

Edward Bond

Quotes

Literature, Play, Theatre, Greek, People, World, Drama, Writing, Thinking, Mad, Animal, Stage, Violence, Democracy, Language, Tragedy, Art, Order, Insulting, Imaginary

I'm not interested in an imaginary world

~Edward Bond

I think there is no world without theatre.

~Edward Bond

We are still living in the aftershock of Hiroshima, people are still the scars of history.

~Edward Bond

If you engage people on a vital, important level, they will respond.

~Edward Bond

I write about violence as naturally as Jane Austen wrote about manners. Violence shapes and obsesses our society, and if we do not stop being violent we have no future.

~Edward Bond

In the end I think theatre has only one subject: justice

~Edward Bond

Violence is hidden within democratic structures because they are not radically democratic - Western democracy is merely a domestic convenience of consumerism.

~Edward Bond

Auschwitz is a place in which tragedy cannot occur.

~Edward Bond

The Greeks said very, very extreme things in their tragedies.

~Edward Bond

We may seem competent, but by the end of next century there will be new deserts, new ruins.

~Edward Bond

Our lives are awkward and fragile and we have only one thing to keep us sane: pity, and the man without pity is mad.

~Edward Bond

The English sent all their bores abroad, and acquired the Empire as a punishment.

~Edward Bond

It's politely assumed that democracy is a means of containing and restraining violence. But violence comes not from genes but from ideas

~Edward Bond

In the past goodness was always a collective experience. Then goodness became privatised.

~Edward Bond

Humanity's become a product and when humanity is a product, you get Auschwitz and you get Chair.

~Edward Bond

But we are not in the world to be good but to change it.

~Edward Bond

Religion enabled society to organise itself to debate goodness, just as Greek drama had once done.

~Edward Bond

Law and order is one of the steps taken to maintain injustice.

~Edward Bond

Our unconscious is not more animal than our conscious, it is often even more human

~Edward Bond

First there was the theatre of people and animals, then of people and the devil. Now we need the theatre of people and people.

~Edward Bond

The human mind is a dramatic structure in itself and our society is absolutely saturated with drama

~Edward Bond

Art is the expression of the conviction that we can have a rational relationship with the world and each other. It isn't the faith or hope that we can, it is the demonstration that we can.

~Edward Bond

Art is the close scrutiny of reality and therefore I put on the stage only those things that I know happen in our society.

~Edward Bond

When humanness is lost the radical difference between the bodies in the pit and people walking on the street is lost.

~Edward Bond

As Shakespeare himself knew, the peace, the reconciliation that he created on the stage would not last an hour on the street.

~Edward Bond

At the turn of the century theatre does not have to be prescriptive.

~Edward Bond

I don't think it's the job of theatre at the moment to provide political propaganda; that would be simplistic. We have to explore our situation further before we will understand it.

~Edward Bond

What I try to do in a play is put a problem on stage, head-on, without evasion.

~Edward Bond

The truth has got to appear plausible on the stage

~Edward Bond

The one overall structure in my plays is language

~Edward Bond

The theatre, our theatre, comes from the Greeks

~Edward Bond

You have to learn the language of Hamlet.

~Edward Bond

I write plays not to make money, but to stop myself from going mad. Because it's my way of making the world rational to me.

~Edward Bond

Now, drama is quite useful at helping us to understand what our position is and, conversely, we might then understand why our theatre is being destroyed

~Edward Bond

What Shakespeare and the Greeks were able to do was radically question what it meant to be a human being.

~Edward Bond

Shakespeare has no answers for us at all

~Edward Bond

It's insulting to ask a dramatist what his view of his play is. I have no opinion

~Edward Bond

It seems to me that we are profoundly ignorant of ourselves

~Edward Bond

I'm interested in the real world.

~Edward Bond

Violence is never a solution in my plays, just as ultimately violence is never a solution in human affairs.

~Edward Bond

It's wonderful to be able to sit down and write a play.

~Edward Bond

Fifteen years ago I walked out of a production of one of my plays at the RSC because I decided it was a waste of time.

~Edward Bond

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