

John C. Reilly

Quotes

*People, Thinking, Character, Actors, Play, Way, Trying, Want, Laughing, Kids,
School, Fun, Ideas, Fans, Games, Comedy, Real, Kind, Drama, Hollywood*

This is real human drama, we're not creating some amusement park ride for the summer. Even though the movie is really exciting to watch, it's got a real pathos behind it.

~John C. Reilly

A lot of times, good improv is when both people, or however many people are in the scene, really have no idea what the next thing you're going to say is.

~John C. Reilly

I was never a very dependable employee for anything. Perfect for the actor's life!

~John C. Reilly

There is something about the water - that solitary kind of peaceful feeling. You're on earth but not quite.

~John C. Reilly

Being unprepared makes me nervous. I'm old-fashioned show folk.

~John C. Reilly

I don't know who I am, to tell you the truth.

~John C. Reilly

I find people attractive for more subtle reasons than just the way they look.

~John C. Reilly

Surprising people is the key to career longevity for someone like me.

~John C. Reilly

I love that people can't place me. They don't know my name. That's 'mission accomplished' in my world.

~John C. Reilly

I like people who are able to keep pushing themselves and challenging themselves even after great success.

~John C. Reilly

Acting's all about the confidence you exude, especially on film. I mean, nervousness isn't attractive in anyone, but a film camera will seek it out and punish you.

~John C. Reilly

You were there all day long, 12 hours a day. So there was none of this, 'I'm going back to my trailer, my trailer's bigger than your trailer,' that kind of Hollywood nonsense.

~John C. Reilly

The way you get through having a shitty job is to laugh a lot and goof around.

~John C. Reilly

People say, 'Don't you get tired of people coming up to you all the time?' But what's wrong with strangers saying they love you?

~John C. Reilly

I was a founding member of the 'Dungeons and Dragons' club at my high school. I was in chorus, I was in swing choir. I was an outcast but I was an outcast among a group of outcasts.

~John C. Reilly

I would consider directing. I think directing myself would be tough, but I'm definitely interested in directing. I might start off directing a play before I move to a film.

~John C. Reilly

I like working with people I know. It saves a lot of awkward conversations and getting-to-know-you kinda moments. You trust the

people if you know them.

~John C. Reilly

I'm a big fan of the 'Harry Potter' movies and 'The Lord of the Rings' films.

~John C. Reilly

Despite not looking like a matinee idol, I feel like I have a lot to give. I've never had any trouble with women. People are always surprised with the romantic aspect of my movies.

~John C. Reilly

I'm alienated from this world because its weird and I don't want to be a part of it. I want to be part of the people that are more imaginative and crazy.

~John C. Reilly

I'm aware of how lucky I am. Being able to make pretty good money, and get to do a lot of fun work, and at the same time I'm not besieged by photographers.

~John C. Reilly

I've worked with a lot of great directors and often times they solicit your ideas.

~John C. Reilly

A lot of times, mainstream critics are much tougher on small, independent movies because they can be.

~John C. Reilly

Whenever I work on something, I try and throw everything I have at it. Then if the director finds it useful they use it, and if not, they ignore it!

~John C. Reilly

I had [at school] my own little posse of people that all felt weird together so it wasn't so lonely.

~John C. Reilly

I would say whisky or pills. Not both because that can have disastrous consequences.

~John C. Reilly

I'm much more character based. I try to just be really committed to what I'm doing.

~John C. Reilly

Why people pick me for the roles that they do is a bit of a mystery.

~John C. Reilly

If you get made fun for the way you look, then maybe wearing the same thing every day is the best way to protect yourself.

~John C. Reilly

An actor's life is like a series of - it's like the first day of school happening over and over again.

~John C. Reilly

I like when people know exactly, have a good sense of themselves, and know exactly what's good for them, I admire that, but I don't have anywhere near that kind of perspective on my own.

~John C. Reilly

The truth is, when you're at the track, it was an interesting thing about stock car racing as a sport, is you almost get more out of it watching it on TV.

~John C. Reilly

There's so much joy in doing comedy work, and that's one of the

reasons I like to do it - because it's just a hilarious day at work.

~John C. Reilly

My family are all storytellers, and I think I inherited a lot more of that gene than other people in my family. I guess I was fun to have around.

~John C. Reilly

I like how pure the expression is in music. You can go straight to the heart of an audience rather than through their brain.

~John C. Reilly

I like being employed, you know. That's my favorite kind of acting.

~John C. Reilly

I kinda taught myself how to play guitar, and I still play to this day. It's become a pretty big part of my life.

~John C. Reilly

Young people can be annoying, let's face it. But they can also be really refreshing to be around and full of enthusiasm.

~John C. Reilly

There is a level of fame that is really unmanageable. But most of the people who experience that level of fame are compensated in other ways. Private villas and chauffeured boats.

~John C. Reilly

I really enjoy my time off. If I'm going to go to work, it has to be something I really believe in, or else it's totally tedious.

~John C. Reilly

I did a movie with Leonardo DiCaprio, and his skill level was eons ahead of mine. It was really more like an abattoir - he just slaughtered my character over and over again.

~John C. Reilly

When they're good, I like working with new actors.

~John C. Reilly

I feel like a teenager myself, so I appreciate it when the kids think you're all right.

