**Artistry**

**People assume they are most creative at a certain age. But if you look at truly great artists, they always get better. *(Jeff Koons)***

**Why ancient artists painted spotted horses: In their famous cave paintings in southwestern France, Stone Age artists drew brown horses, black horses – and white horses with black spots. The spotted coats depicted in those 25,000-year-old images have long puzzled archeologists, who wondered if they were imaginary and had some special spiritual meaning. But now, through DNA analysis of ancient horse fossils, scientists have determined that the Paleolithic artists were realists: Of the 31 horses analyzed, 18 were brown, seven were black, and six had coats with “leopard” spotting. “People drew spotty horses because they saw spotty horses,” archeologist Terry O’Connor of the University of York tells The New York Times. Knowing that the prehistoric cave artists painted real horses, however, doesn’t explain “why they took the effort making these beautiful paintings,” says study co-author Michael Hofreiter. The fact that early humans felt it was important to create art, at a time when life was precarious and hard, “tells us a lot about ourselves as a species.” *(The Week magazine, November 25, 2011)***

**An artist is anyone who takes pride in doing a job well. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Architecture is a visual art, and the buildings speak for themselves. *(Julia Morgan, California's first woman to receive an architecture license in 1904)***

**As for museums, the science sort attract more people than the history sort, and the history sort more than the art sort. *(L. M. Boyd)***

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**The purpose of art is to lay bare the questions hidden by the answers. *(James Baldwin)***

**Art would not be important if life were not important, and life is important. *(James Baldwin)***

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**The most noble art is to make someone happy. (P. T. Barnum)**

**Grandpa: “Painting a basket of squash, huh?” Grandma: “No, not really. That’s just the outward manifestation. You have to look deeper. ‘Every artist dips his brush in his own soul, and paints his own nature into his pictures.’ – Henry Ward Beecher.” Grandpa: “It still looks like a basket of squash to me. – Earl Pickles.” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**There is no best musician, best artist, best dancer, best actor. The arts are subjective. It’s like a song or an album is made and it almost has a radar to find the person when they need it most. (Jon Batiste, at the 64*th* Annual Grammy Awards)**

**All art begins as a struggle against chaos. *(Andre Malraux)***

**A great artist leaves us with the feeling that something is right in the world.**

***(Leonard Bernstein)***

**With the best art, everything you thought you knew comes into question -- even who you are -- and we need to remember that this is a good thing. *(Nancy Spector, in Time magazine)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**An artist can look at a pretty girl and see the old woman she will become. A better artist can look at an old woman and see the pretty girl she used to be. A great artist can look at an old woman, portray her exactly as she is and force the viewer to see the pretty girl she used to be. More than that, he can make anyone with the sensitivity of an armadillo see that this lovely young girl is still alive, imprisoned inside her ruined body. He can make you feel the quiet, endless tragedy that there was never a girl born who ever grew older than 18 in her heart, no matter what the merciless hours have done. *(Robert A. Heinlein, in Stranger in a Strange Land)***

**An artist cannot speak about his art any more than a plant can discuss horticulture. *(Jean Cocteau)***

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**I have come to the personal conclusion that while all artists are not chess players, all chess players are artists. *(Marcel Duchamp)***

**Art, like morality, consists of drawing the line somewhere., (*G. K. Chesterton)***

**Without tradition, art is a flock of sheep without a shepherd. Without innovation, it is a corpse. *(Winston Churchill)***

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**The very first detailed and accurate anatomical drawings were not done by a doctor or scientist, but by an artist, Leonardo da Vinci, who used cadavers to detail the functions of the human body and its organs. *(Omaha World-Herald)***

**Art is never finished, only abandoned. *(Leonardo da Vinci)***

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**Art is the demonstration that the ordinary is extraordinary*. (Amedee Ozenfant, in Foundations of Modern Art)***

**Be glad there are artists doing absurd outrageous things – otherwise we might have to do them ourselves. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Art is the expression of the profoundest thoughts in the simplest way. *(Albert Einstein)***

