

# Steve Albini

## Quotes

*Thinking, Band, People, Cooking, Rocks, Men, Labels, Records, Jobs,  
Attention, Children, Artist, Fashion, Firsts, Years, Perception, Hate, Eating,  
College, Helping*

Know what you're trying to do before you do it. Turning knobs at random isn't enlightening any more than throwing paint at a wall blindfolded will let you paint a nice picture.

~Steve Albini

The single best thing that has happened in my lifetime in music, after punk rock, is being able to share music, globally for free.

~Steve Albini

For less than the cost of a Big Mac, fries and a Coke, you can buy a loaf of fresh bread and some good cheese or roast beef, which you will enjoy much more.

~Steve Albini

In heaven, after antipasti, the first course will be pasta.

~Steve Albini

It betrays hubris on the part of the artist to think his medium is limiting him, and I think we all recognize this

~Steve Albini

Doubt the conventional wisdom unless you can verify it with reason and experiment

~Steve Albini

I don't feel like embarrassing Kurt by talking about what a psycho hosebeast his wife is, especially when he knows it already.

~Steve Albini

Many rock musicians are excellent cooks, I've found, and those that are prefer to eat their own cooking in the studio. I encourage this behavior as I also enjoy the benefits of fresh food

~Steve Albini

Find people who think like you and stick with them. Make only music you are passionate about. Work only with people you like and trust. Don't sign anything.

~Steve Albini

You can't help noticing an amazing ass. Pretty naked ladies will always get my attention. Revealingly dressed good-looking women will always get my attention, at least for a moment.

~Steve Albini

I stopped drinking almost immediately after I had ready access to liquor, when I got to college. It almost immediately lost its appeal for me.

~Steve Albini

Im busy doing my job, and being a loudmouth doesnt appeal to me as much as when I was younger and had the youthful delusion that I was smarter than everybody else.

~Steve Albini

Buy groceries and feed yourself, even on the road

~Steve Albini

The bands that have been the most important to me, and the records that have been the most important to me as a fan, have been records that surprised me for one reason or another.

~Steve Albini

The band cannot sign to another label or even put out its own material unless they are released from their agreement, which never happens.

~Steve Albini

I don't think anyone has exhausted the range of sound possible in a conventional rock band, but people do become slaves to their own

easiest techniques

~Steve Albini

By now all rock bands are wise enough to be suspicious of music industry scum

~Steve Albini

Make no mistake about it: once a band has signed a letter of intent, they will either eventually sign a contract that suits the label or they will be destroyed

~Steve Albini

In 1980, I moved to Chicago, and I recorded demo tapes for my friends' bands, and in 1981, the first Big Black record - the first thing I did that was an actual record.

~Steve Albini

It always offended me when I was in the studio and the engineer or the assumed producer for the session would start bossing the band around. That always seemed like a horrible insult to me.

~Steve Albini

Clip your year-end column and put it away for 10 years. See if you don't feel like an idiot when you reread it.

~Steve Albini

I moved to Chicago in 1980 to go to college

~Steve Albini

Almost any decent cook will make food by eye and taste. Virtually all of my family cooked that way.

~Steve Albini

When people are absurdly tall, they command everyone's attention

when they walk into a room. Nobody's ever dismissive of somebody for being too tall.

~Steve Albini

If I were a gambling man I would put all my money on there not being anything other than this universe.

~Steve Albini

I'm not a particularly good cook. Part of it is that it is the kind of cooking anybody could do if they bothered. It's improvisational. I cook with whatever I have laying around.

~Steve Albini

The only kind of restaurant I could imagine doing would be the extraordinarily snooty restaurant with three or four tables, and I would cook what I felt like cooking. And you could eat it or not.

~Steve Albini

I think good-looking naked ladies turn on the majority of men.

~Steve Albini

I wouldn't mind being taller, because when I'm in the company of people who are absurdly tall, there's something about them that I can't help admiring.

~Steve Albini

New York has magnificent eating available, both in restaurants and in the materials available to home cooks in the many specialty markets.

~Steve Albini

What's the most outrageous thing I've ever done? Let's just say I don't think I've done it yet. The most outrageous thing is yet to come.

~Steve Albini

I learned to cook from my mom. Most of what I ate growing up was Italian cooking.

~Steve Albini

When I'm in a restaurant, I don't eat red meat. It doesn't taste like anything. But if a friend of mine is grilling stuff at his house, its almost always great.

~Steve Albini

I want to be in cahoots with bands who want to make the record of their dreams.

~Steve Albini

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