

Oliver Stone Quotes

*Thinking, People, War, Men, Film, Trying, Way, Believe, Movie, Country,
Children, Feelings, Real, Style, Two, Wall, Writing, School, Home, Past*

One of the joys of going to the movies was that it was trashy, and we should never lose that.

~Oliver Stone

Anybody who's been through a divorce will tell you that at one point, they've thought murder. The line between thinking murder and doing murder isn't that major.

~Oliver Stone

Never underestimate the power of jealousy and the power of envy to destroy. Never underestimate that.

~Oliver Stone

When you look at a movie, you look at a director's thought process.

~Oliver Stone

Hell is the impossibility of reason.

~Oliver Stone

I went to Vietnam, and I was there for a long time. [Using marijuana] made the difference between staying human or, as Michael Douglas said, becoming a beast.

~Oliver Stone

I'm a dramatist. Dramatists have a right to look at history and interpret it the way they see it.

~Oliver Stone

If you make the movie from your heart and it stands over time, that's what matters to me.

~Oliver Stone

Every day that you get up, it's some kind of victory if you're making a good product, or working on a project that can only help mankind.

~Oliver Stone

I think our life is a series of adventures.

~Oliver Stone

Greed, for lack of a better word, is good. Greed is right, greed works.

~Oliver Stone

The worst nightmare I ever had about Vietnam was that I had to go back. I woke up in a sweat, in total terror.

~Oliver Stone

Coming Home had been made before and Apocalypse Now and Deer Hunter, different kinds of movies.

~Oliver Stone

Forget the grand plan. Forget the master scheme. Forget control. That is the bleak but true basis of independent cinema. Inch by motherfucking inch we must, because we have no other choice.

~Oliver Stone

We all know what we know. We experience with our minds and breath.

~Oliver Stone

Fear may very well be a caveman fear of the predator, of the giant lizard chasing them - maybe that's what Steven Spielberg connects with so well in Lost World.

~Oliver Stone

I might as well be myself. Everyone else is taken.

~Oliver Stone

I've been to war, and it's not easy to kill. It's bloody and messy and totally horrifying, and the consequences are serious.

~Oliver Stone

The first casualty of war is innocence.

~Oliver Stone

The past assumes the nature of the present.

~Oliver Stone

I think that many people in history who had power were bumped off because they had power.

~Oliver Stone

You can never judge how the film will be taken; you can only make your best effort, and put out what you feel. How it's read, you never can tell. Or remembered for that matter.

~Oliver Stone

I make my films like you're going to die if you miss the next minute. You better not go get popcorn.

~Oliver Stone

There's an electrical thing about movies.

~Oliver Stone

We are seeing entertainment become politics and we're seeing people acting out in ways that are extremely violent and destabilizing. No rules apply. We're in an era of no rules now, it seems.

~Oliver Stone

Conspiracy nut, leftist, madman. These are terms of dismissal so you don't have to listen to the argument. It would be healthier and more fun to hear what someone has to say.

~Oliver Stone

It's interesting that when economic times were the hardest, that's when many people embraced liberalism.

~Oliver Stone

I do believe there are leaders who are like lightning and they come along and they lead. The Lincolns of the world, the Alexander the Greats, they do exist. They have existed.

~Oliver Stone

But I suppose film is distinctive because of its nature, of its being able to cut through time with editing.

~Oliver Stone

When I make a new movie, I always get stuck with, "That's not an Oliver Stone film." But I don't know what to do about that except just move on.

~Oliver Stone

Unfortunately, the truth is that people do go scot-free and it's unfair. A lot of the top drug people who have been arrested are also free.

~Oliver Stone

One of my fantasies in my life has been that I was granted access with a camera to go back in time, and to film the actual campaign of Alexander crossing into India through Iran and Persia.

~Oliver Stone

I am not trying to be a historian and a dramatist; I'm a dramatist, a dramatic historian, or one who does a dramatic interpretation of history.

~Oliver Stone

Each year, the The U.S. Army & its contractors SHOOT, STAB, MUTILATE, & KILL more than TEN THOUSAND live animals in cruel

training exercises.

~Oliver Stone

I will come out with my interpretation. If I'm wrong, fine. It will become part of the debris of history, part of the give and take.

~Oliver Stone

I study history in order to give an interpretation.

~Oliver Stone

I'd like to do a story about the medieval ages where in every scene you'd sort of feel that you were in the 12th century. That would be great to get that feeling.

~Oliver Stone

I never put out a history, I put out a dramatic history.

~Oliver Stone

I've changed my style constantly, so I'm not sure I have one defined style, except perhaps style of subject matter.

~Oliver Stone

I've changed my style constantly, so I'm not sure I have one defined style, except perhaps style of subject matter. But you learn as you go, I suppose.

~Oliver Stone

I love the act of writing. I like the quiet, internal aspect of it. If I lost track of that, I couldn't direct the same way. I couldn't be a director for-hire; it's just not my nature.

~Oliver Stone

With television, the image has been degenerated, no question. With the internet, commercials... people are much too cynical about image. It's

stale. And all over the world, not just America.

~Oliver Stone

I think everyone has the same question on their mind: Is the glass half-full or half-empty?

~Oliver Stone

Now, we live in an age where we have so much information that we do tend to overload. The Greeks did too, though.

~Oliver Stone

I do believe that movies are subject to a million interpretations.

~Oliver Stone

People are still living in the moment, and they feel the passion of now.

~Oliver Stone

I'm interested, I suppose, in tortured power.

~Oliver Stone

It was a tough experience with Alan Horn, who didn't like anything that was R-rated. So you can imagine he hated some of my films.