**Artists are the elite of the servant class. *(Jasper Johns)***

**Two very famous artists were asked to paint pictures that would express their idea of peace. One painted a beautiful lake surrounded with colorful flowers and shrubs, behind which on gently rolling pastures lands grazed contented cattle. The other artist painted a waterfall plunging to the rocks below making a fine spray as it hit the bottom where it roared and tumbled tumultuously. On a ledge of rock behind the seething cataracts the artist painted a little mother bird quietly sitting on her nest. *(Uplift magazine)***

**The artist is extremely lucky who is presented with the worst possible ordeal which will not actually kill him. At that point, he’s in business. *(John Berryman, poet)***

**The principal function of every artist is to make us see the world that was always there, but which we were unaware of until the artist opened our eyes. *(Garrett Hardin)***

**An artist is an artist because he is not happy with the world, so he creates his own existence. *(Robin Gibb)***

**Animals inspired artist Pablo Picasso to offer this challenging view of the Almighty Creator: “God is really only another artist. He invented the giraffe, the elephant, and the cat. He has no real style. He just goes on trying other things.” *(Bob Fenster, in They Did What!?, p. 146)***

**Good art is not what it looks like, but what it does to us. *(Roy Adzak)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Great art isn't subjective: Beauty is not strictly in the eye of the beholder, a new study says. Great works of art appear to follow rules of proportion and design that have universal appeal, at least in Western culture. Italian neuroscientists showed images of Classical and Renaissance sculptures by the likes of Michelangelo and da Vinci to 14 volunteers with no artistic training -- some of whom had never been to a museum. Some of the images were altered so that the original proportions of the sculptures were slightly modified. When subjects viewed the pictures of the original sculptures, scans of their brains showed a strong emotional response; they were clearly moved. There was much less response to the sculptures with subtle changes in proportion. "We were very surprised that very small modifications to images of the sculptures led to very strong modifications in brain activity," researcher Giacomo Rizzolatti tells LiveScience.com. He believes that the human brain may have a special attraction to images that demonstrate the "golden ratio," an eye-pleasing proportion of 1-to-0.618 that shows up again and again in art and nature. This ratio can be found in a nautilus shell and spiral galaxies, and in Michelangelo's Pieta and the Pyramids. When the brain sees these magical proportions, Rizzolatti says, it interprets them as evidence of great beauty. *(The Week magazine, December 7, 2007)***

**A great city is one that handles its garbage and art equally well. *(Quoted by Bob Talbert, in Detroit Free Press)***

**The greater the artist, the greater the doubt. Perfect confidence is granted to the less talented as a consolation prize. *(Robert Hughes, art historian)***

**The greatest of all arts is the art of living together. *(William Lyon Phelps, in Marriage)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Half of art is knowing when to stop. *(Arthur William Radford)***

**Grant Wood, painter of the famous work "American Gothic," portraying a couple in front of their Iowa farmhouse, thought in his youth that one must paint like a Frenchman; so he studied in Europe for years. At age 35, however, he told a visiting fellow Iowan, foreign correspondent, William L. Shirer, that he was dissatisfied with what he was doing and was planning to go home for good. Shirer quotes Wood: "I used to go back to Iowa and think how ugly it all was. Nothing to paint. All I could think of was getting back there so I could paint those pretty landscapes that I should have known Renoir and Monet and the others had done once and for all. But all I really know is home. So I'm going back there. And I'm going to paint those damn cows and barns and barnyards and cornfields and little red schoolhouses and all those pinched faces and the women in their aprons and the men in their overalls and store suits and the look of a field or a street in the heat of summer or when it's ten below and the snow piled six feet high." He hesitated a moment. "I think at last I've learned something about myse3lf. I think you've got to paint -- like you have to write -- what you know." *(William L. Shirer, in 20th Century Journey)***

**One man says to another while visiting an art museum: “I like most of the art in here, Dustin, but this one’s kind of goofy. I mean it’s realistic and all, but it seems so . . . mechanical. Let’s see what the artist calls it.” After looking at the fire extinguisher in the case, he reads: “In Case of Fire, Break Glass.” *(Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker, in Dustin comic strip)***

**I think art has a very important role to play in making us see each other as human. *(John Legend, in Time magazine)***

**Every production of an artist should be the expression of an adventure of his soul. *(W. Somerset Maugham)***

**The curse of all the arts is the fact that they are constantly invaded by persons with absolutely nothing to say. *(H. L. Mencken)***

**Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time. *(Thomas Merton, in No Man Is an Island)***

**Good art is nothing but a replica of the perfection of God and a reflection of His art. *(Michelangelo)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**You'd guess there'd be more artists than writers. Artists certainly have been at it longer. Anthropologists say your ancestors and mine didn't learn to write until 2,500 years after they learned to draw. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**More important than a work of art itself is what it will sow. Art can die, a painting can disappear. What counts is the seed. *(Joan Miro)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Of all the arts, the art of living is probably the most important. *(Deborah Levy, novelist)***

**A woman whose mother was an artist now has a daughter who has sold some of her own paintings. When asked if she herself had this same talent, she replied, "Oh, no. I'm only a carrier." *(Susie Hillyer, in Reader's Digest)***

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**There are no facts, only art. *(David Shields, writer)***

**There's no need to believe what an artist says. Believe what he does; that's what counts. *(David Hockney, in New York Times)***

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**There is such a thing as overcapitalizing the A in artist. *(Saul Bellow)***

**A painter paints pictures on canvas. But musicians paint their pictures on silence. *(Leopold Stokowski)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*There is no abstract art. You must always start with something. Afterward you can remove all traces of reality. *(Pablo Picasso)***

**Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up. *(Pablo Picasso)***

**Genevieve Laporte first met Picasso in Paris in 1944, to interview him for a university magazine about the outcry provoked by his exhibition at the Salon d'Automne. In reply to her first question, "Monsieur Picasso, young people don't understand your painting!" Picasso exploded: "Since when do you have to explain the language of painting? It's not meant to explain anything ... but to foster emotion within the soul of the viewer. No work of art should leave people indifferent ... they should be moved ... The viewer must be dragged from his torpor -- shaken and grabbed by the throat!." *(Advertisement for The Giclee Gallery, as it appeared in The Week magazine, November 2, 2007)***

**Good artists borrow, great artists steal. *(Pablo Picasso)***

**The purpose of art is washing the dust of daily life off our souls. *(Pablo Picasso)***

**When I was a kid I drew like Michelangelo. It took me years to learn to draw like a kid. *(Pablo Picasso) 423987***

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**A South African pig that was saved from the slaughterhouse is now delighting the art world with her abstract paintings. The seven-month-old porker, called Pigcasso, was rescued as a piglet by animal rights campaigner Joanne Lefson. After Pigcasso began playing with some old paintbrushes, Lefson left out paint and a canvas to see what the pig would do. To Lefson's amazement, Pigcasso used her mouth to dip the brush in paint and swipe it across the canvas. Collectors have since forked over up to $2,000 for one of the pig's creations. "Her artistic style," says Lefson, "is probably what you'd call expressionist." *(The Week magazine, February 16, 2018)***

**Art: the reproduction of what the senses perceive in nature through the veil of the soul. *(Edgar Allan Poe)***

**As a prank, two California teenagers put a pair of eyeglasses on the floor of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and sure enough, visitors crowded around the stranded specs, mistaking them for an avant-garde exhibit. The teenagers, Kevin Nguyen, 16, and TJ Khayatan, 17, had been amused that some of the museum's exhibits were considered art. "This is pretty easy," Khayatan said he thought. "We could make this ourselves." Sp he and his friend placed Kevin's eyewear on the floor. Within minutes, admiring visitors were gathering around the glasses and even taking photos. "We had a good laugh about it," said Khayatan. *(The Week magazine, June 10, 2016)***

**The problem with making art to wake people up is that your ideal reader/viewer is asleep. *(Ian Penman, biographer, in the London Review of Books)***

**Al Capp, who originated the “L’il Abner” comic strip, described art as “a product of the untalented, sold by the unprincipled to the utterly bewildered.” *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Thanks to art, instead of seeing a single world -- our own -- we see it multiply until we have before us as many worlds as there are original artists. *(Marcel Proust)***

**Most arts require long study and application, but the most useful of all, that of pleasing, requires only the desire. *(Lord Chesterfield)***

**An artist, at first only painfully aware of an utter emptiness and impotence, finds his imagination gradually stirred into life, and discovers a vision which takes control of him and which he feels not only able but compelled to express. That is resurrection. *(H. A. Williams, in True Resurrection)***

