

W. Eugene Smith

Quotes

Photography, Photographer, Thinking, War, Art, Artist, Attitude, Emotional, Writing, Voice, Wall, Light, Giving, Depth, Museums, Purpose, Trying, Men, Use, Soul

Never have I found the limits of the photographic potential. Every horizon, upon being reached, reveals another beckoning in the distance. Always, I am on the threshold.

~W. Eugene Smith

Photography is a small voice, at best, but sometimes one photograph, or a group of them, can lure our sense of awareness.

~W. Eugene Smith

Hardening of the categories causes art disease.

~W. Eugene Smith

The world just does not fit conveniently into the format of a 35mm camera.

~W. Eugene Smith

Passion is in all great searches and is necessary to all creative endeavors.

~W. Eugene Smith

I didn't write the rules. Why would I follow them?

~W. Eugene Smith

I think photojournalism is documentary photography with a purpose.

~W. Eugene Smith

If I can get them to think, get them to feel, get them to see, then I've done about all that I can as a teacher.

~W. Eugene Smith

What use having a great depth of field, if there is not an adequate depth of feeling?

~W. Eugene Smith

My photographs at best hold only a small length, but through them I would suggest and criticize and illuminate and try to give compassionate understanding.

~W. Eugene Smith

The journalistic photographer can have no other than a personal approach; and it is impossible for him to be completely objective. Honestâ€™yes. Objectiveâ€™no.

~W. Eugene Smith

I try to take what voice I have and I give it to those who don't have one at all.

~W. Eugene Smith

I can't stand these damn shows on museum walls with neat little frames, where you look at the images as if they were pieces of art. I want them to be pieces of life!

~W. Eugene Smith

Available light is any damn light that is available!

~W. Eugene Smith

I've never made any picture, good or bad, without paying for it in emotional turmoil.

~W. Eugene Smith

I would that my photographs might be, not the coverage of a news event, but an indictment of war.

~W. Eugene Smith

The first word I would remove from the folklore of journalism is the word objective.

~W. Eugene Smith

Many claim I am a photographer of tragedy. In the greater sense I am not, for though I often photograph where the tragic emotion is present, the result is almost invariably affirmative.

~W. Eugene Smith

With considerable soul searching, that to the utmost of my ability, I have let truth be the prejudice.

~W. Eugene Smith

... to become neighbours and friends instead of journalists. This is the way to make your finest photographs.

~W. Eugene Smith

You can't photograph if you're not in love.

~W. Eugene Smith

What's the best type of light? Why that would be available light... and by available light I mean any damn light is available.

~W. Eugene Smith

The purpose of all art is to cause a deep and emotion, also one that is entertaining or pleasing. Out of the depth and entertainment comes value.

~W. Eugene Smith

My pictures are complex and so am I.

~W. Eugene Smith

Most photographers seem to operate with a pane of glass between themselves and their subjects. They just can't get inside and know the subject.

~W. Eugene Smith

An artist must be ruthlessly selfish.

~W. Eugene Smith

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