

ANNOUNCER: The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature, which may be considered objectionable by some. Listener discretion is advised.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yes. You've tuned in to After Hours, Queer Radio with Attitude right here on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of After Hours is ready to bring you news, interviews, dialogue, and music, geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people and their friends.

Here at After Hours, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets. That means standing up for yourself, taking responsibility for your own life, and being proud of who you are.

Realistically, we know not everyone can do that, because of age, job, or frame of mind. That's OK. We're here for you. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of After Hours.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Hello, Houston and College Station and the world. And welcome to After Hours Queer Radio with Attitude. I'm Jimmy Carper. I'm your producer for the evening. And we're going to have a whole slew of people come through here tonight, because this is Pride. Happy Pride Day, everyone.

Jack Valinski will be by later. He always needs a good debriefing after the parade. He is the executive director of the Pride committee. Right now, I've got two guys in from out of town who were going to be at the festival tomorrow, which is really cool. And let me open up the mics. And let's get right to them.

Oh, by the way, Jackie Thorne is here by my side too. Hello.

JACKIE: Hello.

[LAUGHTER]

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JACKIE: Hello.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, now we've got JD Doyle in the other room here with-- oh, you don't have headphones. OK. JD, Would you like to introduce the guests tonight?

JD DOYLE: Oh, it's a pleasure. From new York, two wonderful artists I've been familiar with for quite a while, Dave Hall and Marcus Hutcheson.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Thanks for having us.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, man--

DAVE HALL: Good to be here.

JIMMY CARPER: This is so great for you two to be here. I've enjoyed your music. I've been playing it for a while, as you know.

MARCUS Thank you.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: Marcus, your first-- this is your first CD, isn't it?

MARCUS Yeah, my only.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: You're right where I am. And I opened the show with my favorite one from that, "Better Than Gold."

MARCUS Thank you.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: And Dave Hall has several CDs out. The one that I played is actually my favorite song of Dave Hall's, and it's from his album, *Playin' the Man*. And it's "His Name is Joe." Really like that one.

DAVE HALL: Oh, thanks.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. Yeah. Although you have a good repertoire. I mean you've got a lot of stuff.

DAVE HALL: Oh.

MARCUS Yeah. We keep turning them out.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: While we're at it, let's introduce the executive director of the Pride committee, who just walked in, Jack Valinski.

JACK VALINSKI: Just got finished with that little parade.

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa, little parade? That was groundbreaking.

JACK VALINSKI: I got to thank everybody who was involved. I have an incredible amount of passionate, hard-working, incredibly hard, smart people--

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, you do.

JACK VALINSKI: --who put this together. In fact, at the lineup, I walked away after about the 10th entry, because everything was under control.

JIMMY CARPER: See? . Excellent

JACK VALINSKI: And it's getting too long now. It's getting too long.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, I know there's a couple of motor breakdowns.

JACK VALINSKI: Yeah, and they were pushing them. It was absolutely incredible. Luckily, we don't have any hills here.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

JACK VALINSKI: And that's hard to just deal with, because the weather-- you know, we had this nice cold front.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. It was actually--

JACK VALINSKI: And we didn't have that many bugs. The city sprayed last night for us.

JIMMY CARPER: Isn't that incredible? Everybody had their Off.

JACK VALINSKI: Annise-- Annise Parker, our city council person, Mayor Brown, and Janine Brunjes are just fabulous. And Janine is the gay and lesbian--

JD DOYLE: Liaison--

JACK VALINSKI: Liaison to the city for us. She called me about three times yesterday. Is there anything else I can do? Is there anything I can do?

JIMMY CARPER: Isn't that incredible?

JACK VALINSKI: And these-- when we are the people that the police-- you know, we rioted against in '69.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

JACK VALINSKI: You know, and look where we come. And the official entry of the Houston Police Department.

JIMMY CARPER: Number 58. I waited to see it.

JACK VALINSKI: And there weren't a lot of them. The first time ever Houston Police Department in the parade.

JD DOYLE: Excellent.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

JACK VALINSKI: And absolutely incredible. And--

JIMMY CARPER: And this is a good old boy town. I mean, that is something.

JD DOYLE: That's great. That's awesome.

JACK VALINSKI: But I want to congratulate every entry. They are all very professional. They all worked hard. I think we had more professional entries than ever.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

JACK VALINSKI: The parade was longer than ever. And we don't want to make it any longer. And the crowd--

JIMMY CARPER: That's great.