**Dante Gabriel Rossetti, the famous nineteenth-century poet and artist, was once approached by an elderly man. The old fellow had some sketches and drawings that he wanted Rossetti to look at and tell him if they were any good, or if they, at least, showed potential talent. Rossetti looked them over carefully. After the first few he knew that they were worthless, showing not the least sign of artistic talent. But Rossetti was a kind man and he told the elderly man as gently as possible that the pictures were without much value and showed little talent. He was sorry, but he could not lie to the man. The visitor was disappointed, but seemed to expect Rossetti’s judgment., He then apologized for taking up Rossetti’s time, but would he just look at a few more drawings – these done by a young art student? Rossetti looked over the second batch of sketches and immediately enthused over the talent they revealed. “These, he said, “ah, these are good. This young man, whoever he is, has great talent. He should be given every help and encouragement in his career as an artist. He has a great future, if he will work hard and stick with it.” Rossetti could see that the old fellow was deeply moved. “Who is this young artist?” he asked. “Your son?” “No,” said the old fellow sadly. “It is me – forty years ago. If only I heard your praise then . . . for you see, I got discouraged and gave up – too soon.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Art is the only way to run away without leaving home. *(Twyla Tharp)***

**An intellectual says a simple thing in a hard way, an artist says a hard thing in a simple way. *(Charles Bukowski, poet)***

**Wondering why so much scrimshaw, that artwork etched long ago by sailors on walrus ivory and seashells, has no words in it? Because not many of those early artists could read or write. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Besides learning to see, there is another art to be learned – not to see what is not. *(Maria Mitchell, astronomer)***

**Without art, the crudeness of reality would make the world unbearable. *(George Bernard Shaw)***

**It's not up to the person who creates something to say they are an artist. How arrogant is that? It is up to the people who see what you do to say you're an artist. *(Gene Simmons, singer and bass guitarist of Kiss, in Time magazine)***

**It is with the smallest brushes that the artist paints the most exquisitely beautiful pictures. *(St. Andre Bessette)***

**Art is the space between the viewer and the rectangle that hangs on the wall. *(T. Allen Lawson, artist)***

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**It is something to be able to paint a particular picture, or to carve a statue, and so to make a few objects beautiful; but it is far more glorious to carve and paint the very atmosphere and medium through which we look. To affect the quality of the day – that is the highest of arts. *(Henry David Thoreau)***

**It is a great art to saunter. *(Henry David Thoreau)***

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**Art is the triumph over chaos. *(John Cheever, in The Stories of John Cheever)***

**It has been said that art is a tryst, for in the joy of it maker and beholder meet. *(Kojiro Tomita)***

**Every great work of art has two faces -- one toward its own time and one toward the future. *(Daniel Barenboim)***

**What art offers is space – a certain breathing room for the spirit. *(John Updike)***

**There is nothing more truly artistic than to love people. *(Vincent van Gogh)***

**Art doesn’t reproduce the visible but rather makes it visible. *(Paul Klee)***

**I had taken a picture to an art shop for framing. At the counter, I heard the woman in front of me tell the salesclerk that she wanted a frame for a $15,000 picture. The clerk gasped and stammered that although the shop did not usually handle such expensive items, they would certainly do their best. The woman nodded -- and laid on the counter her son's college diploma. *(Kathleen Tully, in Reader's Digest), February, 1977)***

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**An artist is somebody who produces things that people don't need to have but that he -- for some reason -- thinks it would be a good idea to give them. *(Andy Warhol)***

**Making money is art and working is art and good business is the best art. *(Andy Warhol)***

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**The whole point of art is to ask, “Are you seeing what I’m seeing?” *(Nada Alic, writer, in The Millions)***

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**The artist should never try to be popular. The public should try to be more artistic. *(Oscar Wilde)***

**No great artist ever sees things as they really are. If he did, he would cease to be an artist. *(Oscar Wilde)***

**One should either be a work of art or wear a work of art. *(Oscar Wilde)***

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**Art is not only the desire to tell one's secret; it is the desire to tell it and hide it at the same time. *(Thornton Wilder)***

**Art is a wrestling with the meaning of life. *(Jon Vickers, opera singer)***

**Art is making something out of nothing and selling it. *(Frank Zappa)***

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