

Virgil Thomson

Quotes

*Musician, Writing, Happens, Discipline, Imagination, Deception, Musical, Years,
Don't Care, Jobs, Florence, Care, Crush, Judgment, Should, Wisdom,
Communication, Dropping, Might, Regret*

I said to my friends that if I was going to starve, I might as well starve where the food is good.

~Virgil Thomson

Try a thing you haven't done three times. Once, to get over the fear of doing it. Twice, to learn how to do it. And a third time to figure out whether you like it or not.

~Virgil Thomson

In Paris, you learn wit, in London you learn to crush your social rivals, and in Florence you learn poise.

~Virgil Thomson

I seem to write an opera about every 20 years; if you live long enough you can write four operas. I finished my third in 1970.

~Virgil Thomson

Let your mind alone, and see what happens.

~Virgil Thomson

The way to write American music is simple. All you have to do is be an American and then write any kind of music you wish.

~Virgil Thomson

I listened to the pure crystalline notes of one of Mozart's concertos dropping at my feet like leaves from the trees.

~Virgil Thomson

I've never known a musician who regretted being one. Music itself is not going to let you down.

~Virgil Thomson

A libretto that should never have been accepted on a subject that should never have been chosen by a man who should never have

attempted it.

~Virgil Thomson

Reviewing music or reviewing anything is a writing job. It's nice if you are experienced in the field you are writing about, but writing is what you are doing.

~Virgil Thomson

Musicians own music because music owns them.

~Virgil Thomson

I never learned to verbalize an abstract musical concept. No thank you. The whole point of being a serious musician is to avoid verbalization whenever you can.

~Virgil Thomson

Every composer's music reflects in its subject-matter and in its style the source of the money the composer is living on while writing the music.

~Virgil Thomson

Verbal communication about music is impossible except among musicians.

~Virgil Thomson

I don't care what other critics say, I only hope to be played.

~Virgil Thomson

Whatever deceptions life may have in store for you, music itself is not going to let you down.

~Virgil Thomson

I don't go around regretting things that don't happen.

~Virgil Thomson

You explain how it went, and as far as you can figure out how it got that way.

~Virgil Thomson

Related Links:

- Musician Quotes
- Writing Quotes
- Happens Quotes
- Discipline Quotes
- Imagination Quotes
- Deception Quotes
- Musical Quotes
- Years Quotes
- Don't Care Quotes
- Jobs Quotes
- Florence Quotes
- Care Quotes
- Crush Quotes
- Judgment Quotes
- Should Quotes
- Wisdom Quotes
- Communication Quotes
- Dropping Quotes
- Might Quotes
- Regret Quotes