

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- (SINGING) Dashing through the snow, in a one horse open sleigh. [LAUGHS] Hi. It's me, Pee-wee Herman. Hey, seriously everybody. During this holiday season, please don't drink and drive, duh.

- Every Saturday night at midnight on after hours, we play music.

[MUSIC - ROMANOVSKY AND PHILLIPS, "GIVE ME A HOMOSEXUAL"]

[MUSIC - JOSIE COTTON, "JOHNNY, ARE YOU QUEER?"]

[MUSIC - PAMALA STANLEY, "COMING OUT OF HIDING"]

[MUSIC - YAZZ, "STAND UP FOR YOUR LOVE RIGHTS"]

[MUSIC - TOM ROBINSON BAND, "(SING IF YOU'RE) GLAD TO BE GAY"]

[MUSIC - SISTER SLEDGE, "WE ARE FAMILY"]

- After hours, every Saturday night at midnight. Right here, on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM.

- That's who you're listening to.

- You bet. Bunch of queens screaming and yelling.

- Here we are--

- I know it.

- --again. Again, this week. But we're still in the good mood over last week.

- Well, it's because of that little political stuff. We did something really nice. We took back the streets. I'm supposed to play a song for someone. We got a very special dedication here.

- Oh, yeah?

- Yep, and I just don't have the song that they wanted to hear.

- Oh, no.

- They wanted to hear Blue Christmas by Elvis.

- Who else sings it?

- Well, nobody else sings it. But have you ever been to my house?

- Yes.

- Do you know how I have records like everywhere?

- Yes.

- Well, I got off work at 10:00, and ran home, and scoured looking for Elvis. And I couldn't find it. [CHUCKLES] I couldn't find it.

- It takes a week to find--

- It was awful.

- --stuff at your place. And I didn't happen to have it.

- But anyway--

- And we haven't found it here.

- I couldn't find it. So I'm going to have to play this. Is this OK?

- Sure.

- It's another very special Christmas song.

- You bet.

- At least it was special for a lot of our folks during this time that was very difficult in this country. And it got a lot of families through. And we hope it gets you guys through.

It's for very special people, for my friend Gary and Marty. And I hope they have a wonderful holiday tonight. I don't know what he's planning on unwrapping, but it sounded serious to me. So this is for Gary and Marty. Happy holidays.

- Thank you. Thank you.

- Louis calling back trying to talk to us.

- Yeah.

- Hang up, and listen to the radio.

- And thank you for The Ronettes. Those are my babies.

- Oh, god. Do we have to listen to that?

- Yeah.

[LAUGHTER]

- Here, Mary. Let me throw that at you.

- Hey, be very careful with that.

- Someone called and wanted to hear Nancy Griffith.

- Who wouldn't?

- Well.

- She's good.

- She is, and let's play this.

- It's not Christmas, though. We don't have a Nancy Griffith Christmas. Say that three times.

[LAUGHTER]

- Hey, I need to ask Ron and Paul if they're coming out with a Christmas album.

- Wouldn't that be fun?

- Jeez, they keep coming out with everything else. You know this is their fourth record?

- Oh, they couldn't come out any further, could they? [CHUCKLES] Yeah, this is their fourth album.

- Yeah, well--

- In fact, they've got a special going, if you can get a hold of A Right to Fresh Fruit. Because while they last, their albums-- they've got a special going on for the first three of their albums on record.

- Uh-huh.

- They're selling those records, three for 15 bucks.

- You're kidding.

- \$5 a record.

- [LAUGHS] That's a record.

- Yeah.

- And the new album is only--

- Did that come out right?

- The new album is only on CD or cassette.

- Yeah, cassette or CD.

- Who's at the door?

- A person.

- Well, what the hell are they trying to do? Break in?

[LAUGHTER]

Girl, call the police.

- Call the police.

- I know a couple of cops I'd like to see in here right now.

- Ooh!

- Oh, anyway. Here's Nancy Griffith. We'll be serious for just a minute.

- Oh, OK.

- All right, let's do it.

- Yeah.

- I don't know who wanted to hear this. But I wanted to hear it, too. So thanks for calling.

- OK.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- That's Heart Song and Take Back the Night, which is what we did last week.

- We sure did.

- But you know what, even those of us who are out are not really out as much as we could be.

- How do you mean?

- Well, last Sunday after noon--

- Yeah?

- Phillip and I got in the jeep, because the jeep's all torn apart for summer, and drove out to the park area to see a friend of mine that I work with at HPD.

- Mm-hmm?

