

Julie Taymor

Quotes

*People, Thinking, Art, Children, Believe, Artist, Years, Play, Stories, Ideas,
Theater, School, Interesting, Trying, Growing Up, Film, Dark, Responsibility,
Problem, Reality*

One of the reasons I love to jump back and forth between mediums is that film does allow me to be more literal. I can go to the real place. I can go to the Coliseum, and I don't have to fake it.

~Julie Taymor

When I was thinking about *The Lion King*, I said, we have to do what theater does best. What theater does best is to be abstract and not to do literal reality.

~Julie Taymor

I think we all see the world from our own little unique bubble.

~Julie Taymor

I really do believe that if you don't challenge yourself and risk failing, that it's not interesting.

~Julie Taymor

There is incredible power in the arts to inspire and influence.

~Julie Taymor

When you break into song, it's not about dialogue, it's not about how you would speak in a naturalistic sense-it's about expressing your inner torment or your inner joy.

~Julie Taymor

Theater is far superior to film in poetry, in abstract poetry.

~Julie Taymor

What I don't have in theater is editing.

~Julie Taymor

An artist is an entertainer, number one - a storyteller who takes people someplace, who gives them what they didn't know they wanted.

~Julie Taymor

Limitations force you to find the essence of what you want to say, which is one of the most important things to know for an artist.

~Julie Taymor

I want to experience a performance on all levels - I want goose bumps and I want to leave the movie or play arguing about something that's unresolved.

~Julie Taymor

I lived in Indonesia for four years and I understand trance and magic and where it comes from.

~Julie Taymor

Some people become dullards, but as children we are all creative. It's in the programming, the socialization, that we lose our sense of play.

~Julie Taymor

I use cinematic things in a theatrical way on stage, and in film I use theatrical techniques in a cinematic way.

~Julie Taymor

I'm not going to spend two years on a film or four years on an opera if I don't feel like I can put my own self into it. That doesn't mean it has to be about myself.

~Julie Taymor

That's my policy - to be positive, to just hope that something will happen. If you start with all your fears, your receptivity is for the negative.

~Julie Taymor

In America, the word art has become like the word adultery. It's this big scarlet letter. When you say you're an artist, people are like, "Ugh."

~Julie Taymor

It's people who are repressed and cannot express their fears that are dangerous.

~Julie Taymor

What I don't know for sure is what's next for me - and I don't mind that. I know for sure that whatever happens will be interesting and will challenge and excite me.

~Julie Taymor

Some of my ideas for film or theater come to me in dreams. I'm also very creative when I'm talking to others. I believe in collaboration.

~Julie Taymor

My God, it transformed me. My life changed.

~Julie Taymor

Creativity is a gift, but if you don't know how to use it you might not even know it's there. There's a lot of creativity in the air, but it's meaningless if you're not open to receiving it.

~Julie Taymor

In a way, artists are shamans, facilitators who take what's there, channel it through themselves, then put it out there for people to appreciate.

~Julie Taymor

I call myself a playmaker sometimes - but that's just a word. I don't feel like I have to have a title or a job description.

~Julie Taymor

You just have to throw fear out the window. If there's anything that's going to hold you back, it's fear.

~Julie Taymor

A performance can have amazing visuals and special effects, but it has to tell a good story, even if that story isn't original.

~Julie Taymor

I am creative in my living space - the designer in me helps that out.

~Julie Taymor

What I adore is the juxtaposition of high tech and low tech. It's sort of like I love the sacred and the profane. I love to put these extremes in the same hopper.

~Julie Taymor

Children have an easier ability to tap into the surreal than adults do, in a funny kind of way.

~Julie Taymor

I love directing Shakespeare on film. It's fantastic that the actors would do exactly the same thing and be true to their part.

~Julie Taymor

I think that both musicals and opera have a capacity to get to an inner emotional landscape.

~Julie Taymor

And I just think that to introduce an unknown Shakespeare is thrilling, too - not to do Hamlet or Romeo and Juliet, to do the richer Shakespeare. People will come to this and not know the story.

~Julie Taymor

You program music with an image and then people are desensitized.

~Julie Taymor

I've had male executives say that my lead character was unlikable because she slept with a lot of guys.

~Julie Taymor

People will justify whatever for a good cause.

~Julie Taymor

I am, to be quite honest, sick of hero stories.

~Julie Taymor

I have never had a problem with people not being able to understand the words and the meanings in Titus.

~Julie Taymor

Directing is much more psychological-it's a lot like being a general. And you have to be organized. While you're making a film, you have between two and 500 people asking you a billion questions.

~Julie Taymor

People have become so literal because they're used to reality-based television.

~Julie Taymor

You have to stop yourself from even thinking about failing.

~Julie Taymor

You don't have to patronize your audience, and you can mix art and commerce in a profound way. You can simultaneously play to the sophisticated, 60-year-old theatergoers and to 4-year-olds.

~Julie Taymor

Everything amounts to nothing if you don't love someone or something.

~Julie Taymor

We're really having a problem right now in our culture. I haven't seen one movie lately in which the story and visuals have been equally good.

~Julie Taymor

The idea that all violence in movies is okay simply because it happens is bull. Directors and writers have a responsibility.

~Julie Taymor

I'm a firm believer in the idea that theater excels over film and TV in its ability to let people play with poetry.

~Julie Taymor

When I was growing up, there were a lot more arts in the public schools. Politically, America has screwed up on that.

~Julie Taymor

I believe that if you really have a strong idea, you can say, "What do you think? Let's see how my idea plays off yours."

~Julie Taymor

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