



IN GEORGIA O'KEEFFE'S OWN WORDS

- “When you take a flower in your hand and really look at it, it's your world for the moment. I want to give that world to someone else. Most people in the city rush around so, they have no time to look at a flower. I want them to see it whether they want to or not.”
- “I've been absolutely terrified every moment of my life – and I've never let it keep me from doing a single thing I wanted to do.”
- “I don't see why we ever think of what others think of what we do – no matter who they are. Isn't it enough just to express yourself?”
- “I hate flowers – I paint them because they're cheaper than models and they don't move.”
- “I have already settled it for myself so flattery and criticism go down the same drain and I am quite free.”
- “Nobody sees a flower – really – it is so small it takes time – we haven't time – and to see takes time, like to have a friend takes time.”
- “Whether you succeed or not is irrelevant, there is no such thing. Making your unknown known is the important thing – and keeping the unknown always beyond you.”
- “I think it's so foolish for people to want to be happy. Happy is so momentary – you're happy for an instant and then you start thinking again. Interest is the most important thing in life; happiness is temporary, but interest is continuous.”
- “To create one's own world, in any of the arts, takes courage.”
- “Singing has always seemed to me the most perfect means of expression. It is so spontaneous. And after singing, I think the violin. Since I cannot sing, I paint.”
- “Sun-bleached bones were most wonderful against the blue — that blue that will always be there as it is now after all man's destruction is finished.”
- “I know now that most people are so closely concerned with themselves that they are not aware of their own individuality, I can see myself, and it has helped me to say what I want to say in paint.”
- “Where I was born and where and how I have lived is unimportant. It is what I have done with where I have been that should be of interest.”
- “I think I am one of the few who gives our country any voice of its own.”
- “It's not enough to be nice in life. You've got to have nerve.”