

Gus Van Sant

Quotes

*Thinking, Trying, People, Character, Actors, Gay, Kids, School, Different, Ideas,
Stories, Movie, Art, Film, Drama, Hunting, Elephants, Couple, Circles,
Sentimental*

And Later I Thought, I Can't Think How Anyone Can Become a Director Without Learning the Craft of Cinematography.

~Gus Van Sant

Even if you try to copy a film shot by shot, you still can't. It's still your own film.

~Gus Van Sant

I used to take photographs just to remember people.

~Gus Van Sant

For all the boredom the straight life brings, it's not too bad.

~Gus Van Sant

I was once a shameless, full-time dope fiend.

~Gus Van Sant

Now the music industry is sort of like a Craigslist venture, right? Where you're making your own records and selling them online.

~Gus Van Sant

My art teacher in junior high was a very out gay man and a mentor to me.

~Gus Van Sant

I'm normally drawn to something I haven't done and seen before.

~Gus Van Sant

The area of teenage life is not necessarily rarefied; we've all gone through that period. It's not as rarefied as a western or a space adventure or a gangster film, but it has its own dynamic.

~Gus Van Sant

A person's sexuality is so much more than one word "gay." No one

refers to anyone as just "hetero" because that doesn't say anything. Sexual identity is broader than a label.

~Gus Van Sant

Sometimes getting upset with yourself is necessary when you face the truth.

~Gus Van Sant

Modern-day cinema takes the form of a sermon. You don't get to think, you only get to receive information.

~Gus Van Sant

I have my ideas of what a good documentary is, but drama is a different animal because you're arranging everything.

~Gus Van Sant

I'm usually trying to react to what the actors are coming up with. And then the environment, and then the story.

~Gus Van Sant

I'm going in a really weird I-don't-know-where direction, but I prefer anything [different] from how standardized filmmaking has become.

~Gus Van Sant

I think that in some cases, I've made films that have a sentimental quality, at least as part of the film.

~Gus Van Sant

Even when you're making a movie about life, death is a presence, and I guess it's part of my dramatic viewpoint. I'm not sure why exactly.

~Gus Van Sant

I'd come into filmmaking as a painter so, for me, making 'Good Will Hunting' was experimental because I didn't know how to do it.

~Gus Van Sant

Sometimes, the people who are helping you can drop the ball.

~Gus Van Sant

There is a common theme, though, in the stories I have told, which are usually associations of characters or families that are formed outside of a family circle.

~Gus Van Sant

If it were up to the executives, they probably wouldn't have directors at all.

~Gus Van Sant

If you don't have the story and the unfolding of the trajectory of the saga, it's like getting in a car and not having any gas.

~Gus Van Sant

Well, I want to do everything in sort of a documentary style, ever since I started in the '80s.

~Gus Van Sant

Casting the locals is my primary concern because all the other things you assume will be manageable.

~Gus Van Sant

As I do with most films, I try and find some music that you could use throughout, not just a sampling of lots of different artists.

~Gus Van Sant

Free time keeps me going.

~Gus Van Sant

When you get to be 23, 24 or 25, you start to freeze up and become an

adult.

~Gus Van Sant

I'm a junkie. I like drugs, I like the whole lifestyle, but it just didn't pay off.

~Gus Van Sant

Usually when I read something, first of all I'm looking for the story and then when I reread it, I'm sort of checking every part of it to see if every scene is necessary.

~Gus Van Sant

I had wanted to do a comedy.

~Gus Van Sant

When you're on a film and you're doubting something, it's usually because you don't think the audience is going to like it.

~Gus Van Sant

I try to get to know the actors as much as I can. I feel like I'm friends with them for starters and for a week or two, we rehearse when they're getting the costumes together.

~Gus Van Sant

My department is to get actors to do stuff.

~Gus Van Sant

There are all kinds of ways that people present their films, but that's kind of a good feeling, if you can make it seem like the characters are really there.

~Gus Van Sant

No construction stiff working overtime takes more stress and straining than we did just to stay high.

~Gus Van Sant

If a movie isn't released, it's one thing, but if you know it will be, it's nice to have closure and see it come out.

~Gus Van Sant

I mean, I think I'm pretty sentimental.

~Gus Van Sant

The biopic also wasn't a form that I necessarily believed in, because you can never really get it right, you know? It's also a form that's very popular - the straight-ahead biopic.

~Gus Van Sant

If I'm diagnosed with cancer I might become despondent, but someone young might not, and they might need connections with somebody outside their circle of family because their family is so despondent.

~Gus Van Sant

I've always been attracted to temporary families.

~Gus Van Sant

If you put up posters around town for high-school kids, high-school kids will come. If you're casting politicians, you can't put up posters and have politicians come down.

~Gus Van Sant

I'm not being analytical. I just create everything intuitively. If you're too analytical, what you're doing probably ends up being too specific.

~Gus Van Sant

There is a way that a younger person can accept the inevitable problem that they're going to die, whereas somebody a little bit older might be overcome.

~Gus Van Sant

Wong Kar-Wai is a really great inspiration. He's always referred to as the Jimi Hendrix of filmmaking.

~Gus Van Sant

I'm thinking of remaking 'Psycho' again. Doing a third remake. The idea this time is to really change it - we're talking about doing a punk rocker setting.

~Gus Van Sant

Everything's changing so fast that it's sometimes hard to keep up.

~Gus Van Sant

Yeah, I try to be really calm.

~Gus Van Sant

The dark comedies tend to be in a non-releasable area. There can be romantic comedies. There can be dramas. But there's no 'dark comedy' inbox for the advertising.

~Gus Van Sant

In high school, I read 'Silas Marner' and I was very attracted to this character - he was very rundown and he'd just stop, and things would happen around him.

~Gus Van Sant

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