

# Michael Gira

## Quotes

*People, Way, Want, Song, Swans, School, Sound, Rocks, Children, Beautiful,  
Records, Guitar, Push Yourself, Stupid, Goal, Rock Music, Form, Views,  
Writing, Hammers*

Swans are majestic, beautiful looking creatures. With really ugly temperaments.

~Michael Gira

The sexuality of children - there's a lot friction there. That tension interests me a lot.

~Michael Gira

You make your work and you can't ask for approval when you're doing it. Otherwise, it's going to be untruthful in some way.

~Michael Gira

The goal is ecstasy, but I don't want to make some sort of saccharine pop music. I want to make something that's completely uncompromising: the best possible music ever made.

~Michael Gira

The music takes you. It has to be alive. It's like you hammer something, and the way it happens to bleed leads you into new directions.

~Michael Gira

I don't want to sound like everybody else.

~Michael Gira

I like loud electric guitars because I like how you can just lose your entire being in the sound.

~Michael Gira

I'm the band leader. That's not to say that the other people are my minions - they all put in a tremendous amount of personality, and push the music in ways I would never expect.

~Michael Gira

I used to routinely break my ribs doing stupid things onstage, but I have

a healthy fear of breaking my bones now.

~Michael Gira

Making those CDs, signing them, numbering them, packing them. It takes hundreds of hours, but it's worth it because I'm able to do the thing I love.

~Michael Gira

I'm pretty confident that people are going to come along for the ride. If they don't, tough.

~Michael Gira

You find ways to push yourself into the sound through repetition. It doesn't stay the same. It morphs constantly.

~Michael Gira

Playing an old record doesn't interest me at all. It's exactly the opposite of what I want to do.

~Michael Gira

I never wrote poetry, just prose. I don't really consider songwriting a form of poetry either. The words are important, of course, but they're dependent on the music.

~Michael Gira

It wouldn't interest me to try to sound like Cop or something. It would be silly and soul-crushing.

~Michael Gira

I have my own record company. I have to answer to God, basically. I'm not young, so I want to make the best possible work I can before I exit.

~Michael Gira

I really wanted to get to the animal core of rock music and eliminate

anything that wasn't necessary.

~Michael Gira

I'm a producer in the old-school way - not just some slacker working on Pro Tools.

~Michael Gira

Maybe in the future I'll put out someone's one-off project, but generally I don't have time.

~Michael Gira

As far as playing playing festivals and everything, I feel like that's what I was born to do. I'm an entertainer, hopefully in the best sense.

~Michael Gira

I don't throw my body down on the stage at all anymore because I'm sure I'd snap like a twig.

~Michael Gira

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