

# Ben Kingsley

## Quotes

*Thinking, Acting, Actors, Men, Play, Children, Choices, People, Trying, Film, Character, Directors, Drama, Exercise, Years, Jobs, Cameras, Wonderful, Two, Reality*

If I were to play somebody who ran a fish and chip shop, I would not work in a fish and chip shop for three months. Staring at chips is not going to help me in my performance.

~Ben Kingsley

I think the cinema you like has more to do with silence, and the theater you like has more to do with language.

~Ben Kingsley

One of the greatest things drama can do, at it's best, is to redefine the words we use every day such as love, home, family, loyalty and envy. Tragedy need not be a downer.

~Ben Kingsley

Family is family over the internet, over Skype, over the telephone. Love is love. You don't have to actually go through some ritual to prove that you love somebody.

~Ben Kingsley

Fifteen years before I became a screen actor, I was in the theatre. A lot of my work was comedy, which I loved doing. It's harder.

~Ben Kingsley

With narration, you have to be very accurate with your voice. It's a good exercise to do.

~Ben Kingsley

I do remember, as a child, that I always imagined, when I was maybe 6 or 7, my fantasy was that everywhere I went I was being followed by an invisible film crew.

~Ben Kingsley

In cinema, the leading player is the director.

~Ben Kingsley

They're a very strange lot actors, very strange people.

~Ben Kingsley

Equal partners aren't always what we envision as being manifestly equal. Equality can come in many different shapes and sizes and combinations.

~Ben Kingsley

You cannot learn a lesson of profound forgiveness unless you understand what it is to be wounded and forgive that which has wounded you.

~Ben Kingsley

The leaping Jaguar on the bonnet, to me, makes it look more like a hunter than something that is getting away. It's a hunter. Richard III definitely would have had a chauffeur driven Jaguar MK X.

~Ben Kingsley

As a singer, I might have fallen among thieves. I wonder if I'd still be alive by now.

~Ben Kingsley

As an actor there's no autonomy, unless you're prepared to risk the possibility of starving.

~Ben Kingsley

I just loved playing a man who was unafraid of making an idiot of himself in the process of falling in love. I found that admirable.

~Ben Kingsley

The biggest surprise in a man's life is old age.

~Ben Kingsley

Sometimes it's right to do the wrong things and right now is one of

those times.

~Ben Kingsley

I told myself that I would not go back to the camps as an actor ever again, that I was very frightened of wearing a yellow star. It was fear, it was cowardice, I was.

~Ben Kingsley

I do believe female directors, as well as our female writer, can bring out male vulnerability that some men can't because they can't face it.

~Ben Kingsley

I've met quite a number of people in my career, but I do have an extraordinary memory. And even though they may drift into the periphery of my memory, I can bring them right back when I need them.

~Ben Kingsley

I think that all of us either lose touch with the child inside us or try and hold onto it because it so precious to us and it's such an extraordinary part of our lives.

~Ben Kingsley

I'm convinced that had I not changed my name, I don't think I would have had quite the same career curve that I eventually had.

~Ben Kingsley

But filming is good for you, because the crew isn't allowed to laugh. You can't get addicted to getting the laugh.

~Ben Kingsley

I'm very in love with the fact that the camera is revolted by acting and loves behaviour.

~Ben Kingsley

The hierarchy of class in London was rigid. It was like a religion. It still is to a certain extent.

~Ben Kingsley

I would like to make it known, on this program, loud and clear, that I would absolutely embrace with all five of my arms being a Bond villain.

~Ben Kingsley

All the great writers root their characters in true human behaviour.

~Ben Kingsley

Filming is so much to do with rhythm, as is music, and if it isn't there then you know in the end nobody can save it really, they can't.

~Ben Kingsley

There have not been any troughs as regards my work. There's never been a trough of my assurance.

~Ben Kingsley

But comedy I'd love to do as much as humanly possible.

~Ben Kingsley

I think I'm more bonded, emotionally and in a craft sense, to films that tell extraordinary stories about extraordinary destinies.

~Ben Kingsley

I think Romeo and Juliet is uplifting. That's how much a son wishes to avenge his father. That is how much two young people can love each other.

~Ben Kingsley

I don't honestly think people know what acting is.

~Ben Kingsley

The many many imponderables come together when a film opens and for all sorts of reasons it may or may not succeed.

~Ben Kingsley

I have a rather naive approach, I think, to my job.

~Ben Kingsley

I think that you can fall into bad habits with comedy... It's a tightrope to stay true to the character, true to the irony, and allow the irony to happen.

