freud

I have a timetable, but no routine.

~Lucian Freud

The paintings live because their creator has been passionately attentive to their theme, and his attention has left something for us to look at. It seems a sort of miracle.

~Lucian Freud

I have a hatred of habit and routine. And what dogs love is just that. They like regular everything, and I don't have regular anything. I have a timetable, but no routine.

~Lucian Freud

The process of creation becomes necessary to the painter perhaps more than is the picture. The process in fact is habit-forming

~Lucian Freud

A painter must think of everything he sees as being there entirely for his own use and pleasure.

~Lucian Freud

When I look at a body it gives me choice of what to put in a painting, what will suit me and what won't

~Lucian Freud

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