

# Robert Bresson

## Quotes

*Art, Eye, Sound, Real, Two, Order, People, Form, Seems, Writing, Instruments,  
Firsts, Passing, Ifs, Creative, Ears, Unforeseen, Novelty, Film, Nudity*

Cinematography is a writing with images in mouvement and with sounds.

~Robert Bresson

Cinematography, a military art. Prepare a film like a battle.

~Robert Bresson

In the NUDE, all that is not beautiful is obscene.

~Robert Bresson

Make visible what, without you, might perhaps never have been seen.

~Robert Bresson

When a sound can replace an image, cut the image or neutralize it. The ear goes more towards the within, the eye towards the outer.

~Robert Bresson

When you do not know what you are doing and what you are doing is the best - that is inspiration.

~Robert Bresson

Hide the ideas, but so that people find them. The most important will be the most hidden.

~Robert Bresson

Bring together things that have as yet never been brought together and did not seem predisposed to be so.

~Robert Bresson

Ten properties of an object, according to Leonardo: light and dark, color and substance, form and position, distance and nearness, movement and stillness.

~Robert Bresson

Cinema, radio, television, magazines are a school of inattention: people look without seeing, listen in without hearing.

~Robert Bresson

To create is not to deform or invent persons and things. It is to tie new relationships between persons and things which are, and as they are.

~Robert Bresson

Be the first to see what you see as you see it.

~Robert Bresson

The point is not to direct someone, but to direct oneself.

~Robert Bresson

For me, film-making is combining images and sounds of real things in an order that makes them effective. What I disapprove of is photographing things that are not real. Sets and actors are not real.

~Robert Bresson

The most ordinary word, when put into place, suddenly acquires brilliance. That is the brilliance with which your images must shine.

~Robert Bresson

Films can only be made by by-passing the will of those who appear in them, using not what they do, but what they are.

~Robert Bresson

Practice the precept: find without seeking

~Robert Bresson

Laugh at a bad reputation. Fear a good one that you could not sustain.

~Robert Bresson

Ideally, nothing should be shown, but that's impossible.

~Robert Bresson

The things one can express with the hand, with the head, with the shoulders!... How many useless and encumbering words then disappear! What economy!

~Robert Bresson

The true is inimitable, the false untransformable.

~Robert Bresson

Prefer what intuition whispers in your ear to what you have done and redone ten times in your head.

~Robert Bresson

It is in its pure form that an art hits hard.

~Robert Bresson

Hostility to art is also hostility to the new, to the unforeseen.

~Robert Bresson

Master Precision. Be a precision instrument myself.

~Robert Bresson

An old thing becomes new if you detach it from what usually surrounds it.

~Robert Bresson

Empty the pond to get the fish.

~Robert Bresson

Nothing more inelegant and ineffective than an art conceived in another art's form.

~Robert Bresson

A too-expected image (cliché) will never seem right, even if it is.

~Robert Bresson

Model. Two mobile eyes in a mobile head, itself on a mobile body.

~Robert Bresson

Provoke the unexpected. Expect it.

~Robert Bresson

Let nothing be changed and all be different.

~Robert Bresson

Unbalance so as to re-balance.

~Robert Bresson

The crude real will not by itself yield truth.

~Robert Bresson

The faculty of using my resources well diminishes when their number grows.

~Robert Bresson

Catch instants. Spontaneity, freshness.

~Robert Bresson

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