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SPEAKERS

Greg Gordon, Jack Valinski, Joan Devlin, Glenn Holt, Bobby



00:02

Houston is 90.1 KPFT, the sound of Texas at Pacifica network station KPFT Houston.



Jack Valinski 00:22

Welcome to another edition of lesbian and gay voices. This is Jack Valinski , and I'm Devin Devlin, and we're here on Christmas Day.



Joan Devlin 00:28

That's right feel sorry for them. They



Jack Valinski 00:30

seem to keep moving our show around every year so that it does fall on the holidays. But that's fine. We actually have a very good show planned for tonight. Actually, we can't take credit for it. It's JD Doyle. JD Doyle did the best of strange, weird and wonderful, gay, lesbian, transgendered bisexual music. And we'll be playing that in the second hour. In the first hour, we're going to chit chat a little bit. And we're also going to be playing this way out. They're not going to be doing news rap this week. But they have some really good stuff that they've put together as a compilation album. And I don't know if you heard Democracy Now today, but it was a fabulous story about the guy who wrote the story, the lyrics to Wizard of Oz. And how wonderful that stuff he did. And how he was blacklisted later on in his life, also that he wrote Finnegan's rainbow. And that the story actually of the Wizard of Oz, I guess you heard this is repeat. John, I think you heard the show before. But they talked about it that in the show was originally done. Rainbow was never mentioned in the original book for the show. It was this gentleman who added that to it. And this whole thing about being over the rainbow, which really has a lot to do with our community. And also the fact that in the Wizard of Oz when they wrote it back in the 40s 30s 40s.

J Joan Devlin 01:49

movie came out in 39. But the books had been around since the turn of the century turn of the last century. Right? Well,

J Jack Valinski 01:54

the interesting thing was is when you know, that part, when it says Come out, come out, wherever you are, that that was embraced by this community, because it had so you know, who would have known back then when they wrote this, that it would have meant something like that?

J Joan Devlin 02:07

Yeah, I mean, I've even heard you know, people say that the difference between gay people and straight people is that gay people are the black and white portion of in gay, straight people are the black and white portions of the Wizard of Oz. And gay people are the part that's in color.

J Jack Valinski 02:20

Well, and it's also interesting, because, you know, that whole over the rainbow type of thing and not feeling like you're home, you know, right, you know, et cetera, et cetera, and wanting

J Joan Devlin 02:29

to get somewhere where you fit in.

J Jack Valinski 02:31

Exactly. So when you get to our cool shoes, you know, my luck and getting invited to Christmas parties was not pretty good this year. Yes, just not a party person. I guess, you know, our friend Glenn was supposed to have a party, and then he canceled it. Who went is off tonight. But I did get invited to I went to the outsmart party. But even that thing, they sent the invitation my house and it got returned by the post office. Oh, I guess they didn't have my apartment number out there. So he

J Joan Devlin 02:59

knows that this would invite you to anything is by email. But speaking of invite your own party is coming up here in a couple of weeks. Oh, you'll be invited to that. I'm gonna be 29. Again. That's right. But we'll be having your birthday party at Bangkok place on Commonwealth next

two basic brothers on commonwealth and Westheimer. And it will be on this year, it will be on the sixth of January because we need to have it before the 10th because for those of you who do not know the 10th is when Ray Hill is scheduled to go in the hospital to have his operation. So come out, see Jack II, you know, say hi to Ray whole nine yards?

J Jack Valinski 03:35

Well, yes. And of course we all wish Ray the best Ray has, you know, worked so hard in this community and his health. He's got a problem with his foot right now. And we're gonna be taking part of it out. So and hopefully everything will be well, I hope you all had a great holiday. Whether you were family or you know, biological family family of your choice, or even if you didn't really have anybody to spend it with I hope it was you know, we still watch some movies or something like that. There's a bunch of good movies out now. And as Mary Beth was here last week for me, that Amy that

J Joan Devlin 04:12
landmark to

J Jack Valinski 04:13
saying, you know, Sarah, and Sarah moved on to other things. Tell

J Joan Devlin 04:16
me about to change her name to Sarah.

J Jack Valinski 04:19
That would be great. Well, let's listen to a portion of this way out. And let's because they did some really good specials here

G Greg Gordon 04:44
welcome to this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. I'm Greg Gordon. Our news wrap guru has the week off to enjoy the holidays. But we've got some very special features for you about two gay men who were literally Worlds Apart. Later, Steven Paley He concludes his tomb full profile of the gay man behind MGM is magical musicals of the 1940s and 50s. Conrad Salinger, with comments by composer conductor Andre Previn, dancers Sid Sharif and many others. But first before night falls is an amazing new film about gay Cuban writer Reinaldo Arenas, and the Oscar buzz is already building. It won the Grand Jury Prize at the Venice International Film Festival. The National Board of Review has named it one of the 10 best pictures of the year and it star Javier Bardeen has been nominated for a Golden Globe for

his breakthrough performance as arenas. This way out. Steve pride has a preview and talks with Director Julian Schnabel and actor Javier Bardem about to film gays in Cuba and the legacy of Ronaldo arenas.



