

# Romola Garai

## Quotes

*Thinking, Character, People, Play, Actors, Children, Men, Way, Strong, Jobs,  
Past, Art, Actresses, Hands, Stories, Lifetime, Film, Want, Acting, Writing*

I can't spend the rest of my life being pretty in a bonnet.

~Romola Garai

My alter egos have changed a lot over the years. When I was a child, I was a black horse called Storm. Whinnying and jumping over bamboo poles in the garden took up pretty much my entire childhood.

~Romola Garai

Female ambition is such a complicated thing to play because it is an aggressive quality, and people respond very badly to women exhibiting any kind of aggression.

~Romola Garai

I can only do something that my sister or my daughter, if I have one, could watch and feel positive about.

~Romola Garai

I realise there's an innate paradox in promoting oneself on the one hand and saying, 'Oh, I don't want to be famous,' on the other.

~Romola Garai

I don't really want to do things that I feel like are going to send out a message that I don't really want to sign up for.

~Romola Garai

Motherhood so often comes in conflict with women's capacity to express and live their own lives.

~Romola Garai

We live in a society where children are expected to become adults overnight.

~Romola Garai

I have a very strong, probably slightly aggressive personality, and so

that just ends up coming out regardless of what I try to do.

~Romola Garai

I have always been interested in gender politics, so I'm not that keen on doing things that don't represent a truth about women.

~Romola Garai

I just don't believe you're capable of being an actor unless you have a desire to experience your emotions in a public way.

~Romola Garai

I feel that it's important to fail now and again. For instance, if I go for a job and I don't get it, that makes me not a better person, but more balanced, more aware of what life is really like.

~Romola Garai

I love science fiction. I read a lot of science fiction.

~Romola Garai

Films about women and their concerns are seen as frivolous, limited and, most damaging of all, niche.

~Romola Garai

As a kid, I really loved 'Jane Eyre,' I used to fantasise that the past was so much better and my lifetime was crap.

~Romola Garai

I think with the best actors, emotion is something that has no kind of check in them.

~Romola Garai

I love '30 Rock.' Absolutely love it. It's a game-changing show.

~Romola Garai

I get quite disappointed that we're still telling stories that I think are problematic in terms of what they're saying about women.

~Romola Garai

I get grumpy about the innate conservatism of our tastes; I love bold theatre, and I get annoyed when a heritage piece is really successful.

~Romola Garai

I cheated at the Model United Nations when I was 13 and had to get up and apologise in front of the whole conference.

~Romola Garai

Postwar Europe was morally stagnant, and there was a lot of neo-conservatism.

~Romola Garai

I think it's very repressive for a woman to be constantly told that she has to make films about women to better represent women, but then the reverse is not found.

~Romola Garai

I would argue that something dark is lurking between the sexes, and that it is seeping out into cinema.

~Romola Garai

Normally, when you're working on something, there are other characters that you have alliances with, and you have unified goals with some characters.

~Romola Garai

Our conception of 1950s underwear is a lovely vintage aesthetic, but actually, wearing stockings with no elastic and a girdle was heavy duty.

~Romola Garai

I've worked with actors who tell everyone what to do in the scene - that makes me go pretty atomic.

~Romola Garai

Nowadays, most women just assume they have a right to be in the workplace, and any kind of discrimination they suffer is sort of more creeping.

~Romola Garai

If you are an actress in L.A., on your 40th birthday they should just hand you the keys to the lunatic asylum.

~Romola Garai

If I have to spend prolonged periods of time in a trailer, I go mad. Stuck in a metal box doing nothing, I lie there paralysed with boredom.

~Romola Garai

I'd actually really love to review books and films and plays, but you can't be an artist and a critic. I would love it if I could.

~Romola Garai

A passion for any novel, and any character, can crystallise your ideas when you really need to be as open as possible as a performer.

~Romola Garai

I'm fundamentally a busy person; I spend my time doing useful things and profoundly useless things!

~Romola Garai

I don't really want to play parts that I think are not fully developed or fleshed out, especially with female roles.

~Romola Garai

It's hard for actors to have to deal with the fact that they pour so much

into their character, but the audience might have a negative assessment of them.

~Romola Garai

I think if I was ever really going to be more serious about writing I'd have to try and find some way to do it with other people. I do find the silence kind of eerie.

~Romola Garai

Women don't question themselves when they enter into a story that has male characters, but men do question the validity of a female narrative.

~Romola Garai

I would like to know that I was still going to be employed as a woman well into my 60s. In acting terms, a career that spans a lifetime is a very hard thing to achieve, particularly as a woman.

~Romola Garai

You don't have to conform to a very specific aesthetic today, whereas 1950s women definitely had to.

~Romola Garai

The worst thing you can do as a performer is to judge your character in any way, positively or negatively.

~Romola Garai

Acting is a strange job because your control is very limited.

~Romola Garai

I want people to think I'm sexy, but to know also that I've got an ordinary body and not feel intimidated.

~Romola Garai

I wish I was a more adventurous person in a way. But actually, security

is a really big deal for me.

~Romola Garai

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