

Select quotations by Russian philosopher and Nikolai Berdyaev on creativity
(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nikolai_Berdyaev)

Creativity is something which proceeds from within, out of immeasurable and inexplicable depths, not from without, not from the world's necessity. The very desire to make the creative act understandable, to find a basis for it, is failure to comprehend it. To comprehend the creative act means to recognize that it is inexplicable and without foundation. (MCA, 145)

Only the law and the redemption can be revealed from on high. Creativeness is something mysterious and hidden. The revelation of creativeness does not come from above but rather from below - it is an anthropological, not a theological, revelation. God revealed His will to sinful man in the law and granted man the grace of redemption, sending into the world His Only Son. *And God awaits from man the anthropological revelation of creativity; in the name of man's god-like freedom, God has hidden from him the ways of creativeness and the justification of creativeness.* (MCA, 98)

Only he who is free, creates. (MCA, 144)

Creativity is the supreme mystery of life, the mystery of the appearance of something new, hitherto unknown, derived from nothing, proceeding from nothing, born of nothing other.... (DM, 135)

Acronyms of titles:

MCA = The Meaning of the Creative Act (1916)

DM = The Destiny of Man (1931)

Quotes from: <http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Philosophy/Sui-Generis/Berdyaev/qc.htm>
Accessed June 17, 2009