05:46

before night falls is a magnificent journey through the life and writings of the Cuban author Ronaldo arenas. We meet him in childhood witnesses early embrace of the revolution, flinch at the persecution he experiences as a writer and homosexual under Castro. Exalt in his escape in the Mariel Boatlift of 1980 and weep during his painful illness and death in New York City. before night falls is a celebration of a man's life despite circumstance and serves as an introduction to the voice of a brilliant author. unfamiliar to most Americans,



06:21

the most extraordinary event of my childhood was provided by the heavens. Water rush down gutters, reverberating over the sink, roof, like gunfire and massive army marching across the trees, overflowing, cascading, thundering into barrels, concert of drums, water and falling on water, drenched and whistling and out of control. And under the spell of violence, let loose that would sweep away almost everything in its trees, stones, animals house. It was the mystery of destruction, the love life. As I saw it, the currents were rolling.



07:09

before night falls was directed and CO written by Julian Schnabel, whose last film Basquiat was also based on the life of a 20th century artist in his autobiography, Ronaldo arena has claimed over 5000 sexual encounters before the age of 25. There is little hint of that in travels film. So when we met I asked him about his obligations when tackling a biography. And why he chose to de emphasize the writers, voracious sexual appetites.



07:37

It's about, you know, selecting things to make up the story of a person's life. You know, what is it about? I mean, I think it's about really, almost 50 years of Cuban history. And through this man's life, it tells the story of the optimism, and then the disillusionment with the Cuban Revolution. It's very clear in the movie, that from the moment, he's looking at those guys, and that's my son Vito, who's not homosexual. But in his plays a good one is looking at those guys in the water, you know, from an early age that he's got this inclination, and this is a great thing for him to be seen. I think when you see him with Andrea, it's obvious that he's gay, when you see him talking about these different kinds of gays, and then you see him having sex with this guy in a changing booth. And I think it's done in a very funny way says, you know, they're hard to spot, but I got one here. I think you get the picture. I mean, for me to show as many sexual encounters that he had, in order to get the point that he you know, he wrote that he had sex with 5000 guys in the book is uninteresting. I think the point is, I mean, one thing he said in this is a promiscuous man that when I was in jail, I abstain from sex because sex without freedom is humiliating. I think the point of the movie is really that he equated sex with freedom. And

there's a kind of pansexuality that exists. I mean, this guy was like Walt Whitman, he had sex with trees, dirt, inundations, floods, rain. And as he got into society, society is what became claustrophobic and was the thing that was compromising. And the only way that he could become free was to find the nature within himself and through his writing. And now, he doesn't have his body, but we have his body of work, which we can all partake from in some kind of way. And I think it's very clear, you know, what his sexual beliefs were and my movies, not an illustration of the book. I don't think I was trying to be more conservative or tempering that in any way. It's just, it's, you know, it's probably more about what I want to say or select in, you know, how do you tell a life story in a couple of hours. But I think that you get a pretty good idea of the interior life of this person. I think you know, what his values are, and I think when he says, Everything comes to me, oh, with that incessant tap, tap, hey, writing was his salvation. And that's why we're sitting here I mean Ronaldo is dead but now we're talking about it and different people can go out and read his books



10:05

before nightfalls stars Spanish actor Javier budeme in his first English speaking film, best known for his starring roles in Hamana Hamana and Pedro Almodovar is live flesh, Bardeen bears a striking physical resemblance to Renard arenas. I asked him about other similarities,



10:23

I guess his way of putting of his emotions in the writing, like I tried to do as naturally my acting, he was not an intellectual, he was a person who, who writes because he need to express himself. He said, I he needed to scream in order to SIXT. So when you read our books, you don't see an intellectual writing a novel, you see a person introducing himself to the audience. And that, to me close to him, because because he was a human being, he was not an I don't know what to say a figure, or an intellectual or. And also, he is a sense of humor. I think he got a very big sense of humor, in order to resist what he what he passed through. But many, many things I don't like his face his broken nose also. I mean, that helped me a lot when I saw big traffic and say, Okay, I can do it, because I thought he was going to be a weak face or the queen face. Now he was, have you seen a picture of him? He is. We look very similar, very, very similar with a broken nose and a strong face. So I said, Well, that's, that's a challenge because we that face and with my face to play in homosexual is even much more difficult. Although the film



11:41

was lens with Mexico standing in for Cuba, before shooting began, Bardeen traveled to the communist island nation.



11:48

I want to give out to talk with people I knew, and that leaves a period of time, but I didn't need to go to Cuba. I mean, Federico Garcia Lorca died with Franco because of the same reasons Oscar Wilde happened the same token. You don't need to go too far into a communist regime to understand that homosexuality has already been chased and condemned. What happened is

that we choose Reina Lorraine has because his life is like amazing. And cuates an amazing country to tell the story. But we don't want to make a manifesto. And I wouldn't like that the people will treat this movie against anything. This movie talks about intolerance. This movie talks about freedom. And this movie is universal. And this movie happens in Cuba but also happens in Spain with Franco is happiness in Italia with Mussolini, the Pope, when he was in Venice festival condemned homosexuality openly in front of 2 million persons. We have to avoid that. Otherwise, I mean, you cannot kill people because they are different. You have to try to understand them. That's why I wanted to do this movie. That's why I believe this movie is important. When you are an actor, you do bad movies, good movies, but it's difficult to do an important movie. And these movies my very first important moving.



