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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

switchboard, give, christmas, call, song, houston, year, lesbian, play, hours, heard, jimmy, album, gay men's chorus, volunteer, diana, gay, crisis hotline, new year's resolutions, feel

SPEAKERS

Diana Manes, Jimmy Carper, Jewel Gray

J Jewel Gray 00:01

following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some listener Discretion is Advised

00:12

I am what I am I am

00:17

special creation so come to give me the

00:24

all the Ovation it's more that I want to brighten my

00:37

day and it's not a place to live not worth a damn till you can say

01:05

I am what I am I don't want praise I don't want it bad bang my own drum something gets ready bangle things from a different angle God life is so jam until you and shout out



01:44

I am at what I need no excuses. I do my own deck. Sometimes he says no internet no deposit till you can shout out



J Jimmy Carper 02:37

Whoa it must be Saturday night at midnight because you're listening to after hours. A continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news interviews and music here for gay and lesbian people. Just as Gloria Gaynor says in this song, it's time to open up your closets. We at after hours urge everyone to come out of their closets. By our definition that means standing up for yourself and taking responsibility for your own life. But if you feel that you can't come out right now because of your age, your job or whatever reason. That's okay, we're here for you too. So sit back relax and enjoy this week's edition of after hours



03:40

I am what I am and I do my own deck. Sometimes



J Jimmy Carper 04:59

where we are on



J Jewel Gray 05:01

Okay, we're on Hey, hey, I missed you guys. This is Jewel, and you're listening to after hours. Continuing tradition is that what we are now continuing to shift? We are World Radio 90.1 FM. Okay, got that other way. Okay. There's gonna be some talk tonight we're going to, we're going to take some phone calls. So get your pencil and pen handy. Give you a phone number. Jimmy, I'll give it to you in a minute. We're going to do some Q and z here in a minute. And we'll take some phone calls later and talk to you about some unusual Christmas gifts. If you got something unusual, call us and let us know about it. If if you gave something unusual, call us. Let us know about it. Did you go home? Did you eat a lot? I know I did. I didn't, didn't get to go home. But I ate a lot. I had to Thanksgiving dinners, and two Christmas dinners. So I've eaten a lot this these holidays. But what we'll do later is we'll talk about some new year's resolutions. We'll talk a little about what went on this last year. And we'll talk to a friend of mine who's just recently joined the game has been switchboard and get a brand new volunteers perspective of it. And rather than the old core people that we usually have in here, people who've been doing it a long, long time. And in the meantime, what what I'm going to do is I'm going to this way out. Oh yeah. 115. Is it still on for team? No. 130. Okay, at 130. We'll do this this way out for half hour and then I'll be back at you from two to three to talk to you about oh, perhaps then we'll talk about what's going to what we hope to happen next year.



J Jimmy Carper 06:37

— No, you're wrong. We're back. It's 115. Again, it's 115. Thank you. I get very confused. Yes, it is confusing down here these days. We're back on Midtown at midnight now. Well, I don't know. And that's fine.

J Jewel Gray 06:48

Some something something worked somewhere. Thank you. Those of you out there know who I'm talking to. So at probably quarter to two, we'll talk some more about what's gonna go on this year. If you have some unusual New Year's resolutions, I'm gonna give up cigarettes. I smoked for about 10 years. Before I stopped smoking for eight years and picked it up about six months ago, and I'm gonna give it up New Year's. It's my new year's resolution. And now you guys are gonna be my barometer, you'll be able to hear me whether I'm puffing down here while I'm on the radio doing the show and keep me in line. I figure if I tell enough people that I'm going to stop I

J Jimmy Carper 07:30

have to That's right. That's that works. Because they tell on you.

J Jewel Gray 07:33

Yeah, that's right. And they and they look at you, you know, they have that hurt. Yeah, like you really meant you really weren't gonna give them. So I'm looking forward to that. Well, Jimmy, you're gonna do the QC tonight.