~Ben Kingsley

John Lennon and Ringo Starr liked my songs. I used to write songs and they heard me sing songs on stage in London.

~Ben Kingsley

When Attenborough asked me to do Gandhi it was almost like stepping off one boat and stepping on to another, even though both boats are going at 60 miles per hour.

~Ben Kingsley

If your best friend has stolen your girlfriend, it does become life and death.

~Ben Kingsley

I honestly have no strategy whatsoever. I'm waiting for that script to pop through the letterbox and completely surprise me.

~Ben Kingsley

I try and reduce myself to an almost blank slate and hope to God that I am creative.

~Ben Kingsley

That hunger of the flesh, that longing for ease, that terror of

incarceration, that insistence on tribal honour being obeyed: all of that exists, and it exists everywhere.

~Ben Kingsley

I'm so dependent on reacting to the other actors on the set, and to the director. I'm very responsive. I react. And I treasure the energy that reaction gives.

~Ben Kingsley

The trick is to try and justify every word on the page and make sure my character is the man who would say that.

~Ben Kingsley

I always try to find something I admire about every character I play.

~Ben Kingsley

I think if I were to go back on stage I might be in great danger of acting.

~Ben Kingsley

You want to know what I want? I'll tell you what I want. I want back what Bobby Fischer took with him when he disappeared.

~Ben Kingsley

There is so much to do on a film set. It is an extraordinarily invigorating and wonderful place to be, when things are running well.

~Ben Kingsley

When I choose a role it's either because I recognise the man, or that I'm very curious to know him. If I neither recognise nor know him, then it is better that I don't play him.

~Ben Kingsley

I don't want to be like the actor who rehearses everything in the bathroom, then comes to the set and carries on completely

uninterrupted while the other actors tiptoe away.

~Ben Kingsley

Millions of children are disempowered and we need to empower them.

~Ben Kingsley

I think that various styles and methods and approaches are an invention of people who don't understand the process of acting and who try very hard to label things.

~Ben Kingsley

There's so much crap talked about acting.

~Ben Kingsley

It is better for me to serve a charity as an actor or a voice, rather than at a luncheon being just a celebrity.

~Ben Kingsley

The camera does not like acting. The camera is only interested in filming behaviour. So you damn well learn your lines until you know them inside out, while standing on your head!

~Ben Kingsley

Working in film, if you work with great directors, you learn that after every take you must let go. Sitting with my wife at the Academy Awards, we both let the moment just go.

~Ben Kingsley

We are adjusters. We empathize, we change rhythm and above all we listen to our fellow actors-if they're good actors.

~Ben Kingsley

Hopefully, as I get older in the business, I make my choices more accurately, and I perhaps know from either the script or the first



meeting that it isn't going to work.

~Ben Kingsley

I think that most actors, and they're a very strange lot actors, very strange people, but I think that they attempt to keep in touch with the child.

~Ben Kingsley

I was fortunate as a young actor, to go straight to the RSC, where I learned that being an actor can bring with it wonderful responsibilities.

~Ben Kingsley

In England, it's now Sir Ben. Mister has just disappeared. It's not even on my passport anymore. They've taken Mister away from me.

~Ben Kingsley

There is always something about the villains that I'm able to play, quote unquote, that isn't villainous.

~Ben Kingsley

Well, it's wonderful to be identified strongly with my work.

~Ben Kingsley

Hamlet is an astonishing intelligence.

~Ben Kingsley

I've never had to turn my hand to anything for monetary gain, other than pretending to be somebody else. I'm deeply fortunate.

~Ben Kingsley

It's Sir Ben. I've not been a Mister for two years.

~Ben Kingsley

There are some directors, lesser in confidence or skill, who make the

actor feel very uncomfortable because you feel you're auditioning for them, every day, and that's a terrible feeling on the set.

~Ben Kingsley

My line-learning is very special. I like to learn the dialogue of the whole film before I arrive.

~Ben Kingsley

I didn't go to drama school because, from the first refusal I then, as I said, a couple of weeks later, was offered a professional job, where I am immensely grateful to the journey.

~Ben Kingsley

When you drop your guard in films, the acting process compensates. You get lazy and you start acting.

~Ben Kingsley

I think that most actors attempt to keep in touch with the child.

~Ben Kingsley

I have never felt bereft of anything.

~Ben Kingsley

Movie magic is movie magic and acting magic is acting magic.

~Ben Kingsley

There was one titanic guiding light on the film set, and I was in the presence of a true Mahatma, in the deepest and most profound sense of the word.

~Ben Kingsley

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