

John Lithgow

Quotes

*Actors, People, Play, Laughter, Age, Artist, Done, Book, Long, Fun, Years,
Sleep, Wife, Important, Thinking, Mother, Dad, Stars, School, Nice*

I'd sleep under a Vermeer.

~John Lithgow

I'm a con artist in that I'm an actor. I make people believe something is real when they know perfectly well it isn't.

~John Lithgow

Look at the darkest hit musicals - Cabaret, West Side Story, Carousel - they are exuberant experiences. They send you out of the theater filled with music

~John Lithgow

Take care, be kind, be considerate of other people and other species, and be loving.

~John Lithgow

Time sneaks up on you like a windshield on a bug.

~John Lithgow

It's a very tough time for the playwright. Broadway has become almost a musical comedy theme park with all these long-running shows.

~John Lithgow

I learned the most about myself, and you ask what I learned? Well, I learned my strengths and my weaknesses, and it's far more important to learn about your weaknesses than your strengths.

~John Lithgow

The most exciting acting tends to happen in roles you never thought you could play.

~John Lithgow

I went to Princeton High School, when I was very serious about being an artist. I was in a theatre family but I didn't want to become an actor.

~John Lithgow

In animation, there's this exhilarating moment of discovery when you see the film and you say, Oh THAT'S what I was doing.

~John Lithgow

You kill three people, they call you a murderer. You kill a million people, they call you a conqueror. Go figure.

~John Lithgow

I never get tired of hearing compliments.

~John Lithgow

We should have charity for what the dead say. We may disapprove of what they say, but we should not insult them and revile them knowing they cannot not defend themselves.

~John Lithgow

Everybody's a dreamer.

~John Lithgow

There's nothing like spending an evening with an audience every night.

~John Lithgow

Books make great gifts because they're something you love that you can share.

~John Lithgow

I'm very concerned for the future of the earth and its amazing creatures. We've got to be careful and make sure we don't foul our own nest

~John Lithgow

I was very interested in being a painter. I had facility, I had talent, and I loved painting and printmaking, and I was quite serious about it.

~John Lithgow

If it's well written and well directed and you've got good actors to work with, acting is easy. But making sure all the ducks are in a row is the hard part. It's very rare

~John Lithgow

Up there with my awards, I have a great big statue of Groucho Marx, just to put everything in perspective.

~John Lithgow

I find I have to walk a little faster in public these days, but it's very easy to remember when nobody had any idea who I was.

~John Lithgow

I gave up shame a long time ago.

~John Lithgow

I keep looking for things I haven't done yet.

~John Lithgow

That's how you deal with stardom; you make it the least important part of your life.

~John Lithgow

I'm a fun father, but not a good father. The hard decisions always went to my wife

~John Lithgow

For me, working on stage is much more exhausting than all the other mediums, but it's also much more thrilling.

~John Lithgow

Academics tend to have wonderfully infantile senses of humor.

~John Lithgow

The Broadway audience is made up of a greater percentage of tourists now. There's not nearly as much variety and danger and challenge in what's being offered.

~John Lithgow

I got a wonderful college education. I went to Harvard. In those four years I accumulated a lot of knowledge but I also created a kind of habit of learning that has stayed with me my whole life.

~John Lithgow

I consider myself a very lucky actor that, approaching 60, I'm still employed and employable.

~John Lithgow

Shakespeare is like mother's milk to me.

~John Lithgow

I can't imagine doing an hour-long dramatic series because it's so much work. A sitcom is a wonderful gig. You work from 10 to 4 every day, it's fun, and you get to live at home.

~John Lithgow

Anyone who hears enough laughter and applause at a young age will become an actor, whether they intend to or not.

~John Lithgow

I'm always being asked to play roles or characters that I don't really resemble.

~John Lithgow

It's my theory that if you hear enough applause and laughter at a young enough age, you're doomed

~John Lithgow

When you end a successful sitcom, the most sensible thing to do is go back to the theater.

~John Lithgow

If my life was a play, age 35 was my intermission.

~John Lithgow

If we are ever going to save this society and the world, there has got to be a way for us to work together. That may be more than we can ever hope to achieve, just because of human nature.

~John Lithgow

If you read in front of your kids, it's very likely that they'll become readers, too

~John Lithgow

I have a lot of faith in people.

~John Lithgow

I subscribe to the great George G. Scott quote, "All actors are in trouble. Directors who don't help are a pain in the ass". We all need help from directors. We are all equally insecure.

~John Lithgow

My only regret is that we didn't have more kids. I came from a family of four kids, but my wife and I just started too late.

~John Lithgow

I was married very young. I lived a very middle class life. I was married at age 21, divorced at 31. I didn't sleep on people's couches.

~John Lithgow

I went to Harvard and immediately fell into the theater gang, and I was already an experienced actor, so you go with the flow! I've already used the phrase "campus star."

~John Lithgow

I really prize and love great painting. It's so out of date now. It's slightly come back in.

~John Lithgow

I don't hesitate to do nudity as an actor if it's done well.

~John Lithgow

You have to overcome enormous self-consciousness, but nudity is about the strongest thing you can do in an acting performance. It's the most unsettling or the most comic or the most sexual.

~John Lithgow

Any character you play, you're on his side. You do have the third eye that looks at what an appalling creature he is, but you have to look at what's good about him.

~John Lithgow

I look for every opportunity to mix comedy and horror and tragedy. I love catching audiences off-guard.

~John Lithgow

I was in 20 Shakespearean plays by the time I was 20.

~John Lithgow

Growing up I didn't want to be an actor. I sort of didn't want to go into the family business; the main reason being there was something I wanted to do far more, which was be an artist.

~John Lithgow

What you aspire to on a sitcom is the feeling of live comedy.

~John Lithgow

Instead of being a theater actor who sometimes does movies I became a movie actor who sometimes does theater.

~John Lithgow

I certainly had my years as an out of work actor but I was married with a baby. My wife was supporting us.

~John Lithgow

It's nice when you've done enough movies that you can do your own anthology.

~John Lithgow

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