- And I wanted him to meet Phillip, because Phillip plays an important part of my life right now.

- Right.

- And I wanted someone that I work with to know Phillip, and to know him as my lover. And you know what I mean? That kind of thing. But when we got out there, I just couldn't say this is my lover. I said, this is my friend. And it really-- I don't know why I couldn't say that.

- How odd.

- Because I like this-- I respect this man that I work with. And I think that he respects me. And for some reason, I just couldn't say it. Isn't that wild?

- No, it really isn't. There was an article, a year or so ago, in The Advocate. And it was talking to gay leaders across the US about their coming out.

- Uh-huh.

- And it's amazing. A lot of them who are still-- you know, they're up, and out, and doing things. But they're still maybe in the closet to an aunt, or in the closet at work, or something like that.

- Well, I'm certainly not in the closet at work.

- No, it just proves that coming out is a process. It's not an event.

- It was just really weird. It was a weird feeling, you know what I mean?

- Well, maybe you don't like that word particularly.

- Well, I don't know what I like. I know I love Phillip. And I want people to know that when we're together that it's us. It's he and I. But I just couldn't do it. I don't know why. I don't know.

Anyway, I've got this new guy at work I'm training. And he's very nice. He's probably about the same age I am. He's got like four kids. The oldest I think is 18.

- Oh, gosh.

- But he's very nice. And I'm starting to train him this coming week.

- Well, he must be older than you.

- Oh, please. And tonight, one of the guys that works on our radios came down. And we were all talking about different things. You know, like men talk about at work.

- Oh, yes. Something butch.

- Well, something came up about one district, because I dispatch from Montrose. And something, I can't remember what it was. But he said, that he and his wife were down here one time. And they were driving down through Montrose.

And the guys were yelling and screaming at them. And his wife-- he told his wife. He said, look, honey. They're really cheering at you. And she was like, no, dear. They're cheering at you.

- [LAUGHS]

- But he didn't say it in a way that it was hateful, you know what I mean? It wasn't anything rude. So I didn't say anything.

And then the guy that was there with us from the radio thing was talking. And he said something about, oh, them gays, and something. And he started on this thing. And my guts were starting to tighten up.

- Oh, yeah. The old blood pressures coming up.

- And I was like, oh, wait a minute. What's he going to say? What's he going to do? And he didn't say anything nasty. Because I was getting ready to go, excuse me, but I have a gay radio program to do tonight. And I really don't want you to say anything hateful about gay people. Because I would have to go on the radio and say that you did. Actually, he didn't.

- It's when they start out with those people.

- I know, it was that [GRUNTS], you know? It's digging at you. I thought, oh, boy. Here it comes. But it didn't.

- It's still that attitude, though, you know? Nobody thinks of us-- thinks of everyone as the human race. It's those blacks, those hispanics, those asians, those gays and lesbians.

- And I worked with this guy who just recently divorced his wife.
- Mm-hmm.
- Girl, he's free on the world, you know what I mean? And he sits around, and talks to his friends about all the girls he's getting, and all the you know what he's getting.
- Yeah.
- And I'm just like, Mary, please. And you think we're bad, you know? And please.
- Oh, it's the time to drag out that blatant tape again.
- What is it? Heterosexism?
- Yes.
- And it strikes. What do you do when heterosexism strikes? Do you have any idea?
- Strike back.
- How do you do that? I wish I could ask somebody like Romanowski and Phillips.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

I can't believe this. These queens are in a conga line out here in the hallways, screaming and dancing around. Romanowski and Phillips for their new album, Be Political, Not Polite. And they certainly are.

- You bet.
- Isn't this great? This is really a really nice record. I think it's their best, available only on cd and cassette.
- And cassette.
- Not on a record. Why did I say a record?
- We're so used to saying album, you know, instead of CD.
- I thought we were doing Christmas in July.
- We are doing Christmas in July. And I want you to play one of my old favorite classics when I was a young girl. [LAUGHS] Well, stopped her in her tracks.
- And what is it?
- I was a teenager when this came out.
- Did they have records back then?
- Only records.
- [LAUGHTER] '78?

- [LAUGHS] Not that old. It's old Barb, Babs Streisand. Oh, did you see--

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Stop, stop, stop, stop.

- Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa.

- Girl, I saw *The Globe*. I think it was *The Globe* this week. It's so hot.

- The what?

- You know one of those newspapers in the supermarket?

- No, I don't read that.

- It was *The Globe*, so it must be true. But they were talking about Barbara Streisand's son.

- Oh, no. I didn't even know she had a son.

