

# Stephen Lang

## Quotes

*Thinking, Character, Roles, Play, Men, Giving, Jobs, Want, People, Years,  
Imagination, Acting, Directors, Interesting, Way, War, Myopic, Roots, Soul,  
Changed*

With correction, and given the chance, 'Terra Nova' can and will deliver seasons of transcendent images and story-telling. 'Terra Nova' is the Hubble Telescope of television.

~Stephen Lang

I loved Laurel and Hardy and TV shows like 'Robin Hood' and 'Rama of the Jungle'.

~Stephen Lang

I've played the clarinet since I was a kid. I love to sing, but I'm not much of a singer. Let's say that when it comes to vocalizing, I have the soul of Billy Bigelow but the voice of Jigger Cragan.

~Stephen Lang

I am very fond of the people, landscape, poetry, music, history and the Guinness. Being there makes me think of my mother and my grandmother - always sentimental and warm thoughts.

~Stephen Lang

I don't think there is a role that I did twenty years ago that I couldn't do better now.

~Stephen Lang

I don't believe that being against the war can be equated with being non-supportive of our troops.

~Stephen Lang

My job, professionally, is tapping into stuff. We've all got it. But, I just am fortunate enough that, beyond the age of 11, it's what I do professionally.

~Stephen Lang

I have a penchant for playing God's clowns. Actually, I played Nijinsky once, and he used to call himself God's clown.

~Stephen Lang

The truth is, I'm a character guy. That's how I see myself. I always see the role as being far more interesting and important than I am... not all actors approach it that way.

~Stephen Lang

When Steven Spielberg comes calling, it behooves you to seriously consider it.

~Stephen Lang

I've been into weight training for many, many years and you add to that a good dose of cardio, don't overindulge, and you can do all right.

~Stephen Lang

There are themes that somehow stir me and that I find very interesting. They're themes that deal with leadership, the nature of bravery and courage, and how to define those.

~Stephen Lang

My favorite show from the '60s was 'Combat.' And maybe 'The Man From U.N.C.L.E.'

~Stephen Lang

I wouldn't say 'Avatar' changed my life, but it definitely changed my career.

~Stephen Lang

You try to go where the great scripts are, if you can, or you go where the not great scripts are, because that's what's being offered to you.

~Stephen Lang

Hamlet, that's the only role there is, finally. The only role. After that, you settle down and only do the fun things on stage.

~Stephen Lang

I think that war is diplomacy. There have been wars that have been fought for righteous reasons and there are wars that have had to be fought. Indeed, there will continue to be.

~Stephen Lang

Whether I appear in 'Avatar 2' or 'Avatar 3', I always feel I'm a part of the 'Avatar' team.

~Stephen Lang

My Hamlet was about as alienated as you can get. Mine was a bitter and lonely prince. Valid, I think, but maybe tough to root for. I think that romance was missing.

~Stephen Lang

I love the stage. It's terrifying in a way that film and television is not. When you're about to go out, and you're adrenaline just gets out of control, and that can be really daunting.

~Stephen Lang

Fortitude, determination... in a way they're things that I idealize myself and am curious about.

~Stephen Lang

Acting can be a very reactive profession. Acting is a fantastic thing, and it's my life, but writing is also part of me too, so I did it and in so doing took responsibility for my own life.

~Stephen Lang

Your primary tools, as an actor, are observation and imagination. You can pretty much get everything you need from that, and you do. It brings back that element of pretend.

~Stephen Lang

My philosophy is, 'Show up, shut up, and do your job,' and if you do it to the satisfaction of your director and the public, you're likely to be able to do it again.

~Stephen Lang

What has emerged as I've gotten older is simplifying the characters I play, unless the role calls for something that is arcane or ornate.

~Stephen Lang

I'm always reading plays, and when I find something that I really want to do, then I'll make the time to do it.

~Stephen Lang

When you want to learn about something, what is the first thing you do... you go to the internet.

~Stephen Lang

I always have a contract with a character. Even when he's unappealing. The contract is to give him his due. To tell his story. And to keep his secrets.

~Stephen Lang

I've become more empathetic, and my capacity to understand and be patient - to give people a break - has enlarged over the years.

~Stephen Lang

I can't imagine a more profoundly exciting experience than I had working on 'Avatar.' And whether I'm ever part of it again, I'll always be very proud that I was a part of it.

~Stephen Lang

Theater, because of the commitment, it has to be a great role and a great play to me. It takes a lot out of you.

~Stephen Lang

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