

Margot Fonteyn

Quotes

*Dance, Dancing, Way, People, Ballet, Self Esteem, World, Age, Continents,
Magic, Civilization, Athlete, Inexplicable, Self Respect, Firsts, Ambition,
Running, Women, Real, Achievement*

Great artists are people who find the way to be themselves in their art. Any sort of pretension induces mediocrity in art and life alike.

~Margot Fonteyn

Take your work seriously, but never yourself.

~Margot Fonteyn

The one important thing I have learned over the years is the difference between taking one's work seriously and taking one's self seriously. The first is imperative and the second is disastrous.

~Margot Fonteyn

the first night is the worst possible time to make a hard and fast criticism: the baby never looks its best on the day it is born.

~Margot Fonteyn

Genius is another word for magic, and the whole point of magic is that it is inexplicable.

~Margot Fonteyn

I explained it when I danced it.

~Margot Fonteyn

Jumping for joy' is a very basic human reaction, and a child skipping down the street is simply an untrained dancer.

~Margot Fonteyn

generally speaking, we are all happier when we are still striving for achievement than when the prize is in our hands.

~Margot Fonteyn

Ballet is more than a profession - it is a way of life.

~Margot Fonteyn

Traveling carries with it the curse of being at home everywhere and yet nowhere, for wherever one is some part of oneself remains on another continent.

~Margot Fonteyn

Life forms illogical patterns. It is haphazard and full of beauties which I try to catch as they fly by, for who knows whether any of them will ever return?

~Margot Fonteyn

The world of dance is a charmed place. Some people like to inhabit it, others to behold it; either way it is rewarding.

~Margot Fonteyn

I think perhaps I've learned to be myself. I have a theory that all artists who would be important - painters and writers - must learn to be themselves. It takes a very long time.

~Margot Fonteyn

Dancers are both athletes and artists.

~Margot Fonteyn

... when I left the stage door and sought my orientation among real people I was in a wilderness of unpredictables in an unchoreographed world.

~Margot Fonteyn

Minor things can become moments of great revelation when encountered for the first time.

~Margot Fonteyn

The world of dance is a natural world from which civilization has divorced many of us by making it appear remote - something reserved for the few who have a special talent.

~Margot Fonteyn

Life offstage has sometimes been a wilderness of unpredictables in an unchoreographed world.

~Margot Fonteyn

The essential thing about mothers is that one needs to know that they are there, particularly at that age when, paradoxically, one is trying so hard to break away from parental influence.

~Margot Fonteyn

I've found the perfect partner.

~Margot Fonteyn

...wherever one is, some part of oneself remains on another continent.

~Margot Fonteyn

Dancing was something to be taken very seriously when engaged in and otherwise put out of mind.

~Margot Fonteyn

I have never wanted to live to be old, so old I'd run out of friends or money.

~Margot Fonteyn

Genius is another word for magic.

~Margot Fonteyn

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