

Lars von Trier

Quotes

Film, Thinking, People, Men, Crazy, Evil, Giving, Important, Anxiety, Fool, Cutting, World, School, Shoes, Trying, Should, Art, Real, Political, Helping

If one devalues rationality, the world tends to fall apart.

~Lars von Trier

Far be it from me to force anyone into either chess or dressage, but if you choose to do so yourself, in my opinion there is only one way: follow the rules.

~Lars von Trier

Everything is going to hell, but we should smile all the way.

~Lars von Trier

A film should be like a rock in the shoe.

~Lars von Trier

If anyone would like to hit me, they are perfectly welcome. I must warn you, though, that I might enjoy it. So maybe it's not the right kind of punishment.

~Lars von Trier

If you want to provoke, you should provoke someone who is stronger than you, otherwise you are misusing your power.

~Lars von Trier

Perhaps the only difference between me and other people is that I've always demanded more from the sunset.

~Lars von Trier

I think it's important that we all try to give something to this medium, instead of just thinking about what is the most efficient way of telling a story or making an audience stay in a cinema.

~Lars von Trier

I am a man of very many anxieties but doing strange things with the camera is not one of them.

~Lars von Trier

I think its a very strange question that I have to defend myself. I don't feel that. You are all my guests, it's not the other way around, that's how I feel.

~Lars von Trier

Basically, I'm afraid of everything in life, except filmmaking.

~Lars von Trier

More than anything, there are more images in evil. Evil is based far more on the visual, whereas good has no good images at all.

~Lars von Trier

The secret ingredient to sex is love.

~Lars von Trier

I think that limitations are the most important part of any art form

~Lars von Trier

I think that sexuality is the part of human beings that is closest to nature. And nature is dangerous somehow, yes, if you put nature against civilisation, nature is definitely a threat.

~Lars von Trier

I am the best film director in the world.

~Lars von Trier

I am a man who likes to control things, and if I can't control them totally I will not control them at all.

~Lars von Trier

I like gardening. I'm really a nature man. I spend as much time as I can in nature. I feel really safe there.

~Lars von Trier

I come from a family of communist nudists. I was allowed to do or not do what I liked. My parents were not interested in whether I went to school or got drunk on white wine.

~Lars von Trier

My films generally center around thousands of pictures being flashed in rapid succession to create the illusion of motion.

~Lars von Trier

Unfortunately, on one or both of my shoulders sits lots of anxiety and that is a controlling factor in my life.

~Lars von Trier

It is more difficult to manipulate with film than, for instance, video. The problem with video is that it gives you a thousand possibilities.

~Lars von Trier

I had a lot of frustrations, and I was drinking far too much, and I was just trying to survive and this is what came out of it.

~Lars von Trier

If there are some people that like the film and some people that do not, that's fine for me, because I do not intend to make very broad films.

~Lars von Trier

When I was younger, I was fascinated by David Bowie, for example. He had created an entire myth around himself. It was as important as his music.

~Lars von Trier

That's the great thing about entering a convent: There are things that you simply can't do, so you don't have to worry about them

~Lars von Trier

A film has to be like a stone in the shoe.

~Lars von Trier

I grew up in a culturally radical home, where strong emotions were forbidden.

~Lars von Trier

You know, I really do have some morals. I do actually care about people. And I do have a political standpoint.

~Lars von Trier

I am very romantic about communism even still, but I know terrible things happened.

~Lars von Trier

I'm having a vacation and it's so beautiful and maybe I'll never get another film idea in my life.

~Lars von Trier

I know that I cannot be with a person for three hours without saying at least ten things that would kill me.

~Lars von Trier

Political correctness kills discussion.

~Lars von Trier

I would say that I am a poor Christian; I'm not a believer. It was this idea very early in my life that life on Earth, nature or man could not be a creation of a merciful God.

~Lars von Trier

I understand Hitler... I sympathise with him a little bit.

~Lars von Trier

I'm not a woman! Let's make that very clear! Oh I don't know, maybe I am. I am an American woman. Or 65 percent of me is.

~Lars von Trier

I hope my films will never completely be without the ability to mark anybody.

~Lars von Trier

I did a lot of strange things. But I am a bad Catholic that's for sure. Although I think it's difficult to believe in evil.

~Lars von Trier

I am not very tough with raising my children, but you can argue that to be more tough will help your children.

~Lars von Trier

Only a fool does not fear actors, but you can't beat them, and if you can't beat them, join them, as they say. As I've got older I've become very interested in that part of the work

~Lars von Trier

You could say that when you introduce humour to your work, you also step back a little from it. You create a distance

~Lars von Trier

It's always been a lie that it's difficult to make films.

~Lars von Trier

I always do something that I've never done before...

~Lars von Trier

We start with a rehearsal where the actors kind of bring what they think

should be in the scene. But we film everything, and we use cuts of this first take, also.

~Lars von Trier

Even if you feel all right, tell the actors you don't have full power, and they will help you.

~Lars von Trier

Just the fact that you're working is good for you.

~Lars von Trier

I had an almost fetishistic attraction to film technology.

~Lars von Trier

I encouraged the cast to make up their own lines.

~Lars von Trier

When I show a film at a festival, I am showing myself. Everything is at stake for me.

~Lars von Trier

When I was in film school, it was said that all good films were characterised by some form of humour.

~Lars von Trier

If people do not laugh it's not comedy.

~Lars von Trier

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