- Yeah, her and Elliott Gould were married before either of them were big. And they had this son.

- You mean he put his uh--

- Yeah.

- --all into that relationship?

- Mm-hmm.

[LAUGHTER]

And this little boy popped out. Well, this little boy now-- so according to *The Globe*, has had a marriage ceremony with one of the male clothing models who models an international male.

- You're kidding.

- No. They had the pictures of both of them in there.

- Well, how nice.

- And how she was so upset, because she didn't want her son to be gay, and this, and that, and the other. And wouldn't attend the ceremony. And Elliot wouldn't go either. And he's a handsome boy.

- Well, you still want to hear her silly old song?

- Yeah, yeah. This is a classic of her version of jingle bells. Now don't you think it's wonderful to have classic Christmas songs done by a nice Jewish girl?

[LAUGHTER]

- Hey, wait a minute. There's a live person in the studio audience.

- Listen, that album-- that's the only Christmas album she ever did. And it just keeps getting re-released all the time. It's very popular.

- It's the only one she ever did?

- Mm-hmm.

- I wonder why.

- Well, if you were Jewish, how many Christmas albums would you want to do, Mary?

[LAUGHTER]

- OK, wait a minute, girl. Start checking these CDS, because--

- Why are you putting them in the wrong holes?

- No, I think you're getting some of my stuff.

- I beg your pardon?

[LAUGHTER]

- Well, we brought in-- I brought in a ton of stuff. And I want to make sure I get it all home. I know how you are.

- [GASPS] Me?

[LAUGHTER]

Have I ever stollod any of your stuff, honey?

- No.

[LAUGHTER]

- Well, maybe Santa Claus will bring me everything back this year. No, wait a minute where is that-- aw jeez. I can't read these things. Here they are.

- Well, get your glasses.

- Oh, don't be nasty.

- Me?

[LAUGHTER]

- Santa Claus, Christmas, Santa Claus, Bring My Man Back.

- Well, where'd he go, girl? [CHUCKLES]

- That's the one I was looking for.

- Bring My Man Back?

- That's it, honey. This is Christmas in July on After Hours.

- It sure is.

- And Santa Claus, Bring My Man Back.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Whoa.

- Girl.

- You're going to have to loan that CD to the Blues Broads.

- At Christmastime.

- You bet. That's the kind of stuff they play.

- Santa Claus, Bring Back My Man, Ozie Ware and Duke Ellington--

- Who did that?

- --Hot Five.

- Who did that?

- Duke Ellington, Mary.

- That was not Duke Ellington singing.

- Ozzie Ware, it says. Ozie Ware and Duke Ellington's Hot Five, featuring Barney Bigard clarinet and Billy Taylor bass. Bass.

- Bass, very good girl.

- Bass.

- Ozie is a woman's name?

- I guess.

- Maybe it was a man singing.

- It says, 1928.

- I'll bet. In 1928, you could have had a man sing that song.

- What were you, about eight years old then?

- Excuse me.

[LAUGHTER]

- Wow. OK, We're still Christmasing.

- Stanley was two.
- Oh, god. Was he really?
- Yeah.
- How is old Stanley?
- Maybe three?
- Y'all have your stuff packed to go to Montreal?
- No, we unpacked.
- Oh, you're kidding.
- Yeah, the meeting was canceled. So I'm not going. What's that?
- Blue Christmas.
- By Elvis?
- Leon Redbone.
- Hey, that'll do it.
- That'll do it.
- I got it at the Christmas ball by Bessie Smith, too.
- Oh, we want the blue Christmas by Elvis.

[LAUGHTER]

- Yeah, but Leon is really good.
- OK. Well, I don't know if Gary and them-- I don't know. Are they still listening?
- I don't know. They may be busy by now.

[LAUGHTER]

- Well, the Blues Broads brought me this. I don't know if Gary and Marty are still listening. But we'll play it anyway, just in case they are.
- OK.
- Leon Redbone.

- Well, that ain't Elvis, baby. And let me tell you, that Leon is mud fence ugly, honey.

[LAUGHTER]

- Woo.

- Girl. Leon Redbone.

- Poor thing.

- Blue Christmas. If I get one more call about this damn song, I'm going to throw it out the window. But I'll just play it.

- OK.

- Because I'm the one that opened this can of worms, wanting to hear Christmas in July.

- That's right.

- OK, here we go.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Lord, help us all. Now I know why--

- Merry Christmas.

- Now I know why we only have Christmas once a year, girl.

[LAUGHTER]

Woo, girl.

