

# Marlene Dumas

## Quotes

*Art, Shows, Drawing, Pain, Thinking, Erotic, Pleasure, Happens, Late, Mean,  
Doubt, Too Late, Light, Pretty Things, Giving, Heavy, Wanted, Moments,  
Crowds, Confusion*

There is no beauty, if it doesn't show some of the terribleness of life.

~Marlene Dumas

No painting can exist without the tension of what it figures and what it concretely consists of. The pleasure of what it could mean and the pain of what it's not.

~Marlene Dumas

My best works are erotic displays of mental confusions.. with intrusions of irrelevant information.

~Marlene Dumas

I do think that I'm not good at making pretty things. It doesn't come so naturally for me.

~Marlene Dumas

Drawings are only a few lines on paper. Therefore it's easy to carry around in plastic bags. Drawings are cheaper than paintings. They don't pretend they'll last forever.

~Marlene Dumas

At the moment my art is situated between the pornographic tendency to reveal everything and the erotic inclination to hide what it's all about.

~Marlene Dumas

The demi-monde does not represent the crowd of courtesans, but the class of declassed women. It is divided from that of honest women by public scandal, and divided from that of the courtesans by money.

~Marlene Dumas

I moved to Holland because I wanted to see American art.

~Marlene Dumas

There are these painterly things that happen while I'm working.

~Marlene Dumas

I'm always so sick of myself after a show.

~Marlene Dumas

I have always been interested in how you can depict suffering without being heavy-handed.

~Marlene Dumas

I never learned to ride a bicycle, and it is too late now. I never learned to drive. I never learned to swim.

~Marlene Dumas

I think I am probably a lot like my father.

~Marlene Dumas

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