



Craft Matters: Top 20 Quotes

“As the initiator and Director of UNESCO's programme for craft development in the world from 1988 to 2008, I have witnessed across the continents how much crafts constitute the wealth of the poorest and a unique resource for cultural and socio-economic development. I am convinced that in this era of globalization, crafts are the most visible and concrete way to discover, understand and appreciate the diversity of cultures.” Mr Indrasen Vencatachellum

“I believe we are all born with the creative instinct. Communicating this to others and developing our creative talents is what makes us different from any other species. It is a fundamental part of being human, and developing our collective history. It can't be much more important than that can it?” Christine Rider

“I am an artist who works with people across different community groups and I know that people gain a tremendous amount from being creative - they learn a new skill whilst at the same time learning something about themselves. I have seen remarkable changes in people's level of self-esteem and self confidence through such activities.” Gillian Hulse

“Things that are made by hand with skill and love, and made to last, matter to me in a world increasingly littered with mass-produced throw-away stuff.” Ama Bolton

“I believe that craft is part of an intrinsic need in all of us to create and make. Craft benefits us on so many levels, in the interpreting of our environment, our experiences, our culture, our feelings and vitally, in the creation and making of things which are of value, serve a purpose and are beautiful.” Jane Sedgewick

“It humanizes, it has integrity, it is authentic and has soul - all qualities essential for surviving the 21st century.” Maureen Bampton

“Makes the world even more BEAUTIFUL.” Pallavi Vadhia

“Creating something from raw materials in one of the most basic of human instincts and one of the most important. It allows us to connect both with our environment & other people.” Jacqueline Calladine

“It draws on one of our earliest and most important instincts - forming material to hand in order to enrich and change our immediate environment.” Andrew Patrizio

“It gives me confidence as I'm not an academic.” Hesta Singlewood

"In a world of mass-produced objects even our homes, our personal spaces, can become de-personalised and sterile. The hand made objects, the pieces of craft we choose to have around us, that we touch and use every day, bring the humanity of individual creativity into our immediate environment." Chris Speyer

"Craft is an important part of a nation's culture and history and should be cherished and promoted." Edwina Umbers

"Craft makes you feel worthwhile; if you produce something other people want to have in their home it gives you a sense of satisfaction that nothing else can match." Chloe Bollard

"All objects contain something of the people that made them. An object that has been created intelligently, carefully, imaginatively and with love brings those qualities into our environment and enriches us. A mechanically produced object may be stylish, well designed and attractive but it does not possess life the way that a crafted object does." John Liddle

"The ability to express our humanity through fine craftsmanship has been fundamental world wide throughout history. It is even more important to nurture it in the 21st century and beyond in-order to maintain a balance between commercialism, mass production and the obsession with technology that can encourage idleness and lack of personal expression and achievement." Margaret O'Rorke

"Our crafts are true expressions of who we are. What is made represents a culmination of generations of gathered wisdom and practice, each person adding their own wisdom, each one adding its own magic learned with infinite patience and love. Craft expresses individual and group power, it holds societies together and is one of the factors enabling them to grow." Jane Cannon

"Since being forcibly retired through ill health it had been my lifeline. No matter what problems there are I can retreat into my craft and everything is fine again." Roberta Orchard

"I enjoy the link between generations that craft practices provide, the continuation of traditional skills." Genevieve Pearson

"I wanted to enjoy a working life that did not hand control over to others and that offered me a landscape to explore on my own terms." Jonathan Garratt

"I am a maker - soon to graduate - and I want there to be a future out there for me and others like me." Emily Gardiner

To see all quotes visit www.craftmatters.org.uk

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