

John Lahr

Quotes

Theatre, Play, Thinking, People, Drama, Self, Real, Criticism, America, New York, Class, Sweet, Risk, Mind, Father, Book, Practice, Culture, Night, Selling

When Elvis made his mass-media debut on 'The Ed Sullivan Show' - his notorious gyrations filmed only from the waist up - I fell off the family chaise longue with delight.

~John Lahr

Broadway shows in New York draw two times the attendance of all New York sports teams put together.

~John Lahr

Society drives people crazy with lust and calls it advertising.

~John Lahr

His life was one long extravaganza, like living inside a Faberge egg.

~John Lahr

Criticism is a life without risk.

~John Lahr

Accustomed to the veneer of noise, to the shibboleths of promotion, public relations, and market research, society is suspicious of those who value silence.

~John Lahr

Although the 'New York Times' annually declares that Broadway is on its deathbed, news of its demise is greatly exaggerated. There's a lot of life yet in the old tart.

~John Lahr

Dame Edna is that rarest sighting in our time of the absolute comic, an inspired personification of caprice whose comedy answered the primal call to take the audience for a tumble.

~John Lahr

Like the tail fins on fifties American cars or the parabolic shapes of

Populuxe furniture, 'West Side Story' incarnates the dream of momentum in the golden age of the twentieth century.

~John Lahr

'Death of a Salesman' is a brilliant taxonomy of the spiritual atrophy of mid-twentieth-century white America.

~John Lahr

The only thing I get from the theatre is a sore arse.

~John Lahr

That state of mind - of being beside yourself - is wonderful. As you get older, you're just very aware of a sense of an ending. You're grateful for every day.

~John Lahr

Nobody has ever gone broke selling escape to the American public.

~John Lahr

Entertainment is not politically neutral.

~John Lahr

Identity is memory; when memory disappears, the self dissolves and love with it.

~John Lahr

I detest literature. I abominate the theatre. I have a horror of culture. I am only interested in magic!

~John Lahr

Momentum was part of the exhilaration and the exhaustion of the twentieth century which Coward decoded for the British but borrowed wholesale from the Americans.

~John Lahr

I go to the theatre expecting to have a good time. I want each play and performance to take me somewhere. Naturally, this doesn't always happen.

~John Lahr

Frivolity is the species' refusal to suffer.

~John Lahr

I know in an existential sense that life can change on a dime ... something has instantly and inexorably changed in American life.

~John Lahr

A cruel critic has never made anything; his glibness is a way of inflicting his emptiness on others.

~John Lahr

The British playwright Nina Raine is one of her generation's most promising talents.

~John Lahr

The history of theatre is the history of first nights.

~John Lahr

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