- I know, a little of that one goes a long way.

- I'm telling you. These Queens are coming out of these bars turning on the radio. And they're going--

- Driving off in the ditch.

- Girls. Girls.

[LAUGHTER]

Girl.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Girl, I spent six months in that bar and thought it was one night.

[LAUGHTER]

- Well, you asked for it.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

If y'all are going to make me play that--

- Yeah.
- Then you're going to listen to The Carpenters.
- Oh, no.
- That's it.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Mary, that's it. That's why I played that one. And it's only a minute or something.

- That's it?
- Oh, that's all I can stand.
- I didn't even hear Karen.
- Yes, you did.
- Did she pop in there?
- Oh, she popped in all right. Is she a good witch or a bad witch? What do you got Richard?
- He's got a request.
- Oh, god. If it's some more Christmas music, forget it.
- No, it is.
- Silent Night? For David?
- Well, David.
- Do we have Silent Night?
- Well, I'm sure we've got several versions.
- [LAUGHS] Well, wait a minute. If David wants to hear it.
- We have Hanukkah music. Did you know that?
- No. Mary, we're screwing Christmas bad enough. Let's not drag any more holidays into this than we have to.
- Let's see.
- Here's Silent Night.
- I've got it by Phil Spector. Who is that? Let's see. And Bing Crosby.
- Well, here it is. I don't know who it's by. Let's play this one.
- OK.

- I don't know who-- who does it, though?

- Everybody does it.

- No, I mean this particular version.

- Oh.

- We only have to listen to it for two minutes.

- How rude.

- Well. Well, you know how it is, David. We want to please our-- we want to please you. That's why we're going to play it. David, this is just for you. And I hope Santa Claus brings you everything that you want. And I hope he comes to see you every chance he gets.

- Oh.

- Well.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Boy, that was pretty.

- That's-- who is that?

- Really powerful stuff.

- It is-- I can't think of it. Greg Lake, Emerson Lake and Palmer?

- Oh, really?

- Yeah.

- I hadn't heard that before.

- And I Believe In Father Christmas. And before that, that is a classic version of Silent Night.

- You bet.

- I didn't realize that because it's on a CD, Traditional Christmas Classics. Sister Rosetta Tharpe, from 1949.

- You bet.

- A decca hit back in the '40s, and a wonderful version of--

- Very famous.

- --Silent Night. Yep. Anyway, what are we going to do in the last hour, Mary?

- Oh, that-- oh. That's right, BBC is coming up at 3:00.

- And then what are we going to do?

- Blues For You at 4:00. And in between, we may-- I don't know. We've got a couple of things we could give away.
- Do we really?
- Yeah. You know, I still have one more New York City Gay Men's Chorus CD.
- OK.
- To give away. And it's forgiving away.
- Oh, we'll give it away then.
- OK.
- After the news.
- After the news.
- From the BBC, coming up at 3:00. Oh, three in the morning. No wonder my stomach's upset. And then--
- Honey, you're always up at three in the morning on Saturday night.
- I know. I'm trying to figure out what the hell am I doing here?
- Well, we're doing Christmas in July. Well, just because it's Christmas in July. Because of all of the bars around town who are also celebrating by asking you to bring by non-perishable canned goods for the Stone Soup.
- And there's a big Christmas in July party this afternoon at the BRB.
- You bet, at 6:00 this evening.
- I called over there a few minutes ago. And they said, oh, you should have called us this morning. We would have had somebody down there to talk about it.
- Well.
- I said, well, I didn't think about it, until just now.
- Yeah. That's how we are. Anyway, we've got some more Christmas stuff for you coming up after the news. So stay with us. And until then, no--
- Until then what?
- I was going to say something, but I'm not. This is KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. After Hours radio, celebrating Christmas from the heart of Montrose. We're here.
- And we are festively queer.
- Yes. A Little Rich Boy by The Kinks. Do we have that?
- No. I have it at home.
- Chris, who's that? Chris, the cop? Is there a cop out there? There is?

- [INAUDIBLE]

- Wow, daddy!

- Oh, I've been trying to get a cop down here. No. I'm trying to get a cop. Get me a cop. Oh, wait a minute.

- Woo.

- Chris, I'll play that song for you in a minute. We'll play-- we'll open up with that after the news, The Policeman song. I know it's a big hit. If any of you homosexual police officers would like know how to be gay, call me right now at 526-4000.

- Well.

- Serious calls only, please. Let's go to London, before I get in trouble.

- Please.

[MUSIC PLAYING]