

# Sydney Pollack Quotes

*People, Art, Thinking, Mean, Views, Film, Years, World, Men, Jobs, Ideas,  
Trying, Real, Movie, Scripts, Way, Actors, Hollywood, Conservative, Religious*

Editing feels almost like sculpting or a form of continuing the writing process.

~Sydney Pollack

Every single art form is involved in film, in a way.

~Sydney Pollack

I think it's a terrible shame that politics has become show business.

~Sydney Pollack

I mean, certainly writing, painting, photography, dance, architecture, there is an aspect of almost every art form that is useful and that merges into film in some way.

~Sydney Pollack

I didn't grow up thinking of movies as film, or art, but as movies, something to do on a Saturday afternoon.

~Sydney Pollack

But, I've made films in Japan, in Yugoslavia, all over Europe, all over the United States, Mexico, but not Hollywood.

~Sydney Pollack

I have one life. I am a certain age. I'm married to one person. I have a certain number of children. I won't have another life other than that, but I do have many lives through the films.

~Sydney Pollack

I mean, the truth of the matter is, I like the failures as much as I like the successes, it's only the world that doesn't like the failures.

~Sydney Pollack

Making films is much more difficult than people imagine, and so the experience of actually directing them is not one I've ever relished.

~Sydney Pollack

One wants to be able to experience being other people, remaking a reality, remaking a life, remaking a certain world.

~Sydney Pollack

Well, I was born and raised in the Midwest, in Indiana specifically, and my childhood was full of weekend movies, you know, the Saturday and Sunday popcorn movies.

~Sydney Pollack

Film is a collective experience, as you know.

~Sydney Pollack

And I taught acting for years, and without knowing it that was the real thing that started bending me toward directing.

~Sydney Pollack

You are not an active creator of the film.

~Sydney Pollack

There's a religious basis to their [Bush and Chaney] kind of conservatism. It's rooted in a kind of fundamentalism. I'm afraid of that. I don't like that idea. I think all extremism is suspect.

~Sydney Pollack

Well, there's no question that a good script is an absolutely essential, maybe the essential thing for a movie.

~Sydney Pollack

I personally have never made a movie in Hollywood, because I don't want to get up in my own bed and then go to the movie set, and then come home at night to my real life.

~Sydney Pollack

I mean, movies are like your kids or your fingers and toes or something, it's pretty hard to pick favorites.

~Sydney Pollack

I don't know about liberal bias, but people of a liberal mentality are probably attracted in greater numbers to the arts than people of a conservative mentality.

~Sydney Pollack

You know, essentially when you do a play you're reinterpreting a work of art that already exists. That's not what happens with a movie.

~Sydney Pollack

The very reasons sometimes that you make a film are the reasons for its failure.

~Sydney Pollack

Burt Lancaster was largely responsible for me becoming a director.

~Sydney Pollack

The dance that happens, between actor and director, is a very delicate thing...it's why people tend to work together on many films over and over.

~Sydney Pollack

Reading a novel of a private experience, very, very different, the nature of it is very different.

~Sydney Pollack

You can be moderate in a way and still intense in your views. It's the extremism that gets frightening; religious fundamentalism and wacko-left liberalism is crazy.

~Sydney Pollack

When you make a film you usually make a film about an idea.

~Sydney Pollack

I'm not going to be an interpreter at the U.N. I'm not going to live in Africa on a farm or whatever, but I am going to see the world through those eyes when I make those films.

~Sydney Pollack

OK, I know this is going to disgust you, Michael, but a lot of people are in this business to make money.

~Sydney Pollack

No, I never went to college. Always regretted it, always envied people who did.

~Sydney Pollack

I didn't believe that I'd ever be lucky enough to be able to make a living as an actor.

~Sydney Pollack

What I really want to do is produce. There isn't much patience with a slow developing story line anymore.

~Sydney Pollack

If we were a primitive society, movie stars would be gods.

~Sydney Pollack

I mean, certainly it's the single biggest event, I think, in terms of popular entertainment, or art even, if you say that, of the 20th Century. It's been film. It's the 20th Century's real art form.

~Sydney Pollack

Well, the wonderful thing about making movies, oddly enough, is that they're sort of highly motivated graduate studies in one or another field.

~Sydney Pollack

You don't normally do another presentation of All About Eve. You do one All About Eve, and that's it.

~Sydney Pollack

We talked about Tootsie, the idea in Tootsie is that a man becomes a better man for having been a woman.

~Sydney Pollack

I don't consider myself a teacher of moral and political positions. I don't want to be that. I can't help but have a point of view when I make a film, but my first job is to entertain you.

~Sydney Pollack

I've produced my own films for twenty years now - it means I have to talk to less people.

~Sydney Pollack

When you work without a script, you are in a sense working in a much more improvisational way than when you are prepared totally.

~Sydney Pollack

You mustn't regret decisions that you make. Because the decisions are made out of your gut in a way and you have to stick with them.

~Sydney Pollack

I tend to be what I would call more progressive than conservative, but I think either extreme is excessive.

~Sydney Pollack

People aren't interested in paying \$10 or \$12 to go to the movies and to be lectured to politically. I'm not either. So I don't try to make those kinds of films.

~Sydney Pollack

I'm not a very good predictor in any area of art, particularly my own. I don't know how to evaluate that.

~Sydney Pollack

Most human beings who are accustomed to attempting to see the world from various points of view tend to be more liberal than conservative.

~Sydney Pollack

The essence of acting is seeing the world from another point of view. That's what acting is.

~Sydney Pollack

Obviously its a good feeling to know that something you've done has lasted.

~Sydney Pollack

It's always interesting to play people different from yourself, it would be boring for me to play myself.

~Sydney Pollack

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