

# Simon Schama

## Quotes

*War, History, Father, Animal, Violence, Thinking, School, Stories, Art, Hate, Lifetime, Love You, Patriotic, Golf, Fighting, Forever, America, Loss, Civil War, Men*

Even for the most excitable preacher, there was nothing inherently sinful about a waffle.

~Simon Schama

Great art has dreadful manners. The greatest paintings grab you in a headlock, rough up your composure, and then proceed in short order to re-arrange your reality.

~Simon Schama

Charlie Hebdo: Satire was the father of true political freedom, born in the 18th century; the scourge of bigots and tyrants. Sing its praises.

~Simon Schama

Histories never conclude; they just pause their prose. Their stories are, if they are truthful, untidy affairs, resistant to windings-up and sortings-out. They beat raggedly on into the future.

~Simon Schama

Irreverence is the lifeblood of freedom.

~Simon Schama

What can art really do in the face of atrocity?

~Simon Schama

The irony about Charles II is not that he came to the throne because England needed a successor to Charles I, but because England needed a successor to Oliver Cromwell.

~Simon Schama

There are some places where history just grabs you by the jugular. This is one of them.

~Simon Schama

Nations don't start out. There is not a particular moment when they

unveil the essence of themselves. They are always a work in progress.

~Simon Schama

But it struck me that the extreme violence and cruelty of the English Civil War had gone understated.

~Simon Schama

DIY, cricket, automobile repair. I could study it for a lifetime and not produce a word on the carburettor.

~Simon Schama

We seem wired to grieve with greenery. Allowing the dead to dissolve into the earth, to become part of the cycle of the seasons, has, for millennia, held the promise of cheating mortality.

~Simon Schama

Walking on camera is damn hard. It's a Jewish problem. The rangy stride across the blasted moor is not really a Jewish thing.

~Simon Schama

Charles was constitutionally incapable of being a constitutional monarch.

~Simon Schama

I first read War And Peace about 100 years after Tolstoy wrote it.

~Simon Schama

In the end, history, especially British history with its succession of thrilling illuminations, should be, as all her most accomplished narrators have promised, not just instruction but pleasure.

~Simon Schama

The older I get, the more I want to do. It beats death, decay or golf in unfortunate trousers. Peace and quiet depress me.

~Simon Schama

I don't really like the autumn. For me it is the beginning of winter and I hate the winter. White, the colour of death.

~Simon Schama

I actually think that history has fed off the restlessness of cyber space, of kind of the frantic, segmented nature of the way we lead our lives. People want to be connected.

~Simon Schama

I felt New York was a big, more stylish, more metropolitan Golders Green. I was thrilled.

~Simon Schama

In its Greek origins, historia meant inquiry, and from Thucydides onwards, the past has been studied to understand its connections with the present.

~Simon Schama

The next worse thing to a battle lost is a battle won.

~Simon Schama

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