13:08

This has been a conversation with Julian Schnabel and Javier Bardeen before night falls is a fine line release. I'm Steve pride. Thanks for listening.



Jack Valinski 13:24

I'm a little bit rusty tonight because usually Glen does this stuff. We're all here. And it's also of course Christmas and we're having a wonderful time here celebrating around the world. We don't have a Christmas tree giveaway.



Glenn Holt 13:36

No, no, no, not really.



Joan Devlin 13:38

We have a somebody probably dragged the leaf in off the street so you can have a Christmas leaf.



Glenn Holt 13:45

We have a an almost naked cover on a book. Does that. Does that count?



Joan Devlin 13:50

Maybe for you? Well, when is forcing us to open gifts on the air.



Glenn Holt 13:55

I want everybody to hear the screams and peals of laughter so well here you can open that one there first. Probably a

J Joan Devlin 14:02
chocolate woman might not be a bad thing.

G Glenn Holt 14:07
And hello to the Russ Christmas party. We shouldn't be listening in.

J Jack Valinski 14:14
Unless they got better things to do.

G Glenn Holt 14:15
That's right. Oh,

J Joan Devlin 14:16
copies of the show. That's great. You haven't edited these in any weird way.

G Glenn Holt 14:23
No, no, no, no, no.

J Joan Devlin 14:25
Well, you've taped them together. So I'll assume

G Glenn Holt 14:27
well, here I have a finger and I can get through.

J Joan Devlin 14:32
Think is the gay man would have the fingernail not the lesbian.

G Glenn Holt 14:36
See, remember when when we had the pictures taken here? Almost a year ago? Yes, I had

see, remember when when we had the pictures taken here? Almost a year ago? Yes. I had them taken specifically so that I could make covers for these CDs.

J Joan Devlin 14:46

And oh, that's a great shot.

J Jack Valinski 14:48

I guess these are for me that Yeah.

J Joan Devlin 14:50

Oh Jack. You look so professional in this picture here with your headphones. Am I wearing glasses there? Yeah, you're wearing your glasses to the sky. yourself I think

G Glenn Holt 15:01

anyway, there's

J Jack Valinski 15:03

Oh, all the old hosts are no longer with us. Yeah.

G Glenn Holt 15:07

There's three CD cases. There's two CDs in each case. And each CD has about six or seven shows on it, I think because they're all in mp3 format. Okay.

J Joan Devlin 15:18

Oh D on lesbian and gay voices.

G Glenn Holt 15:20

It's the entire year and more.

J Joan Devlin 15:22

Oh great and more and more. All right. This one could that be oh man, and I'm not sharing I'm telling you now something



15:40

it's a box



Glenn Holt 15:44

do a really good job of doing Oh, it's



Joan Devlin 15:48

got nutrition facts on it and they're not good. I'm sorry to tear up your pretty paper Glenn. That will actually



Glenn Holt 15:57

half the fun of a gift is tearing into it. So



Joan Devlin 16:03

like bulk chocolate, y'all.



Jack Valinski 16:07

You bought the factory for you?



Joan Devlin 16:09

He practically did. I can't even oh my gosh, this is a huge box of something that's obviously bad for




Glenn Holt 16:16


me. Well, yeah.





Joan Devlin 16:20

And now it's all taped together. But what do you do? You didn't have enough to do this morning.


 Glenn Holt 16:27
No, I did these weeks ago.


 Joan Devlin 16:30
When you have a sick sense of humor, which is probably why you fit in so well. There is just too

 Glenn Holt 16:38
good at wrapping. That's half the fun of it, though is trying to torment the piece. That's right.
What is it? What is it? What is it? I can't get at it?


 16:48
Why don't even wrap this up


 Joan Devlin 17:00
well, Jack, what'd you get?

 Jack Valinski 17:01
We interrupt this broadcast updated special.

 Joan Devlin 17:05
Giant Hershey bar.

 Jack Valinski 17:09
You know, Andy Rooney was talking about.

 Glenn Holt 17:12
It's a five pound

 Jack Valinski 17:13
he got 10 pound when they sent to him. And he did it on his on on 60 minutes yesterday.

J Joan Devlin 17:20
This is great. Oh my gosh, this is almost enough chocolate for me.

G Glenn Holt 17:26
Five pounds.

J Joan Devlin 17:28
I have PMS right now. So it'll be gone by the end of the evening.

G Glenn Holt 17:32
That doesn't clog up your arteries. I don't know what will. Oh,

J Joan Devlin 17:34
thank you so much. Glad it's what I've always wanted.

J Jack Valinski 17:38
Well in mind is, I guess, like really important broadcast on CD. Yeah, that sounds really good.

