

After the premiere of death proof in Dublin, there was an after party in the Jameson distillery where I managed to get to chat to Quentin Tarantino for a little bit about his movies. This is it roughly, as I only got around to writing it down a few hours later.

T: I'm an aspiring filmmaker and it was your movie, Reservoir Dogs, that first made me really want to direct, so just wanted to thank you. I guess you hear that a lot

Q: It's still great to hear. Thanks.

T: Well I got a question too. You know I wanna be a director, and I daydream about it and I guess you did too. But what happens when you become a big director, famous the world over – what do you daydream about – like when you're famous?

Q: Well, god that's a tough question. I guess... Well once you make one or two movies, it's not being a director because you are a director then. It's more not letting people down, and keeping continuity, keeping everything going as good as it is. Remaining successful. Topping yourself with bigger movies.

T: You've got a really twisted, messed up imagination, focused on violence. So are your daydreams violent? Do you kill people in them?

Q: No. (shakes head) No. Not at all. I mean I have, of course. But not regularly, not much.

T: You mentioned not letting people down. Is that a worry? Do you ever worry you'll lose it, let everyone down?

Q: Well, maybe I'll let him down (points over at random guy), maybe I'll let you down. But once I don't let me down. I can't do that. That's what I go into movies with.

T: I heard you don't like Truffaut, he's too sweet you said?

Q: Okay here's the thing. I never *got* 400 blows. Maybe, I dunno, maybe I watched em too early. But there was just nothing there for me.

T: Really? What about Jules et Jim?

Q: No, it neither

T: But it's so juicy and vibrant.

Q: Well, like I said. Maybe I watched em too early and should watch em again. But they never appealed to me.

T: You always preferred Godard

Q: Godard's unbelievable. I love his stuff. Bande a part, vivre sa vie. They fuckin blew my mind

T: But not his political stuff. Tout va bien,

Q: Fuck no! His early stuff. It was so much fun. I just love his trickery. It's so impressive.

T: How about Satyajit Ray?

Q: I have a load of his movies on 16 mm but I'm keeping that as a present to myself. I have eh, hmm what d'you call it, the Apo trilogy, Pather Panchali

T: Oh yeah, Apu trilogy

Q: Right. I hear they're cool

T: You gotta watch em. Really changed how I looked at films

Q: I will. I mean I bought these rare prints. What else am I gonna do. I just gotta wait for a good time to settle down to them. They're a present from me to me. And I want to wait for a good time to receive them

T: You say you don't like Truffaut, but for me the finest parts of your movies, the bits that stick with me are more Truffaut than Godard. Harvey Keitel and Tim Roth at the end of reservoir dogs, the final scene in Jackie brown where they're walking away

Q: Well, that's what you like about em most. But I dunno

T: What new film directors are you into – Payne? Wes Anderson?

Q: No. no way. I mean I just like Bottle Rocket. Everything else never appealed to me. Rushmore – my problem was I couldn't like the hero. I couldn't like Max Fischer. For me he was just like the movie – he thought he was way cleverer than he was, you know

T: I guess you're more into the new Japanese crowd – Miike? Ichi the killer

Q: Oh yeah. Man. Ichi is fuckin awesome. My favourite of his is Audition. Actually I think (looks up thinking)yeah, I think it's my favourite movie of the past ten years.

T: When I saw it here in Dublin, I was amazed. Half the audience left

Q: (enthusiastic) THAT's why it's a fuckin good movie. Actually Battle Royale is probably my favourite in the last ten years

T: When you were starting off as director, what held you back the most?

Q: Contacts. Not getting my script in the right hands. But you know you guys now you don't have to worry about that. You can just pick up a camera for next to nothing, go out and shoot.

T: You gonna shoot digital?

Q: Fucking hell no. Why would I? I'm not gonna piss all over my babies.

T: You love that cinematic feel too much huh (he nods)

[At this point people behind me but in, saying 'give someone else a shot man', and I begin to move away]

T: Well, thank you very much Mr Tarantino, I really appreciate it

Q: No problem.