JACK VALINSKI: I mean crowds were wonderful. You know, it's interesting because the rally beforehand as we were walking down, there was like nobody out there. And just-- these people just-- I don't know where they come from. I don't know where they find a parking space. But they all just show up.

And we had a lot of trouble in that we were concerned about the crowd control coming in with the throws too close to the floats. But I think-- now I haven't seen the whole route. I think it was much better.

JD DOYLE: Yes. Yes.

JACK VALINSKI: And you were in the parade?

JIMMY CARPER: I was in the parade, in fact, wearing my parade pants. I have an old pair of very faded 501s that I have over-dyed hot pink. And I've been wearing them every year. That's the only time I wear them for about 10 years now. I mean, those are my lucky pants. And hey, I got to be in it. Got to be in it.

JD DOYLE: Well, the thing about it is the-- because of the flooding and so forth like that the buses are-- up through tomorrow, the buses are free.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

JD DOYLE: So I've got a feeling that's where some of these people came from.

JIMMY CARPER: That may be. That may be. Sure.

JD DOYLE: They didn't have to find a parking place. And of course, the thing about it is, with them being free tomorrow, they can also use the buses to get down to the festival.

JIMMY CARPER: And you know, I'm pretty amazed that with the flooding that we had-- and it was a big disaster-- that there was still so many professional floats and--

JACK VALINSKI: I think a few of them got hit-- a few of the floods. I heard the parents' group's float got hit, but they were out there.

JIMMY CARPER: Didn't look it.

JACK VALINSKI: They were out there. And the community center-- we had this little impromptu, unplanned, spontaneous party yesterday--

JIMMY CARPER: I noticed that.

JACK VALINSKI: --at the community center. And it was just incredible to see Hatch out there with their float at the community center working on it. We have an incredible community here, an incredibly diverse community. And I'm so proud that we have all these different groups, the transgendered, the bi groups, the pagans, the [INAUDIBLE].

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

JACK VALINSKI: For the first-- for the first time.

JIMMY CARPER: The pagans.

JACK VALINSKI: The different churches, the organizations, and the businesses. Chase Bank, as usual, has done a wonderful thing with their-- their Pride team is mostly non-GLBT people.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

JACK VALINSKI: But they do support it, and it's really incredible. I'm so proud of what the community-- I mean, it's easy for me.

JD DOYLE: They like to party too.

JACK VALINSKI: We are just the producers. They are the stars. But we do it for the community.

JIMMY CARPER: There we go. Jack, I want you to hang in here, because I want you to listen to--

JACK VALINSKI: I do want to. Yes, absolutely.

JIMMY CARPER: --to Marcus and to Dave. And they've got their guitars out. They're ready to play now.

JACK VALINSKI: And they will be at the festival.

SPEAKER: But don't let us rush you.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Hey, Jack.

JACK VALINSKI: Yes, they're going to be at the festival tomorrow. In fact, who's opening?

DAVE HALL: We think Marcus is maybe the first guy.

MARCUS I think I'm at 1 o'clock.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: One o'clock.

MARCUS Yeah. Yeah.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: Cool. Wow. It's the first time--

DAVE HALL: Feel any pressure?

JIMMY CARPER: This is the first time we've had a festival in five years.

MARCUS Yeah, we realize that. I think it's pretty cool to be part of it.

HUTCHESON:

JACK VALINSKI: And it's an incredible lineup of gay and lesbian music. I'm flabbergasted.

JIMMY CARPER: I'm impressed.

JACK VALINSKI: This city has not seen that many artists together at one time ever. And I just do want to say--

MARCUS Quantity and quality.

HUTCHESON:

JACK VALINSKI: I do want to say something is that we didn't know how to do a festival. But you know sometimes when you don't know how to do something, you just ask. And the wonderful Women's Festival that happens in October, Shirley Knight helped us, telling about us. JD helped us, lining up some talent.

And it's incredible. People really help you when you ask for it.

JD DOYLE: Matthew Stone and Todd [? Amgar-- ?]

JACK VALINSKI: They are fabulous.

JD DOYLE: They were great. They were efficient and friendly and really great to work with from our end.

JACK VALINSKI: Absolutely. They are incredible.

JIMMY CARPER: Good. OK. Let's shut up. Let's hear some music.

JD DOYLE: Who's on first?

DAVE HALL: Who goes first? What do we do? I don't know. Marcus and I were driving over here.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Our plane was delayed and you'd think we would have sat on the train and decided what we're going to sing on the way over here.

