

# Robert Schumann

## Quotes

*Art, Play, Writing, Piano, Mind, Music, Genius, Artist, Heart, Skills, Impossible,  
Eye, May, Pieces, Spirit, Different, Believe, Masters, People, Doe*

If we were all determined to play the first violin we should never have an ensemble. therefore, respect every musician in his proper place.

~Robert Schumann

The principal mark of genius is not perfection, but originality.

~Robert Schumann

To send light into the darkness of men's hearts - such is the duty of the artist.

~Robert Schumann

Talent works, genius creates.

~Robert Schumann

When you play, never mind who listens to you.

~Robert Schumann

For me, music is always the language which permits one to converse with the Beyond.

~Robert Schumann

Play always as if in the presence of a master.

~Robert Schumann

I am so fresh in soul and spirit that life gushes and bubbles around me in a thousand springs.

~Robert Schumann

When you play, do not trouble yourself as to who is listening. Yet always play as though a master listened to you.

~Robert Schumann

In order to compose, all you need to do is remember a tune that nobody else has thought of.

~Robert Schumann

Art was not created as a way to riches. Strive to become a true artist; all else will take care of itself.

~Robert Schumann

I sometimes lack confidence in public, although I am proud enough inwardly.

~Robert Schumann

"We liked it" or "I didn't like it" people say. As if it were nothing higher than to please the people!

~Robert Schumann

Let your intimate friends be chosen from such as are better informed than yourself.

~Robert Schumann

Endeavour to play easy pieces well and with elegance; that is better than to play difficult pieces badly.

~Robert Schumann

Can that which has cost the artist days, weeks, months and even years of reflection be understood in a flash by a dilettante?

~Robert Schumann

From a pound of iron, that costs little, a thousand watch-springs can be made, whose value becomes prodigious. The pound you have received from the Lord,--use it faithfully.

~Robert Schumann

For me Wagner is impossible... he talks without ever stopping. One can't just talk all the time.

~Robert Schumann

Nothing right can be accomplished in art without enthusiasm.

~Robert Schumann

Perhaps only a Genius can truly understand Genius.

~Robert Schumann

You write to become immortal, or because the piano happens to be open, or you've looked into a pair of beautiful eyes.

~Robert Schumann

A fiery, good beginner always stands higher than a master in mediocrity.

~Robert Schumann

You will be most readily cured of vanity or presumption by studying the history of music, and by hearing the master pieces which have been produced at different periods.

~Robert Schumann

To compose is to remember music that has never been written.

~Robert Schumann

When young, one learns his craftsmanship, may become a young master, and it is youth that is most auspicious for developing certain skills.

~Robert Schumann

Only when the form grows clear to you, will the spirit become so too.

~Robert Schumann

Send light to the dark hearts of men, that is the duty the artist.

~Robert Schumann

The aesthetic principle is the same in every art, only the material

differs.

~Robert Schumann

Think it a vile habit to alter works of good composers, to omit parts of them, or to insert new-fashioned ornaments. This is the greatest insult you can offer to Art.

~Robert Schumann

I feel so entirely in my element with a full orchestra; even if my mortal enemies were marshalled before me, I could lead them, master them, surround them, or repulse them.

~Robert Schumann

Music induces nightingales to sing, pug dogs to yelp.

~Robert Schumann

Music owes as much to Bach as religion to its founder.

~Robert Schumann

The poet sees better than other mortals. I do not see things as they are, but according to my own subjective impression, and this makes life easier and simpler.

~Robert Schumann

Without enthusiasm nothing great can be effected in art.

~Robert Schumann

Believe me, were I ever to accomplish anything, it would be in music, which has always attracted me; and, without overestimating myself, I am conscious of possessing a certain creative faculty.

~Robert Schumann

The flame that is naturally clear always gives the most light and heat. If I could blend my talent for poetry and music into one, the light would

burn still clearer, and I might go far.

~Robert Schumann

We may be sure that a genius like Mozart, were he born today, would write concertos like Chopin and not like Mozart.

~Robert Schumann

We have learned to express the more delicate nuances of feeling by penetrating more deeply into the mysteries of harmony.

~Robert Schumann

We shouldn't repeat the same for ages on end, but look into the new as well.

~Robert Schumann

Music - so different from painting - is the art which we enjoy most in company with others. A symphony, presented in a room with one other listener, would please him but little.

~Robert Schumann

My symphonies would have reached Opus 100 if I had but written them down... Sometimes I am so full of music, and so overflowing with melody, that I find it simply impossible to write down anything.

~Robert Schumann

I was a God-fearing child, innocent and physically attractive.

~Robert Schumann

My heart pounds sickeningly and I turn pale... I often feel as if I were dead... I seem to be losing my mind.

~Robert Schumann

That first concept is always the most naturally and best. The mind errs, the emotion never.

~Robert Schumann

My whole life has been a twenty years struggle between poetry and prose, or, if you like to call it so, Music and Law.

~Robert Schumann

Thus it is ever in life. The aims we once pursued no longer satisfy us; we aim, we strive, we aspire, until sight fails, and mind and body find rest in the grave.

~Robert Schumann

Does it not seem as if Mozart's works become fresher and fresher the oftener we hear them?

~Robert Schumann

You should neither play bad compositions, nor, unless compelled, listen to them.

~Robert Schumann

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