

Quotes About Martin Lewis



- **Sir Michael Palin:** *"Martin Lewis is, as they say in Mali [West Africa], a 'griot.'*
A very valuable member of society - much respected and feared – who remembers everything"
- **Bill Maher:** *"He started as a producer working with Monty Python and Peter Cook.*
Now he's a respected comedic performer in his own right..."
- **Richard Lewis:** *"Watching Martin Lewis do his thing is like experiencing a great jazz master riffing on a solo...*
I've always admired him. A great wordsmith..."
- **Shirley MacLaine:** *"Great talent"*
- **Carol Leifer:** *"Great material!"*
- **Nancy Sinatra:** *"Holy shit! Fabulous writing!"*
- **Wolf Blitzer:** *"A very funny man!"*
- **Chris Matthews:** *"That was brilliant! Those ads were created by humorist Martin Lewis..."*
- **Arianna Huffington:** *"He's too funny for TV!"*
- **Dick Cavett:** *"A good man!"*
- **Steven Van Zandt:** *"He's an expert on... everything!"*
- **Sting:** *"...We chatted about pop music. A very arcane discussion about various obscure bands from the sixties.*
And 'B' sides. He thinks he's an expert on 'B' sides... But of course I know more!"
- **Jerry Lewis:** *"He is... without a doubt..."*
- **Geraldo Rivera:** *"He's 'Martin & Lewis' reunited..."*
- **Roger Ebert:** *"A young Robin Leach..."*
- **Robin Leach:** *"A young man who could take over my entire career. I adore him!"*
- **Joy Reid:** *"You are a national treasure... You're an INTERNATIONAL treasure actually... You're an INTERCONTINENTAL treasure!!!"*
- **Jeffrey Tambor:** *"I'd like to make a documentary about him..."*
- **Janeane Garofalo:** *"I like the way he 'fluffs and folds' his hair..."*
- **George Michael:** *"Absolutely the worst dancer I've ever seen..."*
- **Sharon Stone:** *"He asked me to slap him - so I slapped him!"*
- **Slash:** *"He reminds me of my mother..."*
- **Larry David:** *"I know who you are. You're Martin Lewis. You owe me ten dollars..."*
- **Terry Jones:** *"I just read Martin Lewis' new column in the Huffington Post.*
'Cancer Patients Are Selfish And Un-American! (And Jesus & God Think So Too!)' Great stuff!"
- **John Cleese:** *"The 'Secret Policeman's Ball'... It's Martin Lewis' title, I can pin that one on him. But I thought it was quite funny..."*
- **Pete Townshend:** *"It's 1979 that I appeared at "The Secret Policeman's Ball"*
My friend Martin Lewis had invited me - in a sense to break up the comedy...
And it was amazing subsequently to see what that triggered...
I really, really relied on people like Martin to keep me abreast of what was going on..."
- **Peter Gabriel:** *"The 'Secret Policeman's Ball' shows and all the subsequent rock concerts and tours for Amnesty International*
that I and others did? They all started with Martin Lewis..."
- **Bono:** *"I saw 'The Secret Policeman's Ball' and it became a part of me. It sowed a seed..."*
- **Sting:** *"The seed was planted at Amnesty for Bob Geldof. He saw what they were doing.*
He saw how entertainment could help that process and then he took the "Ball" and ran with it..."
- **John Cleese:** *"All the 'Secret Policeman's Ball' shows and films succeeded because of Martin Lewis.*
His producing and marketing was crucial to the success"
- **Harvey Weinstein:** *"We learned a lot about publicity and marketing from our experience with Martin Lewis"*
- **Shelley Winters:** *"He was very funny and poised. So I assumed he'd got his start on the West End stage as an actor or*
comedian. I had no idea he'd never acted or done improv before until after we did the skit for the TV show..."
- **Eric Idle:** *"The publicity campaign that Martin did for the Rutles' 30th anniversary was the best I've ever seen.*
I knew Beatles publicist Derek Taylor well and he was fantastic at PR. But not even Derek did what Martin did..."
- **Derek Taylor:** *"He sticks out like a healthy thumb..."*
- **Joy Reid:** *"If Martin Lewis didn't exist we'd need to invent him!"*
- **Peter Cook:** *"Martin Lewis is a real breath of hot air..."*