DAVE HALL: On the plane?

MARCUS HUTCHESON: The plane, whatever.

DAVE HALL: However it takes to get here.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: See, we don't even know. And what are you playing? I don't know. What are you playing? We'll just play--

DAVE HALL: Well, what do you think? Should we start with your tune that we discussed? That'll give me a couple of minutes to plan which one I should do.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Sure. What the heck.

DAVE HALL: Is that all right?

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Yeah, that's cool.

DAVE HALL: Well, you're opening the festival. Shouldn't you open the show? I think you should.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Maybe. Yeah.

DAVE HALL: This is a great song of Marcus's. I love this one. And--

JD DOYLE: Is this one on the CD?

MARCUS Yes.

HUTCHESON:

[AUDIO OUT]

[APPLAUSE]

JD DOYLE: That was magic.

JIMMY CARPER: That really is magic. That was beautiful.

MARCUS Thank you so much.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: Gosh, you don't sound like you're from Brooklyn.

MARCUS I'm not from Brooklyn at all. I'm from the deep, deep south.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: How deep is it?

MARCUS Mississippi.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa.

MARCUS Alabama, actually.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: Alabama.

MARCUS Mississippi's the state that I slam in one of my songs.

HUTCHESON:

DAVE HALL: That's where I got the idea.

MARCUS Same difference almost, right?

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: And Dave?

DAVE HALL: I am from Brooklyn, not originally. But I'm a new England boy. Brooklyn has this way of sort of pulling people in.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. I guess so. And it seems as Giuseppe Joe Records is getting bigger and bigger.

DAVE HALL: I mean, it's like we're pregnant.

[LAUGHTER]

We just keep growing and growing. Yeah. Yeah, we took Marcus on.

MARCUS And it's been so fun.

HUTCHESON:

DAVE HALL: He's a big star now.

MARCUS Not as big as you.

HUTCHESON:

DAVE HALL: Write up in *The Advocate*, pretty good.

MARCUS Yes, yes. That was quite a nice gift.

HUTCHESON:

JD DOYLE: Yeah, those guys are good.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, after years of JD and I bitching about the gay press reviewing gay music--

JD DOYLE: They finally got around to it.

MARCUS Yeah. Yeah.

HUTCHESON:

JD DOYLE: Yeah, that's always the challenge.

MARCUS Madonna didn't have a new one.

HUTCHESON:

JD DOYLE: Yeah, I guess.

MARCUS Slip in there. They had a slow week, you know, from the gay divas. No Pointer Sisters. No Sister Sledge. Oh, well.

HUTCHESON:

JD DOYLE: There's nothing happening.

MARCUS Cher, Madonna, Bette Midler. They were all-- and Barbra. They were all--

HUTCHESON:

JD DOYLE: All busy. OK. What do we got next?

JIMMY CARPER: Let's see. It's Dave's turn.

DAVE HALL: My turn? Yay. Now there's-- I've got a song. Should I do, like, "Big, White House," which isn't on a record yet? Do people want to hear a song that [INAUDIBLE]?

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah.

DAVE HALL: OK.

JACK VALINSKI: I'm taping at home.

DAVE HALL: This is one that was two dangerous--

JD DOYLE: You better be.

DAVE HALL: --for an actual record, but I've been on the road a lot.

JIMMY CARPER: Really?

DAVE HALL: Yeah, well, not so much lately, but that whole life on the road thing is all that they say it is, the ups and downs, and the bland food. But what's really cool about it is you get to meet a lot of interesting people if you're stopping over in a place. So all you Houston people that want to meet me, come backstage.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

DAVE HALL: But this is a song that is based on a conversation I had with a fellow that I met while touring in rural upstate New York. It's called "Big White House."

[AUDIO OUT]

JIMMY CARPER: Nice. Nice, nice. And we got it first, folks. You heard it here first. Not even on a CD yet.

DAVE HALL: Right. Unrecorded.

JIMMY CARPER: Now, speaking of CDs, because people like to buy them and get to hear the music themselves whenever they want to without having to wait up till midnight on Saturdays.

JD DOYLE: We prefer that.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

[LAUGHTER]

How do they do it?

DAVE HALL: They could go to Amazon.

MARCUS Amazon.com. CDnow.com, Towerrecords.com, Warehousemusic.com. Yeah.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: Wow, you're everywhere.

MARCUS Just everywhere.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: You're global.