G Glenn Holt 17:44
Totti archives and it was all that I could do to resist breaking open the seal making copies

J Jack Valinski 17:51
that well we can work something out but

G Glenn Holt 17:53
and thank you for the for the gift that you gave me the hottest erotic video stars tell all.

J Joan Devlin 18:00
Well, that had your name all over. It got pictures

well, that had your name all over. It got pictures,

G

Glenn Holt 18:04

of course. And then there's the one that you gave me. Funny That Way. You were telling me a story about this?

J

Joan Devlin 18:12

Oh, it's actually it's just a very funny book. Okay. This guy, Joe Perry's his name and the reviews. The review will be in the triangle next week. He is basically a gay guy from North Carolina. He's overweight. And he wrote this book about being gay and it has little quizzes in it. Like how Martha Stewart Are you how much of a theater Queen Are you? And it's just hysterical. The book is hilarious. She'll be laughing the whole way through it.

G

Glenn Holt 18:40

Well, considering that I scored a one on gay acting or straight acting.com I guess I guess that means I'm not very, Queenie.

J

Joan Devlin 18:51

Well, we do need to move on. Yes, we do. You need to Yeah, so I can eat my chocolate.

J

Jack Valinski 18:55

Yeah. So we had to wait till you know late Christmas. I mean, couldn't wait it much later. No, we could. We could wait for the next eclipse on Saturday on Christmas Day, which is like 300 years from today.

J

Joan Devlin 19:06

Yeah. I'm sure we'll all be here working on that day, too.

G

Glenn Holt 19:12

I bought the old Jack Welch. That I have this from somebody at work. See before you get Oh, very nice. little plaque and a book the hiding place? By Corrie 10. Boom. That's a religious book.

J

Jack Valinski 19:26

Well, it depends on what religion

G Glenn Holt 19:29
it doesn't say drew it. No.

J Jack Valinski 19:33
Sorry. And Joan got me the queers folk British album. Yeah,

J Joan Devlin 19:37
but part one, part one, part two also, but your birthday is coming up. So

G Glenn Holt 19:41
you know the one of the things that was going to be in my news if we were gonna do a my news segment. This evening is there's a there was a story in the news this week about the American family council they they took out a protest against queers folk

J Joan Devlin 19:59
and I have a problem with the Southern Baptists, but I'm not saying anything about them having TV shows. Well, anyway,

G Glenn Holt 20:04
the cable company said that nobody responded to the ad because nobody canceled their Showtime.

J Joan Devlin 20:10
They're not going to it's showtime. I mean, well,

J Jack Valinski 20:13
but this was like in the ad they took out was in like Fargo, North Dakota or right is mark or something like that? Yeah.

J Joan Devlin 20:20
Well, because it's showtime. I mean, you know, if you if you don't watch it, you don't watch it.

And if you don't want to watch anything on it, you don't pay for it. You don't have it added to your cable. I mean, huh? It's not brain surgery.

G

Glenn Holt 20:32

Well, that's right. And then of course, if you've been reading hadn't that there was that story about the the junior high kids out in California, who have started a in conjunction with the ACLU who have started a lawsuit against the school district because the school district surreptitiously took some books out of the library.

J

Joan Devlin 20:53

Actually, the librarian, the junior high library had approved a series of books. It was it was about heroes. And it included gay heroes. It's a different series that had like African American heroes, you know, Latino heroes. And along with this series came one book called gay role models and gay heroes. And the librarian took it upon herself to remove those from the shelf, deciding that, you know, they were not appropriate for these kids. And so the kids noticed that they were missing and filed a lawsuit for them. Yeah. You know, because that's, you know, really this is one person does not have the right to make that kind of a decision. You know, the school approve the books, the school budgeted for the books. It's not her business.

G

Glenn Holt 21:35

Well, that's right. And it's also it could be seen as a violation of the Constitution.

J

Joan Devlin 21:40

And before we get to the next segment of this way out, I did want to mention since JD Doyle will be doing the second segment tonight JD brought us all zucchini bread. We are eating good tonight. Okay, voices. And being

J

Jack Valinski 21:53

that you cannot read my mind or Glenn's mind. We're gonna go next to a poem that Bobby from after hours read.

J

Joan Devlin 21:59

You do that on purpose. No, you do. Everything. You're gonna play this way out. So you trust and try to make me look bad.