- **L.A. Weekly:** *"He is perhaps his own Leonardo, a true Renaissance Man who seems to have done just about everything in the world of entertainment"*
- **The British Comedy Guide:** *"There has never been anyone quite like Martin Lewis in British comedy or, indeed, in British popular culture more generally. Looking for his influence is a bit like looking for snowflakes in the middle of a blizzard. It's all over the place... A veritable Swiss Army knife of a show business operator"*
- **Paper Magazine:** *"Handsome, charming and intelligently funny, he regales his audience with stories from his fascinating life in entertainment..."*
- **Huffington Post:** *"Martin Lewis is a benign British hydra, a multi-headed, multi-tasking entertainment serpent"*
- **Village Voice:** *"A treat! Incites and inspires with his witticisms"*
- **Los Angeles Magazine:** *"Preternaturally affable... a very captivating raconteur"*
- **Forward:** *"The funniest fellow I bumped into at the GOP convention..."*
- **LA-ist:** *"Martin Lewis has some serious mojo... Seriously - the guy is magic"*
- **New York Observer:** *"Too weird to be believed! Fortunately he works in comedy..."*
- **Nightlife Magazine:** *"Unlike many comics, whose stage personalities are unrelated to their offstage selves - this guy is the real thing - warm, charming and funny as hell"*
- **L.A. Weekly:** *"Ultra-high-energy... a machine-gun style delivery of sardonic observations - sweetened by an irrepressible exuberance... the sort of wit I call unimpeachable"*
- **Paper Magazine:** *"A fixture on American TV as a social commentator on politics and pop culture"*
- **Rolling Stone:** *"Lewis - as co-creator/producer of Amnesty's 'Secret Policeman's Ball' benefits Instigated Amnesty's outreach to the rock world"*
- **Huffington Post:** *"Lewis happens to have been a participant in some of the most fascinating projects in modern entertainment and has a phenomenal memory with instant recall of gargantuan amounts of detail about the events and personalities in his experience. He also has a historian's obsession for detail about pop-culture that preceded him"*
- **Variety:** *"The Denis Diderot of Beatle encyclopedists..."*
- **New York Post:** *"A clever comic!"*
- **New York Press:** *"A veteran hipster!"*
- **Jewish Journal:** *"Delightfully cheeky!"*
- **Huffington Post:** *"Martin Lewis, as producer of the Mods & Rockers Film Festival, is that perfect British admixture of well-spoken decorum and borderline lunacy"*
- **Washington City Paper:** *"The man has helped manage Eric Burdon and Donovan, produced records, films and festivals on both sides of the Atlantic, and served as HuffPo's resident Least-Reserved Englishman. Hell... when he was fifteen he compiled the discography for Hunter Davies' Beatles bio... At nineteen he was recruiting Pete Townshend to write dust-jacket blurbs"*
- **The Sunday Times [UK]:** *"Not a man to shirk from a sweeping statement..."*
- **Huffington Post:** *"Over the past dozen years, Mr. Lewis has produced and hosted (in Los Angeles, New York and Washington DC) some of the finest pop-cultural events and entertainments... the eclectic list goes on and on; frankly, the man blows minds"*
- **L.A. Weekly:** *"The madly wonderful Martin Lewis - look him up - he's a real hoot..."*
- **The British Comedy Guide:** *"What Lewis contributed in terms of originating and evolving something as special and influential as 'The Secret Policeman's Ball', merits him a place in the pantheon of Britain's most significant and successful comedy patrons and producers. When one adds to this all of his many other acts of advice, encouragement and innovation, in multiple spheres of the arts, then he also, quite easily wins a place in British comedy history as one of its most interesting and irrepressible characters"*
- **Trouser Press:** *"Martin Lewis is the traffic signal at the crossroads of comedy and music. Lewis enthusiastically shouts out words with the rapid-fire determination of a submachine gun..."*
- **New York Times [May 1982]:** *"Someday the 'repressed performer' in him will probably come out and he'll turn into Mel Brooks..."*
- **Decatur Herald & Tribune [May 1987]:** *"Teenage girls screamed when the handsome Lewis was introduced..."*
- **The Awl:** *"If he were less self-aware, less British, he would write an incredible 'The Kid Stays in the Picture' -esque aria about the last half of the twentieth century..."*



MARTIN LEWIS – CULTURAL ALCHEMIST

Described by L.A. Weekly as *"a true Renaissance Man"* Martin Lewis is a cultural alchemist and adventurer who has had five decades of achievements in many different spheres - including music, comedy, film, theatre, TV, radio, literature, journalism, communications, marketing, advertising and politics.

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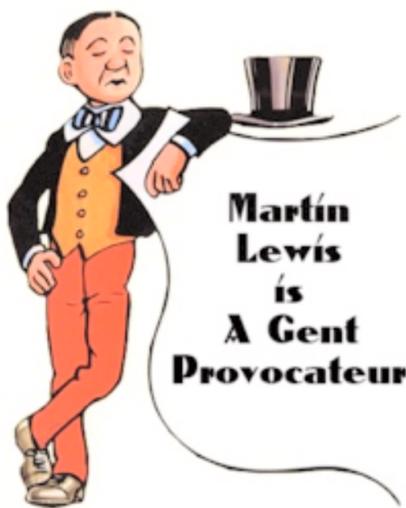
Inspired by - and following in the footsteps of individuals he worked and became friends with early in his career who were noted polymaths, hyphenates and multipotentialites - including Peter Ustinov, Peter Cook and Monty Python alumni Michael Palin, Terry Jones and Terry Gilliam - over a fifty-year span Lewis has worked successfully in multiple roles in several different disciplines - often simultaneously.

The canon of work in his polymathic career includes notable credits as a writer, journalist, columnist, editor, humorist, satirist, raconteur, monologist, soliloquist, diseur, griot, historian, biographer, Beatleologist, master-of-ceremonies, panel moderator, comedic actor, TV presenter, radio host, producer, director, impresario, indie movie distributor, film festival creator/organizer, curator of photographic and art exhibitions, publicist, marketing strategist, creator of advertising, propagandist, polemicist, social & political activist, 'title-ist' (*a deviser of titles for intellectual properties*), saloniere (*one who organizes & hosts cultural salons*), logophile, logodaedalus (*one who uses words with skill or cunning - pronounced: "logg-o-DEED-a-luss"*), pedant, epicure, gourmet, gourmand, gastronome and bon vivant!

He has been engaged in so many consequential interactions with high-profile individuals over the last half-century that some wonder if he is a self-propelled 'agent provocateur'.

He gently demurs and makes the point that the majority of his many adventures have been - and continue to be - diplomatic and consensual.

*"I think my interactions usually have sufficient chivalry, courtesy, honor and humor to be described as 'gentlemanly'. So if I may slightly re-punctuate that descriptive I would say that I am 'A **Gent** Provocateur'..."*



THE FULL
MARTY