MARCUS Davehallmusic.com,

HUTCHESON:

DAVE HALL: Marcushutchison.com.

MARCUS H-U-T-C-H-E-S-O-N. Yeah, no one can ever spell it. Go to Yahoo.

HUTCHESON:

DAVE HALL: No one can spell Guiseppe.

JD DOYLE: And if anybody actually doesn't have internet access--

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Go to Davehall-home.com, and you'll find me. We can--

DAVE HALL: Davehall-music.com.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Oh, god, I screwed it up. Sorry.

DAVE HALL: That's OK. That's OK.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Davehall-music.com.

DAVE HALL: But gay and lesbian bookstores tend to carry our stuff as well.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, not so much here.

DAVE HALL: Oh, really?

JIMMY CARPER: You know, it's like some do, and some don't. And we-- I don't know.

DAVE HALL: Well, a simple visit to the store, saying, why don't you carry-- Lady Slipper is a women's music catalog, and they carry our stuff as well.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, good. OK.

DAVE HALL: And that's Ladyslipper.org online. And they've got an 800 number somewhere.

JIMMY CARPER: Why isn't there a Lady Slipper for gay men?

DAVE HALL: Would it be a pumps?

[LAUGHTER]

Pumps.com or pumps.org would be better.

JIMMY CARPER: There you go. Yeah. No, really.

DAVE HALL: It's a good question. Lady Slipper does have a generous men's section. And they tend to concentrate on non-sexist men's music, whether they're gay guys or straight guys. But they do have quite a number of gay guys' music carried there. But a lot of guys don't know about us. And a lot of women don't, either. So a lot of times, really talented gay guys will have their record there for a while but don't quite sell enough. And so it gets dropped out of the catalog.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Yes, I know.

DAVE HALL: So there's a little bit of educating we need to do to let gay guys know that this music is out there.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Yeah, the internet has been a boon for gay and lesbian music. And it has been for us. Yeah. Yeah. Most definitely.

RAY HILL: How much time do you spend on the road?

JIMMY CARPER: And this is this is Houston's--

RAY HILL: I'm the old man around here.

JIMMY CARPER: Ray Hill, the--

DAVE HALL: Nice to meet you, Ray.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Nice to meet you.

JIMMY CARPER: --grandfather of the gay community.

DAVE HALL: Nice to meet you.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Yeah, it's great to be here. Good to meet you all you guys.

DAVE HALL: I know. You have a grandfather of your community. That's a miracle.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Yeah, that's really good.

RAY HILL: I'm just like Morris Kite in Los Angeles, only he's older.

JIMMY CARPER: Make sure we get that in there.

DAVE HALL: I haven't been on the road for a number of months now, but for a while there, we were on the road quite a lot. Actually, Marcus was one of my backup group for a long time, and we were on the road together for a couple of years really, pretty, nonstop.

JIMMY CARPER: Wow.

DAVE HALL: Yeah. I've been taking a little time myself to do some TV and film composing and things. So I'm not-- I'm actually not leaving my apartment very much lately. So Houston looks that much better.

RAY HILL: Yeah, well, this multimedia thing-- I mean, expanding out into other art forms, media, films, and things of that nature, is that exciting for you?

DAVE HALL: It's very exciting. I have a background in composition. I have a degree in classical composition. So I sort of have the chops to do this sort of thing. In the last few years, having put out a couple of solo singer-songwriter records, that's kind of taken over.

And I kind of felt like I'd worked that form to its limit, for me, anyway, for the time being. So I'm actually performing now in New York City with a string quartet, as opposed to a rock band. So I'm kind of just sort of experimenting, stretching a little bit.

RAY HILL: Real renaissance man.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, yeah.

DAVE HALL: Oh, yes. That's me.

RAY HILL: I think that's really exciting, but this whole idea of the caravan and traveling around, because our people need that.

DAVE HALL: Yes.

RAY HILL: Number one, it's deeply steeped in our history. Back in medieval Europe, we were caravan travelers and entertainers. And we brought people music of liberation and self-fulfillment when nobody else was doing it. And now we're the ones that need it. And our gypsy songsters need to go around and spread the word.

DAVE HALL: Yeah. I intend to get back to the road. I've needed a bit of a break from it. It can be pretty tiring. It's sometimes rewarding, sometimes very frustrating. But Marcus and I-- I think you'd agree with me. Marcus and I as indies, have gone to a lot of small towns around the country where we will play at a regular club where perhaps people have never heard gay music before.