J

Jack Valinski 22:05

So this is a poem, a poem that he wrote himself



22:22

Hey, Jimmy,



Bobby 22:22

how's it going? Well, I wrote a little poem for the holidays. And you've heard of Yes, Virginia. There is a Santa Claus. Yes, I have. Well, this is yes, Merlin, there was a Christmas. And since my nickname is Merlin, yes, and all that good stuff. And it goes like this. It began with the arrival of Santa's at the door of Macy's. A young boy can hardly wait for his parents to say it is time to decorate. With some effort and a ball of twine, a sweet smelling pine is bought is brought and stood in a red and green base. Lights new and old are strung somewhat carefully and none too evenly on the Great Green Giant. A box of ornaments. These are a steady tradition, the Silverbell dated 1970 toy soldiers and birds doves and cardinals, that glass tiger with the pipecleaner tail, which belonged to my sister who died when I was two. And that string of plastic lifesavers and candy canes, with the elves that somehow managed to survive 20 Some years and seven children. Mom would buy the presents. I was the only one who didn't know that Santa was an Irish redhead. And my uncle Joe, the Jesuit, who looked like Santa Claus would make spiced wine. My dad just sat and watched it all or played chauffeur to the frequently arriving relatives. My brothers would position the life size Santa Claus made by my cousin the toymaker on the balcony and the tree sat atop the piano our by Anna our by our presence multiplied under that tree and I would check tags for my name. Every night I could be found in front of the TV singing along with frosty Rudolph the winter Warlock. The brothers Heaton snow miser I can't help remembering how I once thought I belonged on the Island of Misfit Toys. On Christmas Eve this child would restlessly suffer Midnight Mass in order to return home to see if the cookies and milk are gone. mom cooked a meal and I would set a table with the set Over I had spent much of the previous afternoon polishing presents would be opened and I would know if St. Nick got my letter. I was rarely disappointed, especially if I had also let mom and don't mom and dad know my wish list. My oldest brother would at some point take me into the city to see the Nutcracker or the Radio City Christmas Spectacular. The windows of Macy's Gimbels JC Penney's, the ice rink at Rockefeller with that sexy golden Prometheus. The 50 Amateur skaters, and the one who fancies themselves and undiscovered Kerrigan or boy tanto years passed by and parents pass on. A Catholic boy becomes a pagan man, to grow old is an inescapable reality to grow up, not my way. I refuse. There's too much wonder, joy and magic left in this heart. And if anybody wants to know, yes, Merlin still believes in Santa Claus.



26:18

in what is now said to be Hollywood's Golden Age of film music from the late 20s Until the late 1950s. The music for each of major studios had a recognizable sound at MGM. The question to composers who was responsible for that unique MTM sound which made the studios musicals of the 40s and 50s so distinctive. It was an arranger, and his name was Conrad Salinger. Andre Previn,



26:45

I really firmly think that sallins was the greatest arranger ever.



26:51

David racks and



26:51

Connie was just in a class by himself,



26:54

Saul Chaplin,



26:56

it's hard to appreciate how great he is, unless really worked with other guys who do the same kind of work.



27:02

Michael Feinstein once I've heard his orchestral settings for many songs, I can never again hear the songs without hearing his arrangement of them centuries.



27:13

And when you look around to see what is out there, it's a whole different story. We just don't have the cardiologists anymore.



27:26

The 40s and the 50s, the best of the MGM musicals were produced by Arthur Cree. And most of the music and songs in those pictures were arranged by Conrad Salinger.



27:41

That's Entertainment, which was written for freetds 1953. Production of the bandwagon is thought by some to be Salinger's signature orchestration. To better understand what an arranger does, it might be helpful to listen to the demo of the song,



27:56

but Clow, with his pants falling down, or the bands, that's a dream of romance or the scene where the villain is. That's Entertainment.



28:11

That's Roger Ian's another important the free unit playing and singing the melody, while he also provides the harmony couch on the piano.



28:20

Where she gives him her that's



28:25

in the picture. The song is performed by the British musical star Jack Buchanan was singing with us, pepper and Fred Astaire, the song doing a large park economy challengers arrangement became MGM and official theme



28:40

plot and the hot simply teeming with sex. Again DeVos say who was after her ex. It could be either purse Rex where a chap



28:51

kills his father and causes a lot of bother the clerk was thrown out of work.



28:58

And the boss was thrown for a law



29:01

by the skirt. Who is doing him dirt?



29:07

The stages



29:27

Andre Previn is another musician who started as an arranger before going on to compose and conduct



29:32

and Oxford it takes something that is not written fully out on a score page and puts it onto this fully realized score page. Now, there are many ways of orchestrating there are people who give you really at best a melody line and say Do something is one step up from that as people who give you a good piano part. One step up from that are people who give you a very realized short score of let's say, four to six or seven lines per bar, and then I After that even it gets easier and easier.



30:04

Lows the heather on the Hill is one of Salinger's most hauntingly beautiful orchestrations. Saul Chaplin who worked in the adjoining office of Conrad Salinger was continually fascinated by his creative process



30:33

First of all, here's arrangements their sauce more than says to sub beautiful velvet and you know, you hear him work, you wouldn't believe it. Because he's, he's like, suffered them out through a piano. He used to bang on the piano and play these chords, which the next day, it was the orchestra salad glorious, but I've kept thinking, No way. No, it's never gonna work, you know, and it always did work. He knew everything there was to know and he had a great idea about musical instruments. They had a great instinct of what would go together.



31:05

Centuries dance with Jean Kelly and numerous MGM musicals, but none with more beautiful music than the heather on the Hill sequence from Brigadoon



31:15

Carly was a wonderful arranger, but also he used to come on the stage with Abraj Aidans and watch the rehearsals so he had a very good feeling on what the number was trying to say before he even started to do his arrangements and that's when you hear those wonderful French horns and his strings are absolutely fabulous in there. They just caught the right elements and everything he did he always was right on. Music has everything to the dancer the better the music The greater the arrangement the more inspired you feel. To dance music that's why they're called musicals because music is vital



32:07

oh you always get energy from from music that's what really Mexico rod is the minute you hear the music then you're turned on and you're off to the races



32:29

I know what he did, but I wouldn't have to do it. What would he know about this? Needless to say he was a master orchestrator. If he put the various instruments in certain keys. They will sound okay together. In other words, if the breasts are playing amuse, and playing in G flat wrestled for the orchestra could be a major war. I can't tell you why but it says.



