

# David Bailey

## Quotes

*Thinking, Art, Fashion, People, School, Hate, Girl, Photography, Class,  
Photographer, Actors, Children, London, Feels, Firsts, Men, Two, Tree, Sports,  
Optimistic*

Being handsome wasn't much of a burden. It worked for me.

~David Bailey

Rockers are the nicest people to photograph. They have no inhibitions.

~David Bailey

I never cared for fashion much, amusing little seams and witty little pleats: it was the girls I liked.

~David Bailey

Fortunately I didn't get educated because if I'd got educated I'd be an educated fool now.

~David Bailey

I never tried to revolutionise photography; I just do what I do and keep my fingers crossed that people will like it.

~David Bailey

Anybody can be a great photographer if they zoom in enough on what they love.

~David Bailey

The skull is nature's sculpture.

~David Bailey

A positive attitude can really make dreams come true - it did for me.

~David Bailey

To get rich, you have to be making money while you're asleep.

~David Bailey

The best advice I ever got was that knowledge is power and to keep reading.

~David Bailey

I know everything should be photographed. It helps me make sense of my existence.

~David Bailey

I didn't try and do fashion pictures. I tried to do portraits of girls wearing dresses.

~David Bailey

You can't really copy what I do because I don't do anything.

~David Bailey

Fashion often starts off beautiful and becomes ugly, whereas art starts off ugly sometimes and becomes beautiful.

~David Bailey

Being trendy is dangerous. I've never been trendy, which is why I've never really fallen out of favour.

~David Bailey

The only thing they can't teach you at art school is art.

~David Bailey

I hate men who are in touch with their feminine side.

~David Bailey

My friends are all megalomaniacs - from Damien Hirst to Jack Nicholson - all of them.

~David Bailey

I love learning new techniques.

~David Bailey

I was ten when I got my first serious beating. It was rough.

~David Bailey

People want security in this insecure world.

~David Bailey

Being dyslexic, I was told that I was an idiot all the time.

~David Bailey

I was dyslexic, so I was put in the silly class at school.

~David Bailey

I always go for simplicity.

~David Bailey

I don't feel very optimistic in London.

~David Bailey

I'm not really one for regrets.

~David Bailey

When I die I want to go to Vogue.

~David Bailey

I didn't know a time when there wasn't a war because I spent all my time from the age of two or three to eight in a coal cellar really.

~David Bailey

Girls are more attractive to me than dresses.

~David Bailey

I like change. There's something Buddhist about it - continuous change is wonderful.

~David Bailey

I've been used by women all my life, fortunately.

~David Bailey

In France they don't think I'm difficult.

~David Bailey

I don't think global warming is to do with us, I think it's a natural circle. I don't think a few Ferraris make that much difference.

~David Bailey

I didn't know I was going to live for 50 years. It has come as a shock.

~David Bailey

London changes because of money. It's real estate. If they can build some offices or expensive apartments they will, it's money that changes everything in a city.

~David Bailey

I left school on my 15th birthday.

~David Bailey

I am not responsible for all the journalists in the past that have told lies.

~David Bailey

I don't think my work does reflect my nationality - I don't like the idea of nationalism.

~David Bailey

I had a terrible time with feminists in the Seventies. They hated me, those women. I think they hated everything.

~David Bailey

I'm never shocked, I'm not the shockable type!

~David Bailey

Sometimes I still can't believe my luck.

~David Bailey

The Sixties was a time of breaking down class barriers, although I think class still exists today in some areas.

~David Bailey

I don't like any sport except boxing and bull fighting.

~David Bailey

You have to kind of be invisible when you photograph children, so you use a longer lens.

~David Bailey

I hate being so nostalgic about the Sixties.

~David Bailey

The trouble with people like Tony Blair is they get confused, they think intelligence is education when they're two different things.

~David Bailey

The only thing approaching art in a movie is the script.

~David Bailey

Actors are hard to photograph because they never want to reveal who they are. You don't know if you're getting a character from a Chekhov play or a Polanski film. It depends what mood they're in.

~David Bailey

All I could do at school was paint and draw and that was the only time I ever passed any exam. It was the only thing I ever got right at school.

~David Bailey

My first influence obviously was Picasso.

~David Bailey

My paintings are rubbish.

~David Bailey

Journalists never make it clear when you are joking.

~David Bailey

I was surrounded by strong women so it had never even occurred to me that women were anything other than equal to men.

~David Bailey

In '73 I photographed the cannibals in New Guinea. They treated me OK but they didn't make you feel relaxed... I managed to escape unscathed though, I'm pretty good at that.

~David Bailey

Rather than knowing more, I think I've got more open-minded.

~David Bailey

If you're curious, London's an amazing place.

~David Bailey

I've always been a bit flip.

~David Bailey

I was a terrible father. The most I ever did for my children was to teach them chess. At least they got that.

~David Bailey

I never set out to be a photographer.

~David Bailey

You adapt to who you're photographing.

~David Bailey

I don't see the point of photographing trees or rocks because they're

there and anyone can photograph them if they're prepared to hang around and wait for the light.

~David Bailey

It's only a few nutcases who do art for themselves, like Van Gogh.

~David Bailey



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