And our stuff is pretty-- can be-- like my last song you heard, can be pretty straightforwardly gay themed. And it raises eyebrows at the least. And at other times, it gets people's hackles up. So not only is it maybe important work, but it's also slightly dangerous. And I think a lot of folks such as GLAAD don't always appreciate the fact that there are a lot of people out sort of on the firing line.

JIMMY CARPER: You bet.

RAY HILL: Well, speaking as one who came out of the closet when Eisenhower was president--

DAVE HALL: Oh, my god.

RAY HILL: 1958. I've managed to survive without a whole lot of scars. But primarily, by going out there and doing that role modeling and taking that message of personal liberation and fulfillment of gay men and lesbians-- and we've been doing this for everybody else forever.

DAVE HALL: Yes.

RAY HILL: And so doing it for ourselves is really important to me, because right now we had a big flood in Houston, and our archives got flooded. And if you flood out gay and lesbian, transgendered and bisexual archives in Houston, Texas, not only do I no longer exist, I will never have existed.

DAVE HALL: Yeah. No, it's a good point. Oh, yeah.

SPEAKER: Everything's hanging up at my house.

JIMMY CARPER: And yeah, that's something else I have to say, because I'm part of the gay and the gay archives, and that we had-- when we put the call out, we had people come over and take boxes of wet newspapers home and dry them in their homes for us.

DAVE HALL: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: It's just incredible. All in all, and even with eight inches of water in the warehouse, we lost maybe two boxes.

DAVE HALL: Oh, that's reassuring. Yeah, because I think one thing that's exciting about this sort of-- you know, the indie gay and lesbian indie music scene that's going on, there's a lot of stuff that's really good. But most importantly, I think we have written records, outspoken written records.

We're contributing to our history in a way that openly-- it's safer to be open about it. And I often wonder how much of our history is irrevocably lost as it is because there haven't been archives. And I'm sort of driven myself, personally, to just sort of put my fingers on every bit of evidence that I can to prove we've been here and--

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

RAY HILL: Please be encouraged, because the tradition of troubadouring and caravan tonight is deep in our history and our past as a people. And you might try out Alaskan Public Radio. It's a wonderful vehicle, and it reaches people that really need to hear this.

DAVE HALL: I think we've had some play in Alaska.

RAY HILL: Steve Heimel, who also used to be general manager of this radio station before I was, has gone up to Alaskan Public Radio. And he told me in a recent visit to Houston, I'm starving for gay, lesbian material.

DAVE HALL: Oh, we'll send it to him. What are those call letters?

RAY HILL: Actually, there's about 150 call-- and it's all AM. And the radio station serves one valley, because it can't get out to the next valley.

DAVE HALL: Oh, sure. Yeah. Sure. Yes. Yeah. Well, if they want it, we'll send it.

RAY HILL: But Steve Heimel and his main squeeze, Johanna, are the people that are the spiritual leaders up there. And they're hungry for material.

DAVE HALL: OK. We'll find them, and we'll get word out too. We're kind of part of it. Well, JD knows the network. So we'll let everybody know we're looking for it.

JIMMY CARPER: OK. I'm going to let you guys go, because I know you need to get some sleep. You have one more you want to do?

DAVE HALL: No, no, no, it's not that. We can do another if you'd like. But that's not what I was saying. I was going to thank you again for having us.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, you betcha. I am just so glad you were able to get here. Yeah.

DAVE HALL: After emails and phone calls--

JIMMY CARPER: I know. I know.

DAVE HALL: --it was great to see you guys in the flesh.

MARCUS It was crazy.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: And the plane delay of two hours.

MARCUS That it wasn't so bad. That wasn't so bad.

HUTCHESON:

DAVE HALL: Marcus and I entertained each other.

MARCUS Yes, we did. We critiqued the flight attendant's outfit so.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: Ooh, that could be dangerous. So 1 o'clock tomorrow, Garden in the Heights.

DAVE HALL: Please come early. Please be there. I'll be playing to those big beautiful trees.

JIMMY CARPER: And the mosquitoes.

DAVE HALL: Yes.

JIMMY CARPER: Bring Off.

DAVE HALL: [INAUDIBLE] mosquitoes.

JACK VALINSKI: The Garden in the Heights is on Feagan, just off of Waugh Drive.

JIMMY CARPER: 39 something.

JD DOYLE: 3926.

JACK VALINSKI: And the city sprayed for the parade. They're also going to spray for Garden in the Heights.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, they are spraying.