J Jimmy Carper 07:45

We're gonna kind of maybe re-instated Coming up into the new year. You know, this is the last show of the year, right? Just kind of really hit me on the way. It's 1992 is over, just about over and we're getting into a whole new year again. So, and you know how I am about Christmas. I love Christmas. I would play Christmas carols in July. I can't get away with it. So I kind of you know, I'm gonna play some tonight of course queer Christmas, Carol. Oh,

J Jewel Gray 08:19

yeah. My favorite Venus envy wasn't Yeah, I love those. We're gonna leave

J Jimmy Carper 08:23

that we're gonna do that. So we're gonna do do that to start off with because it is still the Christmas season. It is still Christmas until December no till January one to my party at my place. That's right. That's right. My party. January one it's still Christmas. So I guess so. We're going to do some Christmas carols and then get into what you're gonna do and then maybe do some of the favorite game lesbian songs throughout the that we've heard throughout the year.

Some of those that really meant something impact and not just gay and lesbian because there's been a lot of straight folks out there that have been restored Garth Brooks. She had a good song we'll be doing some Garth and Ellen's got a new. Yeah, we'll be doing Elton and so stick with it. If you've got if you've got a favorite gay and lesbian song that you've heard on this show. You had the urge to hear first, give us a call and we'll, I'm sure I have it and we'll play it.

J Jewel Gray 09:25

Okay, I'll see you in about 30 minutes about Tina. And until then I'm going to leave you with Jimmy NICU MC.

J Jimmy Carper 09:35

We just switched chairs. Okay. Hi, it's Jimmy with pumc. And like I said, we've brought since we've already really kind of introduced it and it's really kind of back on the air. And you know what I'm going to do? I guess we should just get with it. Now, before I do want to intro this because this is a very important song for me. Because it's by The Gay Men's Chorus of Houston. And it's the only one I have by them. When I thank you, if you listen to a couple of weeks ago, you heard the story of me running into Robert and saying, hey, you know, we want to talk about your group, but we don't have any music and we'd love to have it. And so, during a rehearsal, they set up some little recorder and recorded it. So, you know, it's not the best quality, but it's our folks singing music and I hope in the near future to get more he kind of sorta promised, and demand and leather. When a man and leather makes a promise, you always know he's going to keep it.

10:46

Yeah, and that was Venus envy. With I'll be a homo for Christmas, and every other day. And before that was Elton John stepped into Christmas and old classic. And we started that off with what did we start that off with? Ah, yes, my boys, my man. The Gay Men's Chorus of Houston doing we wish you a little. We wish you were married we What the hell was it? They were doing? We need a little Christmas. Yes, yes, we need a little Christmas. I do have I've already had someone call in with a request that we're going to be playing at the end of QM Z. But right now, let's go to the Seattle Men's Chorus. And they do just a little song. We wish you a merry Christmas. Oh, that was Dike the halls a Christmas classic on after hours. A continuing tradition. KPFT Houston World Radio 90.1 FM. And before that we heard what did we hear? What was that? It was Venus and V I hate the holidays. That was a special request from Jewel. And we also we've got a couple of requests already. As a matter of fact, we're gonna play one right now. From comes in from Arkansas, Roy and he wants to hear give me a homosexual. Bye. Good ol romanovski And Phillips is a staple here at after hours. And if you want to phone in or request for your favorite gay and lesbian song, or Christmas song that we might have. Give us a call at 5265738 or jam KPFT that's our number

J Jewel Gray 13:03

just one, I knew. It's right.

J

Jimmy Carper 13:06

This little red thing

J

Jewel Gray 13:08

up, though, you know, I'm just not technical. I figure it's a figure. If I learned this, then you will skip coming down here. In this way. I make you come down here with me on Saturday nights do the show. Is that it? Yep. It's a guarantee that you will be here. Um, let's see. We're back. Was that some fun? I love some of those songs. I love that album. It's one of the greatest albums I've ever heard. It's Venus env. And it's the house the holiday album I'm looking for. Yes. I'm looking for it. And it's got some great songs that we didn't play that they borrowed it to look at somebody. Yeah. off looking at some of the songs that I was gonna tell you about. Here we go. It's got some great songs on it. Did did we play Rhonda the lesbo? Reindeer? We'll have to do that later later in the show. Yes. So they have Rhonda the lesbo reindeer. A little town in Michigan. I love the 12 day the 12 days of Christmas. Yes. Yeah, that one's a good one.

J

Jimmy Carper 14:13

That's a half, half two. And I like What's it to you?

J

Jewel Gray 14:15

What's it to you? So

J

Jimmy Carper 14:16

that woman is pissed off? Yeah.

