

Why do you find theatre to be a great medium for storytelling

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ONSCREEN TEXT: Why do you find theatre to be a great medium for storytelling?

FARAN TAHIR: I think... I think to me that the greatest thing about theatre is that

you add the final character, the audience, to the room, to the place, and they experience it with you. There is a truth that the connection that you have onstage is also the same connection that you have with the audience. There's a visceral connection there which you can't find when you put a camera in front of somebody because it's then being viewed at a different place, in a different setting, in a different, you know... And to me, the immediacy of theatre is the beauty of it. And on a poetic level, something that I love is that you create a moment, and you selflessly then have to let it go. It's not being recorded, it's not going to come back. It's going to be a different moment the next day. And to me, that that's a beautiful thing, to be able to just let it be and go "ah," or "ugh," whatever that

is. But that's... I think that's a beautiful thing. And, you know, just talking about theatre, I love the fact that onstage, things are going to go wrong or go right. To me it's not whether it goes wrong or right. I think it's the grace with which you can navigate yourself through it. It is a beautiful thing. I don't know, that's something... That's what I think is such an amazing thing that theatre brings. It brings people together. And every day, when an actor gets off stage, the first actor that goes onstage, the first people backstage ask you is, "How's the audience tonight?" because that audience is going to bring a sense of humour, a sense of tragedy, a sense of unity, of all of that. We create a culture for that particular amount of time. And that to me is, you know, you can't match that.

RON DANIELS: And the notion that people... A lot of people have gathered together, they've come out of their solitary sitting rooms, or even having gone to the movie theatre and they've come to see... to gather together, to view a great, if you like, mythic story which is meaningful, is entertaining and speaks to their... In a way, it's like going to a temple. It's like going to a temple, and to re-enact the great myths of our society, of our civilization. And that to me is the

value of theatre that is happening here and now and in front of us.

You know, as opposed to, as Faran was saying, in a way, mediated by camera or... It's here and now and alive. So that's it, that's.... To me, that's what's important.

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