

Brian May

Quotes

*Queens, Thinking, Guitar, People, Albums, Stars, Play, Sound, Men, Song,
Doe, Voice, Belief, Dream, Hendrix, Rocks, America, Band, Way, Trying*

Each gig should be unique. You're always treading that line between keeping yourself fresh and giving people something they want to hear

~Brian May

When I'm gone, people will no doubt remember me for Queen, but I would much rather be remembered for attempting to change the way we treat our fellow creatures.

~Brian May

I never took sheet music seriously. I could do better myself just by listening to other people and using my own intuition.

~Brian May

I really thought I was pretty good before I saw Hendrix, and then I thought: Yeah, not so good.

~Brian May

The biggest emotion in creation is the bridge to optimism.

~Brian May

There is no way that you can ever really repeat something. I have this great belief that the magic of the moment can never be recaptured.

~Brian May

I have to build my own boat this time. It's a big sea out there, and I have a pretty small boat. I have a lot of belief in it.

~Brian May

What is left of your dream? Just the words on your stone. A man who learned how to teach then forgot how to learn.

~Brian May

The guitar has a kind of grit and excitement possessed by nothing else.

~Brian May

I despise the Lottery. There's less chance of you becoming a millionaire than there is of getting hit on the head by a passing asteroid.

~Brian May

Queen songs tend to be about very personal things: personal dreams and personal ambitions.

~Brian May

The guitar was my weapon, my shield to hide behind.

~Brian May

There are a lot of things in Queen albums that you don't expect; that's why we threw them in

~Brian May

Astronomy's much more fun when you're not an astronomer

~Brian May

I was an incurable romantic then, same as I am now. I was always pining away after somebody

~Brian May

I go through major crises every few months, but then I have great peaks of belief and creativity. I'm a weird kind of animal

~Brian May

There are times when I flick through magazines and think I'm in danger of becoming a prisoner of my own hair.

~Brian May

There are times when I've been feeling something and played a solo that I've never been able to repeat.

~Brian May

I'm not a person for sitting on beaches. What would I do?

~Brian May

I'm into paradoxes. I wanted to make an album about them, but the group told me I was a pretentious fart. They were right.

~Brian May

I had this big thing about guitar harmonies. I wanted to be the first to put proper three-part harmonies onto a record. That was an achievement.

~Brian May

You got blood on your face, you big disgrace, waving your banner all over the place.

~Brian May

Everybody thought I was a bit of an eccentric for wanting to be out there looking at the stars, but I still do

~Brian May

I tend to be not a person who does everything right all the time.

~Brian May

There's nothing I'm embarrassed about

~Brian May

The Wedding March has a bit of a death march in it.

~Brian May

I'm the nice guy who sits there signing everything that's put in front of me.

~Brian May

Sanctions always hurt the poor, the weak, the children.

~Brian May

We've done an arrangement with an orchestra, but I think the best stuff tends to come when it's just the four of us.

~Brian May

A good video can make all the difference

~Brian May

Every time I listen to Jeff Beck my whole view of guitar changes radically. He's way, way out, doing things you never expect.

~Brian May

On the first few albums the songs would grow into strange shapes.

~Brian May

I just want to be able to play as fast as my brain goes, and my brain doesn't go all that fast.

~Brian May

I'm hopeless at playing scales. Try and be instinctive first and analytic afterwards, although it's good to study the theory of music.

~Brian May

I spent 20 years of my life building up Queen, and now I'm spending years of my life trying to get away from it.

~Brian May

Doing Made In Heaven was like assembling a jigsaw puzzle, but I wouldn't have put my seal of approval on it if I hadn't thought it was up to standard.

~Brian May

I think a lot of people would be better off in America, where at least you would find some radio station somewhere that would play you.

~Brian May

From the beginning of Queen there was such momentum that I never had any time to do anything else. My energy was 95% focused on the band

~Brian May

I'm pretty basic as far as technique is concerned. I don't use many gadgets, and I like the sound my guitar makes, anyway.

~Brian May

I tend not to write on guitar very often. I tend to start off with keyboards.

~Brian May

The first nine albums there was never a Synthesiser, never any Orchestra. There was never any other player except us on the albums.

~Brian May

I like to go for a walk or swimming or in the garden when I can. It's a busy kind of life, but I guess I'm lucky.

~Brian May

I'm a much better musician than astronomer. I think the world got the right choice.

~Brian May

I don't think anybody comes close to The Beatles, including Oasis

~Brian May

At the moment the Queen stuff does sell really well, but there's no guarantee it'll go on forever

~Brian May

The potential audience seems to be dwindling in the states. I was kind of embarrassed for the band because of the size of the audience.

~Brian May

For a time I didn't want to answer any questions about Queen. I'd like to be viewed as something alive and relevant, not some fossil.

~Brian May

I don't surf the net in general. I have someone do it for me instead, because I find it sluggish.

~Brian May

Queen had its time and place, and at the moment I'm not concentrating on that era.

~Brian May

If I go to places where other people are playing, I often get up and play myself. I just enjoy the sound and feel of playing.

~Brian May

Sometimes if the guitar is the last thing to go on, it's very fresh.

~Brian May

My mum says I wanted to be a surgeon, but I don't remember that. I think from the time I knew what was happening, I wanted to be a guitar player.

~Brian May

To my mind Keep Yourself Alive was never really satisfactory. Never had that magic that it should have had.

~Brian May

We do play to our audience. It's very important. You can't create music in a vacuum.

~Brian May

I was actually perfectly happy when I had no money, which lasted right up until we had a hit with Killer Queen, in 1974. I never wanted for anything.

~Brian May

I'd put a lot of work into playing guitar and was thinking I was pretty damn good. But Hendrix came along and destroyed everyone.

~Brian May

You want to go in the steam bath to get your vocals sounding well, but you don't want your fingers to get soft.

~Brian May

In print, people can do anything to you. Everything you do is picked apart. People love it; they're waiting for you to make a mistake.

~Brian May

My children hate me being such a big star. It's very hard for them to have a father who is always in the public eye.

~Brian May

I've always lived in that guitar world. I have noticed kids being more into the real essence of guitar music now.

~Brian May

A Queen track has those big, thick, block harmonies.

~Brian May

Amazing uke playing to be relished.

~Brian May

When we were touring heavily in America, we based ourselves there for a couple of years, but now we're all back here and it seems to be the place.

~Brian May

My big hobby is photography. I collect stereo photographs from the 19th century.

~Brian May

I think Hammer's very cool: he has a great voice and great presence.

~Brian May

Einstein got most of the things right about black holes. I'm not an expert, I must admit

~Brian May

We wouldn't have put it out with the name Queen on it if we didn't think it was musically up to scratch.

~Brian May

I think Queen tribute bands are great. However, we have to keep them at arm's length, otherwise it could be too dangerous.

~Brian May

Mantovani was a great influence on me.

~Brian May

What we were trying to do differently was this sort of layered sound.

~Brian May

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