~John C. Reilly

Actors in general are pretty good bullshit artists; we're good at just chewing the fat, interacting with people. So we're good ambassadors for movies.

~John C. Reilly

The less people know about me in reality, the more they can accept of me as a character.

~John C. Reilly

It's a mystery why certain people find certain things funny.

~John C. Reilly

For a while I had a blues band in L.A., but I realized I was too optimistic to play the blues. I did not have the misery in my heart that the blues required.

~John C. Reilly

The kind of "nerd-objective" is to make people laugh. You always have to have that in the back of your mind, "Eh, I've got to figure out a way to make this funny."

~John C. Reilly

I'm bored by repeating myself, and I would imagine that an audience would be bored by me repeating myself.

~John C. Reilly

Life is often confusing and sad, and I'm a big fan of the slap and the tickle, as they say.

~John C. Reilly

It's kind of liberating to be able to bring your own ideas to things, but it's also a lot of pressure, it's like screenwriting on your feet.

~John C. Reilly

It's true that the skills required to be a conman are the same as those required for being an actor. Though those skills are in the service of something a bit more noble with acting, I hope.

~John C. Reilly

Unless you do the same thing, it's tough for stereotypes to stick. That said, whatever you've done that's most popular at a given moment is what people think "you do."

~John C. Reilly

To me, it doesn't make any sense to pick your work based on the size of the budget of the movie.

~John C. Reilly

I don't deliberately go into comedy or go into indies, but I do deliberately try to keep changing tact, because I think that is the key to longevity in a career.

~John C. Reilly

I'm not of the manor born; I've never felt entitled in that way. I just came to Hollywood to be an actor. All that lifestyle stuff is something to be managed.

~John C. Reilly

I always say it takes as much preparation and thought to do a small part as a leading part. In some ways, leads are easier because you

have the luxury of time to discover the character.

~John C. Reilly

I would love to do a western. I would love to play an explorer. That is always something that has really captured my imagination since I was a kid, like James Cook or Magellan or Earnest Shackleton.

~John C. Reilly

I am one of those people who is not very patient in the makeup chair. I have been offered movies like 'Planet of the Apes' and stuff like 'The Grinch Who Stole Christmas' and I turned them down.

~John C. Reilly

I love to improvise, but I always thought "Man, it's like the final frontier for improvisational actors, to really go for something emotional, something that's not just chasing the laugh."

~John C. Reilly

I'm a big fan of not letting the audience off the hook, as they say. I like it when things feel real, and that's oftentimes not comfortable.

~John C. Reilly

I think just getting a movie done is an accomplishment in itself.

~John C. Reilly

I think that's some of the stuff that we kind of joke on in the movie, this obsession; number one, winning is everything, number one, number one.

~John C. Reilly

I'm not a huge sports fan in general, I don't spend a lot of time watching other people do stuff. I tend to like to go out and do stuff myself.

~John C. Reilly

I do a lot of improvising on movies, actually.

~John C. Reilly

Animation is a great way to work. No early morning call times, no make-up chair. In live action ,you're always fighting the clock; the sun is always going down too soon.

~John C. Reilly

If people want to see me in comedies, that's fine with me.

~John C. Reilly

A script is like a theory of a movie.

~John C. Reilly

I give as much as I can, and it's up to someone else to turn it into a movie. Good luck to you!

~John C. Reilly

I don't mind doing scripted material. It's actually kind of a relief, because improvising is a little bit like screenwriting on your feet.

~John C. Reilly

Hollywood is an illusion. These intense workplaces, with very close relationships, a few months at a time - and then it ends.

~John C. Reilly

Hey, I'm just trying to become the Michael Caine/Gene Hackman of my generation.

~John C. Reilly

God forbid you got seasick because there was no option to go back. So that really did force us to be a group.

~John C. Reilly

I view my strongest competition as myself. You're always trying to top yourself, rather than worrying about what other people are doing.

~John C. Reilly

I love card games, and I've always loved board games and stuff like that as a kid, and I think it's that part of your brain that's engaged in con movies. It's like this 'Who's outsmarting whom?'

~John C. Reilly

I swear and it comes off a little angry, no matter how funny I'm trying to do it. If I use certain words with a certain intensity, it's like 'Whoa whoa whoa, buddy buddy!'

~John C. Reilly

I try to take things that challenge me either physically or mentally, or I have to learn a new skill.

~John C. Reilly

If I'm committed to something really stupid, then I'm in a comedy.

~John C. Reilly

One of the reasons people find me a believable actor is that I don't seem like one of the gods from Olympus. I seem like someone who was lucky enough to be let into Olympus.

~John C. Reilly

When I first joined SAG, there was another John Reilly. My dad was John Reilly, too, but growing up I was John John. Nobody in life calls me John C. It's more like, "Hey you, Step Brother!"

~John C. Reilly

Really if you look at my filmography, there's something for everyone!

~John C. Reilly

One of the unique things is that whether we were out at sea or in the middle of the water tank, a lot of times you just couldn't leave. Especially when we were out at sea.

~John C. Reilly

If you're really being honest with yourself when you're acting, part of it is touching the real you. You can only separate yourself so much from the character. Those vulnerable moments do touch me.

~John C. Reilly

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