

Pierre-Auguste Renoir Quotes

Art, Painting, Artist, Paint, People, Thinking, Needs, Want, Painter, Beauty, Enough, Two, Years, Mean, Looks, Courage, School, Trying, Periods, Use

It took me twenty years to discover painting: twenty years looking at nature, and above all, going to the Louvre.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

To my mind, a picture should be something pleasant, cheerful, and pretty, yes pretty! There are too many unpleasant things in life as it is without creating still more of them.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

The pain passes, but the beauty remains.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Art is about emotion; if art needs to be explained it is no longer art.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

One morning, one of us ran out of the black, it was the birth of Impressionism.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

When I've painted a woman's bottom so that I want to touch it, then [the painting] is finished.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Work lovingly done is the secret of all order and all happiness.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Why shouldn't art be pretty? There are enough unpleasant things in the world.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

One must from time to time attempt things that are beyond one's capacity.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Photography freed painting from a lot of tiresome chores, starting with family portraits.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Regularity, order, desire for perfection destroy art. Irregularity is the basis of all art.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I like a painting which makes me want to stroll in it.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I need to feel the excitement of life stirring around me, and I will always need to feel that.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I consider that women who are authors, lawyers, and politicians are monsters.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Paint with joy - with the same joy that you would make love to a woman.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

The advantage of growing old is that you become aware of your mistakes more quickly.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

It's with my brush that I make love.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

About 1883 something like a break occurred in my work. I had reached the end of 'impressionism,' and I had come to realize that I did not know how to paint or draw.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

People love to be nice, but you must give them the chance.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

It is after you have lost your teeth that you can afford to buy steaks.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

A painter who has the feel of breasts and buttocks is saved.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Go and see what others have produced, but never copy anything except nature. You would be trying to enter into a temperament that is not yours and nothing that you would do would have any character.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

White does not exist in nature.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I would never have taken up painting if women did not have breasts.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

What is to be done about these literary people, who will never understand that painting is a craft and that the material side comes first? The ideas come afterwards, when the picture is finished.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

We are in a period of searchers rather than of creators.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I never think I have finished a nude until I think I could pinch it.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

The modern architect is, generally speaking, art's greatest enemy.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Be a good craftsman; it won't stop you from being a genius.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

The simplest subjects are the immortal ones.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

God, the king of artists, was clumsy.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

The ideas come afterwards, when the picture is finished.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I have no rules and no methods... no secrets.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

The artist who uses the least of what is called imagination will be the greatest.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

You don't talk about paintings, you look at them.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

The purpose of painting is to decorate the walls. Therefore it has to be as rich as possible

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I look at a nude. There are myriads of tiny tints. I must find the ones that will make the flesh on my canvas live and quiver.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Do not think that it is possible to repeat another period.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I want a red to be sonorous, to sound like a bell. If it doesn't turn out

that way, I add more reds and other colors until I get it.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

To get someone to pose, you have to be very good friends and above all speak the language.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

One can thus state, without fear of being wrong, that every truly artistic production has been conceived and executed according to the principle of irregularity.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

"The work of art must seize upon you...carry you away."

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I arrange my subject as I want it, then I go ahead and paint it, like a child.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

If the professional schools should succeed in producing skilled workers trained in the technique of their craft, nothing could be done with them if they had no ideal.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

How is it that in the so-called barbarian ages art was understood, whereas in our age of progress exactly the opposite is true?

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

An artist must eat sparingly and give up a normal way of life.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I've known painters who never did any good work because instead of painting their models they seduced them.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

My concern has always been to paint nudes as if they were some splendid fruit.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Progress in painting, there's no such thing! ...One day I went and changed the yellow on my palette. Well, the result was, I floundered for ten years!

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

You come to nature with all her theories, and she knocks them all flat.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

If it [dabbling in art] didn't amuse me, I beg you to believe that I wouldn't do it.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Why should beauty be suspect?

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Religion is everywhere. It is in the mind, in the heart, in the love you put into what you do.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Berthe Morisot was a painter full of eighteenth-century delicacy and grace; in a word, the last elegant and 'feminine' artists since Fragonard.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

And if out of a million visitors there is even one to whom art means something, that is enough to justify museums.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

It is impossible to repeat in one period what was done in another. The point of view is not the same, any more than are the tools, the ideals, the

needs, or the painters' techniques.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

There are two indices of genuine art: it is inimitable and it is ineffable.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

They tell you that a tree is only a combination of chemical elements. I prefer to believe that God created it, and that it is inhabited by a nymph.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I have a horror of the word 'flesh', which has become so shopworn. Why not 'meat' while they're about it? What I like is skin, a young girl's skin that is pink and shows that she has a good circulation.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

To be an artist you must learn the laws of nature.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I have a predilection for painting that lends joyousness to a wall.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

An artist, under pain of oblivion, must have confidence in himself, and listen only to his real master: Nature.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

The only reward one should offer an artist is to buy his work.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

There are quite enough unpleasant things in life without the need to manufacture more.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I've never let one day go by without painting, or at least without

drawing.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Nothing costs so little, goes so far, and accomplishes so much as a single act of merciful service.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I just keep painting till I feel like pinching. Then I know it's right.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

In a few generations you can breed a racehorse. The recipe for making a man like Delacroix is less well known.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I had wrung impressionism dry and I finally came to the conclusion that I know neither how to paint nor how to draw.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

With a limited palette, the older painters could do just as well as today what they did was sounder.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

The most important element in a picture cannot be defined.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

You've got to be a fool to want to stop the march of time.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

There are some things in painting which cannot be explained, and that something is essential.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

I've spent my life making blunders.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Shall I tell you what I think are the two qualities of a work of art? First, it must be indescribable, and second, it must be inimitable.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Everybody has their reasons.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

With all their damned talk of modern painting, I've been forty years discovering that the queen of all colours is black!

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

People will keep on taking them for theorists, when all they wanted was to paint in gay, bright colours, like the old masters.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

If the painter works directly from nature, he ultimately looks for nothing but momentary effects; he does not try to compose, and soon he gets monotonous.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

He bores me. He ought to have stuck to his flying machine. [On Leonardo Da Vinci]

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

It is not enough for a painter to be a clever craftsman; he must love to 'caress' his canvas, too.

~Pierre-Auguste Renoir

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