DAVE HALL: Very nice. Very nice.

JACK VALINSKI: They are spraying for Garden in the Heights, so yeah.

DAVE HALL: OK. OK.

JACK VALINSKI: We did hear.

DAVE HALL: Great.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, guys, we'll see you tomorrow.

DAVE HALL: Well, thanks so much.

MARCUS Thank you so much.

HUTCHESON:

JIMMY CARPER: And JD has one more thing.

JD DOYLE: Can I plug my show for Monday night?

JIMMY CARPER: I wish you would. I would do it. I'm going to do it later too, because I have this incredible CD that you made. In fact, before you guys leave, I've got to play something here.

DAVE HALL: OK. You play.

JIMMY CARPER: You ready?

DAVE HALL: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: OK. Let's see. It's hell doing your own engineering.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

DAVE HALL: This is Dave Hall, and you're listening to After Hours with Jimmy Carper on KPFT in Houston. It's queer radio with attitude.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JIMMY CARPER: [INAUDIBLE] now, and you can hear that entire song tomorrow, I'm sure.

JD DOYLE: Well, I wanted to say, save some pride for Monday night, because my queer music heritage is all dedicated to gay pride. I got some very special quotes by some of the artists who created some of our anthems, like [? John ?] [INAUDIBLE] and Leah Zicari, talking about "Glory, Glory."

DAVE HALL: Oh, yes, "Glory, Glory."

JD DOYLE: Mark Islam's talking about "Get Used To It." It's good music and some good history too.

DAVE HALL: Good.

JD DOYLE: Monday night at 9:00.

JIMMY CARPER: 9 o'clock. And of course, you're going to tune in at 8 o'clock, because that's when Lesbian and Gay Voices starts. Guys. Thank you very much.

DAVE HALL: Thank you.

MARCUS HUTCHESON: Thank you so much.

JIMMY CARPER: See you tomorrow. OK. And we have-- let's see. We've got the old man here. We still have Jack, because I'm not letting him go yet. In fact, I want to get you in the other room. And Daddy--

RAY HILL: Yeah, am I seguing? Is that ab--

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, this is your segue bit.

RAY HILL: Here is the segue piece. Hey. Hey. My good friend Tom Richards is out there and--

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, he is.

RAY HILL: --it is the 25th coming-out anniversary, Tom.

JIMMY CARPER: It is the anniversary, and you dragged him out of the closet.

RAY HILL: Well, he and Miles were a couple, and they were-- Miles has always been this kind of obvious queen, naturally, who lived in a ceramic world. Her house was full of ceramics. And she did ceramics better than most people do ceramics. And I went by, and she introduced me to her crude husband, Tom. And I said, sister, I know you're not going to go marching with it. Can we borrow your husband?

[LAUGHTER]

And so Miles beat him, and he joined us.

JIMMY CARPER: And that was--

RAY HILL: That was 1976.

JIMMY CARPER: Was that the first one?

RAY HILL: The first, very first one. Actually, I borrowed money from Phyllis Frye and the doctors O'Brien and G. Ernest Caldwell, who was an attorney of note at the time, to go down and get the permits and the insurance. Had permits and insurance to march down Main Street for Gay Pride in 1976.

And Tom was one of the those in the crowd. We started out, Tom, I recall with about 40 people.

SPEAKER: Am I on the air?

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, you are.

RAY HILL: We started out with about 40 people at The Exile.

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa.

RAY HILL: All right. And we decided that we're going to do it anyway. The cops gave us half of Main Street. We couldn't have the whole thing. They give us half of Main Street. We didn't have any floats. There were no convertibles with dignitaries waving very [? regalesquely ?] at the passers by. And as a matter of fact, there were nobody downtown except us. The people that were not in the parade, were the people that went down to see the parade.

And so we started chanting off of the sidewalks and onto the streets. And we did that for the whole length of Main Street and back up Fannin Avenue to the place where we started. We started with 40, and ended with 200.

JIMMY CARPER: You know, this is an incredible moment, because you're talking about the very first Pride parade.

RAY HILL: Well, it wasn't really a parade.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JIMMY CARPER: You and Tom were there. And we've also got Jack for this year's pride parade. I mean, how it has grown and actually kind of-- I don't know-- matured or metamorphosis.

JACK VALINSKI: It definitely has matured. And it's the hard work of a lot of people over the years. And each year, I mean, the parade is run as a non-profit organization, and it's not supposed to be--