33:19

Andre Previn chi made songs turn into a real genuine pieces of music when he wrote a balletic development of the other song. It really was about when he put them into the orchestra, you thought you were listening to a really first rate French composer.



33:50

countermine one of my favorite orchestrations of hers is look for the silver lining the most beautiful tool going against look for the silver lining



33:59

for silver



34:16

remember, some way the sun is shining, and so to is for you.



34:39

One of the things she wrote such great obligato is it Oh, come on, Mr. Singers. We should don't get to hear first because you're listening listening to Judy Garland sing. But if you hit the head over again, they listen to that it's beautiful. And if he did that all the time, he composed tones on the tone, but the warmup chosen for like a soft layer of his balance. If I did, it wouldn't sound like that. He was probably the most imitated orchestrator out here



35:09

to fire



35:19

Congress Salinger was a fiercely private man, and he was gay at a time when it was politically prudent not to admit it. Linda Gersh, who was the life partner of the freed units Roger Eden's used to spend time with Connie Salinger in those days.



35:35

What I remember about him, he was funny, he was witty, and for me, I've had charm, also, and this is purely a subjective observation because I don't know that it's true at all. There was an underlying sadness about I always felt that he was a very sad man. He drank too much. And I felt he drank for a reason. Not because he liked the taste of vodka or gin, whatever it was, he drank, but he drank too much. As someone else may tell you, he was the happiest man who ever lived and he may be right. This is just something I felt and it's why drank but I don't know. I can't tell you what he was sad about. Maybe it's because he was sure.



36:25

When the scoring of on the town was completed, early one afternoon, Salinger went drinking with Roger Eden's and Solly Chaplin to celebrate.



36:32

So it's a great idea. So we all went to Rome enough, and we sat down and they started ordering stairs. Well, I don't drink, certainly not at lunch, and I was pouring all my standards into his class. And he was drinking away until he got quite drunk who wish to suddenly be present but Oscar Lavon so we Salonika sit down. So I sat down next to Connie, I sat down kind of dragged himself all over Oscar, so we're sorry get drunk. On Oscar son, Connie. You're living in a flashback.



37:03

And he was one of the most likable human beings I've ever met. Utterly outrageous, and flamboyant and crazy. Everything but generous to a fault and sweet natured



37:15

Andre Previn, who began working as an arranger in the MGM music department when he was 15. Eventually aspire to a career in the world of classical music.



37:24

I was having lunch with representatives from the management from the San Francisco Symphony. We were in a restaurant on Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills. And they were being extremely Maestro like, and I was trying my best to be impressive. And Salinger was at the bar, at the end of the restaurant getting extremely drunk, which he loved to do. He was always very friendly. He was never aggressive. But he was he got very drunk. And as he lurched past on the way out, he saw me and he came over, slid into the booth without an invitation, put his arm around me and said, Oh, LC I'm so unhappy. Blew my meeting. But it was so lovable and so nice of him. And it was so funny. And he had nicknames for everybody that he liked. And he called David rocks and Ms. Roxon,



38:17

David rocks and started in the movie business as an orchestrator before going on to write the music to the song Laura, as well as the background scores for countless of other pictures.



38:26

We all had names, you know, Johnny Green was Bueller. I can't remember what my name was. But I had a feminine name like that. And he used to say in those days gay had a different meaning. You know, he said, that and Mr. Miss right now, he said that Miss racks and she isn't queer, but she's also gay. Russell Bennett, by the way, was a lone exception. He was not miss racks that are Miss green. He was Dane Bennett. And I've always loved that. And they would address us as dairy. Remember, in those days, people were much less tolerant of such things, you know, so he had to cloak that one time he brought back sailors, somebody who was placed in his sailor had gone along for an ultimate purpose, which was to beat the hell out of Connie. And he smashed his face up something awful. And in a panic, Connie called Sam Hirschfeld and Sam came over and helped fix up his face and I think they put him in the hospital for a while because this guy had really beaten them up unmercifully.



39:29

During the 19 years that Connie Salinger worked at MGM, he substantially contributed to the most important musicals that were produced at the studio, including the Harvey girls, and he gets your gun, Easter Parade, showboat and American and Paris singing in the rain the bandwagon Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, high society and Gigi.



39:58

His last credit was for Java In 1962, his death in June of that year at the age of 59, was premature. But in a way his work was done. The era of the MGM musical was almost over. And that was Conrad Salinger's spear of excellence. He composed the background score for Lonely Hearts, which was produced by Dorie Sherry Whitman Head of Production at MGM, and it scored a few episodic TV shows, and he was good at it, but not great. Michael Feinstein, the pressures of trying to write for television, the agony that he went through was something that he was not suited for. And it in the opinion of many did a min and when he lost his new house, and all of his papers in the big Bel Air fire of 1962 Conrad Selander was homeless. I've heard

different stories about his death. I don't know which one is true. Some people say he committed suicide. Some people say that he took an overdose of sleeping pills as a ploy to scare someone he had been involved with who left him and he didn't really intend to die that he was just doing it to scare this person.