J

Jewel Gray 14:18

So this is a it's I'll be a homo for Christmas. It's a great album. If you get a chance. You can pick it up at the local bookstores and I know they'll love a plug. And it's one of those albums. It's timeless because it's not. It's not a love album and romance. So you feel good today and you don't tomorrow you're listening to romance albums. This is an album you can play every Christmas week. We've been doing it in angels. That's right, because this is first time I heard this was last Christmas. You bet and I have talked about it since I haven't. I've asked you about it several times. Anyway. I'm sitting here talking to Jimmy like there's no one else out there and I know you are because we're getting calls. We're getting some request. You did tell Arkansas Arkansas row Are we?

J

Jimmy Carper 15:00

Yeah, that's that was his give me a homosexual rate. We've got a couple of more coming up later on in the show.

J Jewel Gray 15:06

Great, great. And we'll be doing that and Jim gave the phone number out. If you write down I'll give it out a couple times. It's 526526573838.

J Jimmy Carper 15:19

Okay, Matt's here to answer your telephone calls.

J Jewel Gray 15:23

And maybe we'll be Thank you, Matt. We'll be screening calls because we know there are those people out there who want to just have a few moments of airtime to spout all kinds of ugly nasty little things and we just assumed avoid that. SO MAD we'll be screening and I will be sitting here with my finger centimeters mere milli centimeters off of a button that will cut people off if they get to a point that we feel uncomfortable with on the air so please temper your remarks and suggestions to in some degree when we talk to you. Cuz I would really like to talk to some people tonight. We'll talk about what you get for Christmas. I'll tell you what I got if you tell me what you got. I got some interesting stuff. I got some. I got some lightning bolt silver earrings. I love those earrings. I really don't know I believe they were a surgical steel. That's what it was. And some kitty cat earrings that I'm going to wear right away. That are our, our silver. So I'm looking forward to putting those in and what else did I get? I got something really cool. Got a really neat sweatshirt. And, and I can't tell you what one of the things I got. That was the really neat thing. Because that's my secret. I can't tell you about that. But Diana got some neat stuff. Didn't you Diana? Yes, you did. Yes, you did. Because I know I gave it to her.

D Diana Manes 16:43

I can't say what that is

J Jewel Gray 16:45

my drag Diane over here who is reluctantly going to take the seat. Diana is a friend of mine who's just recently joined the game on swing swing switchboard. And I kind of want to take a little credit for that I kind of talked her into it. She was an intelligent, articulate woman. And I thought that that would be a big boom on the switchboard. So I kind of promoted that idea in her head. And one day she said I called and I said great. Yay. Then one day she said they called me about training. Oh no.

D Diana Manes 17:20

And it was an experience too.

J Jewel Gray 17:22

And I did tell you that didn't I said told you joining the gay and lesbian switchboard for me and for everyone I have dealt with or has been in some way a life altering experience it it really changed your life to be so informed about what's going on around you. Because you this that's all the switchboard is it's it's a it's a clearinghouse for information. Everything that goes on goes through the switchboard so that we can disseminate that information to people who call and that's one of the prime functions of the galas main switchboard is to give out information and referrals to doctors and lawyers and Indian chiefs and chiropractors and bars. Of course, we get a lot of bar calls. And a lot of support group people looking for support groups and and sometimes we talk to people who are a little lonely I'm sure switchboard did a heavy heavy night Christmas Eve and Christmas probably for people who are pretty lonely and just need somebody to talk to or somebody who needs to help need somebody to help them focus on what's going on in their life maybe to help problem solvers or something just somebody really basically to bounce things off of, you know, somebody with this no threat because you don't know them. And they're not going to throw this back at you sometime in the future when they get mad at you. So that the the anonymity of it is is very, very valuable part of it. And it's a it's a worthwhile organization and everyone I've ever kind of nudged into the fold has made the comments about it being life altering. And I'm glad to hear you say that too. Because because that's important to me. What did what did you think before you went down there, were you a little intimidated was it all seemed all too, too big to

D Diana Manes 19:06

did. I felt like if I answered the phone, I wouldn't know what to say. But it's really, it's really been an experience and I feel very comfortable doing it. And I feel like I'm able to give something back to the community. I had a lot of time on my hands and I didn't know what to do with it and I wanted to do some volunteer work so and I've really enjoyed it. And I think I am making a difference even though a minute difference at least I'm able to do something

J Jewel Gray 19:31

and who Who do you recall your first call? Yeah, so I did call you I did call I didn't know. I wanted you to know that I really supported you being there and was proud to be your friend.

