

# Mark Tobey

## Quotes

*Space, Artist, Too Much, Expression, Painting, Looks, Men, Serenity, World,  
Should Have, Individual, Understanding, Movement, Broke, Reality, Ideas,  
Figures, Believe, Want, Eggs*

Sitting on the floor of a room in Japan, looking out on a small garden with flowers blooming and dragonflies hovering in space, I suddenly felt as if I had been too long above my boots.

~Mark Tobey

On pavements and the bark of trees I have found whole worlds.

~Mark Tobey

I believe that painting should come through the avenues of meditation rather than the canals of action.

~Mark Tobey

The search for an equilibrium is essential for the artist, to be as aware of inner space as he is of outer space.

~Mark Tobey

I am accused often of too much experimentation.., but what else should I do when all other factors of man are in the same condition. I thrust forward into space as science and the rest do.

~Mark Tobey

An artist must find his expression closely linked to his individual experience or else follow in the old grooves resulting in lifeless forms.

~Mark Tobey

We all feel a separateness; we wish that a drop of water would soften our ego; the world needs a common conscience: agreement... we must concentrate outside ourselves.

~Mark Tobey

At a time when experimentation expresses itself in all forms of life, search becomes the only valid expression of the spirit.

~Mark Tobey

According to one critic, my works looked like scraped billboards. I went to look at the billboards and decided that more billboards should be scraped.

~Mark Tobey

We look at the mountain to see the painting, then we look at the painting to see the mountain.

~Mark Tobey

White lines in movement symbolize a unifying idea which flows through the compartmented units of life bringing the consciousness of a larger relativity.

~Mark Tobey

I've tried to decentralize and interpenetrate so that all parts of a painting are of related value.

~Mark Tobey

Don't help the young too much â€” it will just weaken them and they'll resent it, and finally start avoiding you.

~Mark Tobey

The Cubists used the figure, but they broke it up.

~Mark Tobey

Reality must be expressed by a physical symbol.

~Mark Tobey

We have tried to fit man into abstraction, but he does not fit.

~Mark Tobey

Every artist's problem today is: What will we do with the human?

~Mark Tobey

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