

# Pat Metheny

## Quotes

*Jazz, Music, Thinking, Musician, Guitar, Sound, Way, Play, Firsts, Ideas, Player, Pieces, Practice, Night, Home, Icons, Cities, Music Is, Musical, Verbs*

Its more about conception and touch and spirit and soul than whether my hardware was in place.

~Pat Metheny

My first relationship to any kind of musical situation is as a listener.

~Pat Metheny

Listening is the key to everything good in music.

~Pat Metheny

One very fundamental thing has not changed and I realized that it will never change... is that I really need to go home and practice.

~Pat Metheny

People sometimes say it takes a long time to become a Jazz fan, but for me it took about five seconds.

~Pat Metheny

Most guys at Berklee are going to wind up truck drivers.

~Pat Metheny

More and more as time has gone on, I realize that playing is really more about listening than it is about playing.

~Pat Metheny

Smokin' at the Half Note is the absolute greatest jazz-guitar album ever made. It is also the record that taught me how to play.

~Pat Metheny

Learning to play is mostly about learning to hear, and learning to really listen deeply to sound in a musical way is a lifetime's worth of work.

~Pat Metheny

Jazz is an idea that is more powerful than the details of its history.

~Pat Metheny

It is Jazz's very nature to change, to develop & adapt to the circumstances of its environment.

~Pat Metheny

Jazz demands that you bring to it things that are valuable to you, that are personal to you.

~Pat Metheny

If you plan on continuing a tradition, it might be a good idea to find out just what tradition it is that you intend to continue.

~Pat Metheny

The main thing in my life...is that I really need to go home and practice.

~Pat Metheny

If jazz has to be termed as a wave, then music is a sea, but if the reflectors in the water is the chord.

~Pat Metheny

I think I represent a more left-wing view of what jazz is

~Pat Metheny

The best musicians are not the best players, they're the best listeners.

~Pat Metheny

There's more bad music in jazz than any other form. Maybe that's because the audience doesn't really know what's happening.

~Pat Metheny

The more I can learn about music, the more I learn about other things.

~Pat Metheny

Im always trying to find connections between things. That art is the juxtaposition of a lot of things that seem unrelated but add up to something recognizable.

~Pat Metheny

The first thing I learned was the theme from Peter Gunn.

~Pat Metheny

I don't worry too much about the fundamentalist principles that are in almost any discussion about Jazz.

~Pat Metheny

...to me if it's anything, jazz is a verb-it's more like a process than it is a thing.

~Pat Metheny

I realized that equipment really had little to do with why I sound like the way I sound

~Pat Metheny

Music is one big thing to me.

~Pat Metheny

Jazz is not something that can be defined through blunt instruments. It is much more poetic than that.

~Pat Metheny

I think I have a basic sound aesthetic that is in most of what I do

~Pat Metheny

The beauty of jazz is that it's malleable. People are addressing it to suit their own personalities.

~Pat Metheny

My older brother Mike is an excellent trumpet player. By the time he was 12, he was playing around Kansas City in classical situations. He was already an amazing talent.

~Pat Metheny

I was able to work with the best musicians in Kansas City starting when I was really young

~Pat Metheny

I hate the way chorus boxes sound

~Pat Metheny

There has to be a real strong reason to do something with someone for me.

~Pat Metheny

From 1962 to 1965, the guitar became this icon of youth culture, thanks mostly to the Beatles

~Pat Metheny

And if I ever DO see [Kenny G] anywhere, at any function - he WILL get a piece of my mind, and maybe a guitar wrapped around his head.

~Pat Metheny

I just have never seen anyone build anything significant in any field without having a deep and detailed sense of what they are building on.

~Pat Metheny

Jazz music will continue to thrive, possibly in unexpected ways.

~Pat Metheny

Music is what you notice when it's no longer in your presence.

~Pat Metheny

I think jazz is actually quite unforgiving in its disdain for nostalgia. It demands creativity and change at its highest level.

~Pat Metheny

I love playing and working on music. It is something that I feel really lucky to be able to spend my life doing. And I don't sleep much!

~Pat Metheny

To me, there are lots of different stories to tell and you usually find the best way to tell the one you are telling once you are in it.

~Pat Metheny

What I look for in musicians is a sense of infinity

~Pat Metheny

Sometimes I try to lose my identity, and I can't get rid of it!

~Pat Metheny

I saw A Hard Day's Night 12 or 13 times.

~Pat Metheny

The Unity Band project has been life-changing for me. I have led many groups of talented musicians, but this is unlike anything else.

~Pat Metheny

Somehow trumpet is the reference point for me it was actually my first instrument.

~Pat Metheny

I think that the melodic piece of the puzzle in music is the most esoteric and difficult to quantify.

~Pat Metheny

I was deep in the zone of practicing almost constantly

~Pat Metheny

I try to be prepared for the moment, through understanding, and being warmed up, knowing all about chords and scales, so I don't even have to think and I can get right to what it is I want to say.

~Pat Metheny

Whatever my recorded output is, it's a reflection of a general love of music.

~Pat Metheny

As much as I have done collaborations over the years, I am actually kind of a reluctant partner.

~Pat Metheny

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