D Diana Manes 19:50

And I'm not afraid anymore.

J Jewel Gray 19:52

Really it's it doesn't take very long to get get into the swing of things down there. But as your

as your knowledge of the community grown I mean, how do You feel about it really

D Diana Manes 20:00

has a lot of information is right there, all we have to do is read it. I really feel that I've grown a lot, since I took the training and that I've, I've volunteered down there and I really encourage everyone to do so. At least give it a try. There. There's opportunities down there for all kinds of things. There's a lot of committees and, and anything that you really want to to become a part of the community and don't know what to do. I think this is a good step forward.

J Jewel Gray 20:31

Now, that's pretty much what I did. I had been a member of the AIDS Foundation buddy team for a year and had heard a lot of people around me who were part of the gay lesbian switchboard and, and they look like intelligent, articulate people. And I liked that. And so I checked into it and joined a class that was six years ago. And I've loved, loved my participation in switchboard, all but about five minutes of it. But it's been an interesting experience. Have you had any experiences? I know you can't talk about the experiences. But have you had any experiences that were, you know, things that you you might not have otherwise been prepared to handle?

D Diana Manes 21:16

Oh, yes. And I didn't think that I would be able to handle it. But I, I feel very comfortable doing it, I think probably because of the anonymity. And I feel that people are out there and they want to talk to somebody, like you said, non judgmental. We don't ever make judgments about people. We're not directive, we don't tell people they should change their lives. If anybody just wants to talk to somebody if they're lonely, if they feel like nobody else in the world is ever feeling like they are, well, there's somebody there to talk to.

J Jewel Gray 21:47

And somebody who's felt very much like they have right, that's what you told me that you've experienced these things through your life so

D Diana Manes 21:53

they can try that's trying and I didn't know about the switchboard. And I don't know if I would have called had I known about it, but I did call. One time in my life. I was in a crisis situation, and I call crisis hotline. And I was very grateful for them to be there. So I feel like maybe I'm giving a little bit back now. If anybody's in a crisis situation and they are gay and lesbian in there, a lot of the crisis hotline refers a lot of people to us. And I feel that it's a very valuable, valuable thing just to be able to talk to somebody.

J

Jewel Gray 22:28

Well, I, myself have have called the equivalent of the Houston gala switchboard somewhere else and other cities as, as I roam the country in my youth, I could always count on them telling me and connecting me with the communities and what was going on in each town that I I ended up in. And it was always valuable to me in that way. But I do know, because I've been doing switch boarding for a long time, that there are some tough things that come up. I know that occasionally even people call and are within the bounds of being called suicidal. I know that often. When people use the word suicide, it doesn't necessarily mean that they're suicidal. But I know people often call that are really suicidal. Does that. Have you haven't dealt with that yet? No, I haven't. How do you feel about that dealing with that?

D

Diana Manes 23:21

Well, I think that if they just want somebody to talk to there's nothing I can do to change anyone's mind. And I'm not going to try to do that. But I'll let them know that suicide is the last alternative.

J

Jewel Gray 23:32

But there is another another and that suicide is always there at the end if if the other alternatives don't work first.

D

Diana Manes 23:40

There are other alternatives. And one of the things I was really surprised about is that there are switchboards all over the country, all over the United States. People have called me wanting to know about a real estate agents from Atlanta. You know, somebody's calling me going to move to Houston. And I really was, I was, I was kind of hard pressed to find one because that kind of information, we don't really ready to dig a little deeper, right. And I was really surprised to know the amount of people out there that don't know about the Montrose voice and being able to access things themselves. We do a lot of referrals like that. And we let them know what is available out there. And there are a lot of resources out there that I think people just are not aware of,

J

Jewel Gray 24:27

well, I know that you're gonna do a great job I can like I said, you know, we're friends, we've been friends for a long time now it's getting to be longer and longer now. And, and it was my and I am so proud and I will say it again. It was my idea to kind of nudge you in the direction of the switchboard. So, I kind of have a kind of a, I don't want to say this but I'm going to use this word, motherly maternal feeling about this situation.