41:07

Judy Garland, Dorothy Kilgallen. Connie Salinger, Marilyn Monroe all died the same way. Lenny Gersh. They were all taking barbiturates and drinking and it is a lethal combination. It gets to a point where at some point, the two come together and you choke in your sleep. Andre Previn,



41:28

I know that that he committed suicide. How and why? I don't know. But it was it was a great tragedy,



41:33

David rax and that I don't think he did. In fact, I'm almost exactly certain that he didn't and I'm one of the few people in the position to know Connie was in the middle of a very heartbreaking love affair with this beautiful young man and he had been drinking heavily and he took a sleeping pill or two and he went to bed and then he woke up in the middle of the night panicky because he couldn't get back to sleep forgetting he had taken pills and he took some more and that killed him um certainly was an accident.



42:02

The last song Conrad Salinger arranged was for Doris Day in jumbo he wrote the arrangement just before he died said



42:14

to your finger can you do Oh, y'all



42:33

sit and think.



42:53

As obituary in the Los Angeles Times was brief, TV composer founder Conrad Salinger 59, who wrote the music for the Bachelor farther TV series died at his home Sunday apparently from an overdose of sleeping pills. His body was found by David White 38 His roommate. It's sad that

Connie Salinger received so little recognition in his lifetime, but he did get an Academy Award nomination for his work on Showboat. But he didn't win. Those are the ways of Hollywood thanks for listening, this is Steven Paley.

G

Greg Gordon 43:53

Next time on this way out Chris Wilson and Pam Marshall with the usual masterful production of Christopher David Trentham feature CDs by Amy Simpson Mark weigert. Mary go Jays racy and scot free as they review their favorite queer music of the past 12 months in the best of audio file can 1000 Thanks for tuning into this right out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. This week Steve pride and Steven Paley contributed program material thanks also to Chris Allen, Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music. Some this way out. Operating expenses are funded by grants from the kicking assets fund of the Tides Foundation and the CPS disgruntled Lupe fund by planet out from designated contributions by uncommon proud Visa card holders who've chosen this way out and through direct charitable donations from our listeners around the world. For audio cassette information or with any questions or comments about this way out. Please email us at TW o radio@aol.com. visit our webpage at this way out.org Or write to us at Post Office Box 38327 Los Angeles, California 90038 USA And please be sure to include the call letters of this station. Remember you can also hear this way out anytime online exclusively on planet out. Just point your browser to www dot planet out.com and click first on multimedia than on radio for Alicia Powell and the entire this way our family I'm Greg Gordon. We all thank you for listening on CJ SW Calgary, Alberta, W O J. B Hayward, Wisconsin, que UCR Riverside, California and more than 125 other stations around the world, including this community radio station, do stay tuned.

J

Jack Valinski 45:31

10 this community radio station of course is KPFT Houston, a Pacifica foundation station. We're not sure where if college stations with us this evening or not, it may be because of the holiday ke OS up in College Station. Anyway, it is a Christmas night show. Another holiday here and lesbian and gay voices. And this is Jack Valinski, and I'm Joan Devlin. And earlier we were unwrapping our Christmas presents a claim brought us

J

Joan Devlin 45:57

Yes. And now I'm eating mine, that giant Hershey bar to talk

J

Jack Valinski 46:01

about plugging. Yeah, that was a pretty incredible thing. I mean, it was if you had to use a hammer to break it up. Yes. But it was so good. Well, I hope you're enjoying your holidays. And you know, next week we'll be back and I think we're going to be doing sort of a Best of Show I mean, we will be here but we playing excerpts of the shows throughout the show throughout the year.

J Joan Devlin 46:22
Yes, Glen is putting that together he's the shortest he will have it by next Monday or else

J Jack Valinski 46:29
so least the weather's been nice, relatively nice down here. We haven't had any freezes or stuff like that.

J Joan Devlin 46:35
They've got some common into Dallas though tonight. Garbage. That's Dallas. Hey, I have friends in Dallas. I don't care about Oklahoma that

J Jack Valinski 46:43
well on the top of the hour we're going to be doing that Christmas special that JD Doyle put together of a number of different gain was being artists celebrating Christmas and holidays. And and also a greater tuna little excerpt from them. Yes, okay. Okay. I'm

J Joan Devlin 46:59
never gonna stop with that. I'm so proud of him for doing that.

J Jack Valinski 47:02
What were you watching the Joan Crawford movies over Christmas? Of course,

J Joan Devlin 47:06
the women was on today. We saw that together this summer. And I saw something and I can't think of it. I was going to tell you about it. But I guess it'll come back to me. I saw movie that I thought you'd enjoy now. I can't think of the name of it on TV. No, I'm at the theaters. Okay. See, this is how long I can retain things anymore.