~Oliver Stone

I think you should do rehearsal and work at it, but when the camera rolls, you should be ready. Try to make it good the first time.

~Oliver Stone

My home in Hollywood is not a home. I do a film here, a film there, as they want it. I don't have a relationship. Like, Warner Bros. has a great relationship with Clint Eastwood and takes care of him.

~Oliver Stone

I'm a history person; I love history. But I am conditioned by the present.

~Oliver Stone

We're all divided, but some of us have children, and we are invested in the future and would like to see good things happen.

~Oliver Stone

Concepts of integrity and heroism and honor are still important to the world today. Some people behave well, and some people behave badly.

~Oliver Stone

Christianity did take a lot of Greek concepts.

~Oliver Stone

Just because we live in a Christian era doesn't mean we're all Christian, necessarily.

~Oliver Stone

The Greek playwrights, we're all beholden to them, every one of us.

~Oliver Stone

There is a narrative to every life, and I believe in the classic mode of storytelling that goes back to Homer and carries through to today.

~Oliver Stone

I look at Homer and The Odyssey and all the disparate adventures this guy goes through, and then he returns home and the question is, is he the same man who left?

~Oliver Stone

What I've experienced, I'm trying to put in a narrative form, I suppose, to say that it does make sense in this way.

~Oliver Stone

I think a lot of people misunderstand what I'm doing, because my films are not easy sometimes. They do deserve a second viewing. I think they get misunderstood easily.

~Oliver Stone

You get much more heat when you do something current.

~Oliver Stone

As a dramatist, I don't have politics.

~Oliver Stone

I can see a movie and believe the story and characterization and stay proud of it. It doesn't change. Even if it's unappreciated, that doesn't mean it can't be appreciated in the future.

~Oliver Stone

I'd rather get past the tyranny of now, where you get judged for something based on what's happening at the moment.

~Oliver Stone

I'm more comfortable with simplicity as I get older.

~Oliver Stone

From '45, the moment Franklin Roosevelt dies, we're running ratlines with the Germans, helping Nazis escape.

~Oliver Stone

Cyber-warfare is obviously the future. It's a real concern, but we lie so much about what we do that it's hard to know what's going on unless you really follow it.

~Oliver Stone

I think John F. Kennedy was the last great hope. And that's why I dwell on that subject. He was someone who could stand up to the militarist

element in our society.

~Oliver Stone

Well, George W.Bush wanted to privatize Social Security. It's an ideological thing.

~Oliver Stone

I didn't like my classmates at Yale. George W.Bush was in my class. I didn't know it then.

~Oliver Stone

For some reason, television still bores me. Even the best shows.

~Oliver Stone

People should really horde their Blu-rays like old comic books and baseball cards. Because they're really beautiful, and will be worth something if you like movies as I do.

~Oliver Stone

A life like Nixon's is filled with shame and filled with glory. He loved to quote Teddy Roosevelt: "He was a man; sometimes right, sometimes wrong, but he was a man." I love that line.

~Oliver Stone

Horses are very difficult to shoot.

~Oliver Stone

Pat Nixon was called the Mona Lisa of American politics. She never wrote anything. Her interviews tell us nothing.

~Oliver Stone

Every movie requires its own style. Just be honest to the story. Tell the story in the best possible way that is different, exciting and original.

~Oliver Stone

You always try to find the right style for the movie. That's the key.

~Oliver Stone

I think there is a whole older generation that will go to movies still. People like me; people over 45.

~Oliver Stone

You're not a historian, but most historians will tell you that they make very discrete judgment as to what facts to omit in order to make their book into some shape, some length that can be managed.

~Oliver Stone

What needs to happen is more of a global understanding, and I believe the United States can work as a global partner and not be the hegemon.

~Oliver Stone

Venezuela is a democratically elected government. These people who keep protesting are sore losers.

~Oliver Stone

Bin Laden was completely protected by the oil companies in this country who told [President] Bush not to go after him because it would piss off the Saudis.

~Oliver Stone

[When making movies I] set out to be authentic to [myself] and to put it down the way [I] feel it and know it and interpret it. And then others sometimes key into it and get it.

~Oliver Stone

We pray for no destruction, and for the forces of destruction not to take over.

~Oliver Stone

Each actor requires a different language.

~Oliver Stone

Television has usurped everybody from film. And so have commercials, by the way.

~Oliver Stone

I think there's a whole older generation that will go to movies still. People like me; people over 45.

~Oliver Stone

People will go to clean theaters; they don't like to go to dirty theaters.

~Oliver Stone

Anyone can relate to suffering in this world.

~Oliver Stone

We have enormous challenges in front of us.

~Oliver Stone

I'm trying to understand my life. The one that I've experienced.

~Oliver Stone

Cynicism was a school in Greece - the Cynics. Diogenes is a famous Cynic. There was a strong belief in nihilism and narcissism. Those are old schools too.

~Oliver Stone

America is the strongest empire ever, with the largest military. We spend ten times what the Russians do. And they have equal nuclear ability as we do, because they're precise.

~Oliver Stone

There was a certain faction in America that had always been pro-Nazi,

including the Allen Dulles people. These were businessmen, Wall Street men.

~Oliver Stone

In any film there's always a historical implication.

~Oliver Stone

I like automatic weapons. I fought for my right to use them in Vietnam.

~Oliver Stone

I feel like I am what I am.

~Oliver Stone

In digital, you can maintain the quality.

~Oliver Stone

Robert Kagan said the neocons couldn't get a better president than Hillary Clinton, who would enforce the neocon foreign policy. No one's questioned it.

~Oliver Stone

There is this thing about time that you can't see at the time you're at.

~Oliver Stone

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