

# Esperanza Spalding Quotes

*People, Thinking, Men, Portland, Art, Jazz, Stupid, Growing Up, Practice, Radio,  
Jazz Music, Light, Musician, Want, Fearless, Writing, Mean, Bars, Scared,  
Music Is*

I'm not gonna sit around and waste my precious divine energy trying to explain and be ashamed of things you think are wrong with me.

~Esperanza Spalding

You don't have to be fearless to do anything, you can be scared out of your mind.

~Esperanza Spalding

When people say, "Oh, she plays like a dude," it's usually dudes who are the ones saying it. They're saying, "Oh, she's as good as us." Of course, that's a stupid statement.

~Esperanza Spalding

Jazz has always been a melting pot of influences and I plan to incorporate them all.

~Esperanza Spalding

Whoever you are, if you know what you're doing, you don't want other people to overtake the merit of your art.

~Esperanza Spalding

I fear that I won't get better and that I won't have time to practice. To be called a "jazz musician" - it's a big responsibility.

~Esperanza Spalding

I just think music is so intrinsically linked with images in the culture that we live in that you'll be hard-pressed to have an experience with the music without a preconceived notion.

~Esperanza Spalding

You can grow up with literally nothing and you don't suffer if you know you're loved and valued.

~Esperanza Spalding

People are more used to seeing men who are masters at an instrument than women.

~Esperanza Spalding

I am insubordinate by nature. I can't help it.

~Esperanza Spalding

The benefit of the radio is, something beyond your realm of knowledge can surprise you, can enter your realm of knowledge.

~Esperanza Spalding

The Czech ease has become my saving grace for traveling! Plus, with its light weight and small size, I save thousands of dollars every year in airline fees.

~Esperanza Spalding

What I'm identifying with is the vision or the idea - whatever was the little nugget that started it.

~Esperanza Spalding

Up-and-coming musicians can easily reach out and find a loving teacher, and that's definitely what happened to me.

~Esperanza Spalding

There's the juiciest music that makes me so happy, music that I need on that deserted island when I'm stranded for the rest of my life, and nobody cares that it's there.

~Esperanza Spalding

When I read, you know, a rough neighborhood of Portland, I'm like - what? - they didn't have kombucha bars there?

~Esperanza Spalding

My name means 'hope' in Spanish and it's a name I want to live up to.

~Esperanza Spalding

Jazz music just resonates with the frequency of me.

~Esperanza Spalding

It's weird sometimes to have people not see me or see what I do.

~Esperanza Spalding

There is an assumption that if you're young and pretty, you will get all these opportunities that are way beyond your musical foundation.

~Esperanza Spalding

I did grow up in a rough neighborhood in Portland, which is an abstract concept for anybody who's rolled through Portland because now it looks like a TV set, literally.

~Esperanza Spalding

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