J Jack Valinski 47:24
Yeah, you need to write it down. Yeah. All right. Well, I did see you can count on me, which really is not a game movie at all. But it was a wonderful movie playing at Landmark and downtown at the agenda. That was just a really nice story that was put together and it was gotten good reviews and stuff like that through the press. And there's a number of good movies but apparently there's been so many released over the like the last week of the year that some of them in Houston have to carry over into next year. And

J Joan Devlin 47:49

supposedly there was like four more released this week that you know, are supposedly going to be new blockbusters? Oh, I remember now. Actually. I did see it on TV. It was but it was a video and it was the Ritz the old movie about the guy who hides out in one of the bowels in New York, because his brother in law has put a hit on him. Okay, and has Rita Moreno is in it. F Murray Abraham, Jack Weston K. Ballard. But anyway, it was it was quite hilarious. It was made in 76. Obviously, I'm probably the only gay person in the world that hadn't seen it yet. But if there's anybody else out there that hasn't seen it yet, I recommend that you do rent it. It was just so funny.

J Jack Valinski 48:24

Well, there's an incredible wealth of material that's out there these days. Gay and Lesbian movies that you could rent at, you know, even probably like the you know, if you're not the city, probably it's well, some of the blockbusters have some of that

J Joan Devlin 48:39

Hollywood Video in Katy Texas has a gay section. Hello. Well, not well, but

J Jack Valinski 48:44

there's, there's we live out there too, don't we?

J Joan Devlin 48:47

I know. But you know, some of these small towns, you'd never know it. But Katie, Katie is moving up in the world. I'm proud of them. And of

J Jack Valinski 48:53

course, queers focus, were taking a little vacation until the holidays are over but there'll be back up again. Speaking of some of my favorite music, in since Glenn's away I get to play a little bit more of it. But rent was based on around the holiday time Christmas and then the next act is the following Christmas New Year's and earlier I played seasons of love. And I have a another selection here which is supposedly light my candle from the musical rant,

J Joan Devlin 49:33

I wanted to throw something in real quick I have to do this quick because JD is coming up. But next month on Lifetime original movies, starring Brooke shield, it's called What makes a family. It's about two women. They one of them has a child and the and they raise the child together

it's about two women. They one of them has a child and the and they raise the child together. And when the child is about four years old, the biological parent ends up dying. And the grandparents tried to take the child away from the CO parent. So it looks pretty interesting. Again, it's called What makes a family? It's lifetimes original movie for January. And they will be probably showing it they usually show the original movies on the first Monday. So I don't know if they will do that on New Year's Day or if they'll wait. But that looks very interesting. Lifetime has been very much in the forefront as far as gay issues.

J Jack Valinski 50:15

And yes, you know what they say about lifetime? It's televisions for women and gay man. That's right. Well, it really is neat with all these cable channels if you can get cable. And if you have a decent system, there is a lot of stuff on I mean, on those movie channels between Sundance and Showtime and HBO and sometimes stars, I guess, and the movie channel almost every day, there is a thing movie at some time of the day. Because now there is a bunch of stuff on there. In fact, the voice was talking about, there's going to be a new TV station that, unfortunately, will only be on Dish Network. It's going to be an all gay TV channel.

J Joan Devlin 50:54

How will we become a target audience? I mean, lunch is good.

J Jack Valinski 50:57

Certainly. Yeah. I mean, certainly HBO did some stuff, and now Showtime with queers folk. And next Sunday, I guess they're actually going to show the first four episodes that they did, they did. And then the following Sunday, they're back into showing new episodes. And there's certainly been a lot of talk about it, it's very well. And what I like about it, too, is that you could go to the website and find out the music that they played in the show. They have the music, and then they also say what scene it was in, which was which is really great.

J Joan Devlin 51:28

Yeah, it's it's interesting. You know, it's been bashed a bit in the queer press, but I don't know, we'll see how it plays out. Nothing is perfect in Britain.


J Jack Valinski 51:35

Exactly. And I mean, it's one element of the community, I think they did a good job of it. I think there's a lot of territory covered on the show. I mean, you know, in the old days, when we have one event, you know, every four months or something like

J Joan Devlin 51:48

that at the time it wasn't even anything positive. Exactly. And

and, at the time, it wasn't even anything positive. Exactly. And

 Jack Valinski 51:51

now we have a lot of different angles and, you know, willing grace. I mean, I'm not the subject material is not to me perfect. I mean, the fact that we'll never get slayed, but on the other hand, it is written very well. Just, you know, very well done. Well, you're listening to KPFT, Houston and possibly KEOS College Station, Bryan. We are very fortunate here in at lesbian and gay voices. And actually, this is something that Jimmy helped us get together. That JD Doyle on the fourth Monday of every month, does an hour's worth of queer music. A lot of times he goes through the history of queer music, but this month he has put together an hour's worth of Christmas and or related type of music around the holiday. So we will, you know, get your tape recorders running, and sit back and relax and let's listen to queer music heritage.

 52:54

Houston is 90.1 KPFT the sound of Texas at Pacifica network station KPFT Houston.